

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: June 3, 2025

NUMBER: 25-162

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Approval of three-year set of calendars

STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:

Student Learning

ABSTRACT:

Board approval is required for approval of the next three-year school calendars starting in school year 2026-27.

ISSUE:

At issue is the Board's approval of three-year (fy27, fy28, fy29) school calendars.

BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Development of the fy27, fy28, fy29 school calendars began in the fall of 2024, with a calendar survey to all stakeholders in the region. This survey had a good response rate of 396 participants (Community member = 8/Parent/Guardian = 82/Staff = 129/student = 177). After Board review during the January Board meeting the following top priorities were determined: 3 day break at thanksgiving, 1 week Spring Break, 2 week Winter Break, Current Legal Holidays, Inservice days to coincide with legal holidays when possible, School start during 2nd or 3rd week in August and School end 2nd or 3rd week in May. Calendar Options 1 and 2 (see attached) were created using the before mentioned criteria and Principals were asked to determine their sites/ASC final calendar (option 1 or option 2) decision for 2027-2029 calendars and provide comments. See attached. After comments were reviewed, an Option 2 revised version of the calendar was created to incorporate some simple changes that did not significantly impact the scheme of the calendar Option 2.

No cost is associated with this action.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve proposed fy27, fy28, fy29 school calendars (Option 1, Option 2 or Option 2-revised) as presented.
2. Disapprove a proposed fy27, fy28, fy29 school calendars (Option 1, Option 2 or Option 2-revised) as presented.
3. Take no final action.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends board approval of the proposed Revised Option 2-school calendar as presented.

3-year Calendar Decision by Site

Principals: Please record your sites/ASC make the final calendar (option 1 or option 2) decision and include comments

Site	Calendar Choice	Comments
Deering	2	Prefer option 2 but mentioned parents of younger children might prefer option 1.
Buckland	2	Liked the subsistence break in September
Selawik	1	We have chosen calendar 1 in Selawik. There is one thing that we would like to request, and that is to change our Monday early day to Friday. We are hoping to get activities back in the villages for next year, and if we do we need that to be on Friday so our kids traveling will not miss as many classes if possible. This is about the kids. This is not about the district and their workers. We think this would be much better for all schools and students.
Noorvik	2	Noorvik ASC unanimously voted in favor of calendar option 2. Comment highlights included that the week in September is prime caribou hunting time, and the students might be more likely to participate in subsistence activities if they are not being marked absent from school. They also liked that it is different. Those were the points that tipped it in favor of #2. Other comments were in comparing the two. It was also appreciated that the Board/district wanted and actively pursued their input. And the Principal assured them that the input and would consider it.
Noatak	2	Likes the Inservice in September because it will be good for subsistence activities.
Kivalina	1	Thought it would be better to not have the Inservice after school started because it might mess up kids' daily schedules (waking up for the school day, etc...).
Kiana	1	Main comments of why they preferred option one over option two were: Teachers wanting the training up front and not a week's worth in September Teachers and parents not wanting the kids to have a week break in September, right after they were finally getting in the flow of things. They were afraid it would upset the early educational flow of the school.
Ambler	1	Option 1 because it gives us time to prepare both our classrooms and our materials before the school year begins. With training scheduled right at the start, we'll be able to hit the ground running. It also allows us to get our students settled and focused on learning without any interruptions after school starts. Another important reason is that we hold our traditional cultural camping in September. This is a key time when we teach our students about subsistence and survival, and it's important that we maintain that tradition
Shungnak	2	Picked option 2 because of 2-week winter break, school starts on 13 August vs 17 August.
Kobuk	1	Overall vote was for 1, but comments are: "like option 1 because wanted Inservice up front and felt that the Inservice in August was useful". Some liked option 2 because they "liked the idea of a subsistence week".
KMHS	2	Comments: ASC really liked the subsistence section on the calendar in September. The community said they enjoyed the idea of having a week off after being here for a few weeks to allow students, and staff to have a break along with a chance to make changes needed.
JNES	ASC =2 Staff = 1	June Nelson and KMHS have a joint ASC and that group picked option #2. However, JNES staff predominantly supported calendar option 1. Below is a summary of comments in support of 1 and against option 2. In favor of Option 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1's end-of- quarter dates fall before scheduled parent conference days allowing for grades to be finalized before discussions with families. • Three non-student days of inservice in Jan/Feb help to break up that long block of time. Against Option 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several staff did not like the week of inservice in September which could serve as a setback after developing routines in the beginning weeks • The March parent conferences are held before the end of quarter



DRAFT OPTION 1: NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 2026-2027 District Calendar

Key:
 I = Inservice day
 W = Work day
 S = School day
 H = Legal holiday
 V = Vacation

Aug-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sep-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	H	S	S	S	S	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	S	S	S	S	S	
27	28	29	30			
	S	S	S			

Oct-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	I	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	P	S	S	S	S	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	S	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	S	S	S	S	S	

Total	16	S	11
W	1	H	0
I	4	P	

Total	22	S	21
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	

Total	21	S	20
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	

Nov-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S	S	S	S	S	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	S	S	I	S	S	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	S	S	S	S	S	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	S	S	V	H	H	
29	30					
	S					

Dec-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	S	S	S	S	S	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	V	V	V	V	H	
27	28	29	30	31		
	V	V	V	V		

Jan-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
				H		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S	S	S	S	S	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	S	S	S	S	S	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	I	S	S	S	S	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	S	S	S	S	S	
31						

Feb-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	S	S	S	I	I	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	S	S	S	S	S	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28						

Total	20	S	17
W	0	H	2
I	1	P	

Total	15	S	14
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	

Total	21	S	19
W	0	H	1
I	1	P	

Total	20	S	18
W	0	H	0
I	2	P	

Mar-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	S	S	S	S	S	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	V	V	V	V	H	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28	29	30	31			
	P	S	S			

Apr-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	S	S	S	S	I	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	S	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	S	S	S	S	S	

May-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	S	S	S	S	S	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	S	S	S	S	S	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	S	S	W			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days	170
Holidays	6
Work days	2
Parent Conf.	2
Inservice	10
Total	190

Shaded dates = end of quarter/semester

1st QTR	38	83
2nd QTR	45	
3rd QTR	47	
4th QTR	40	87

Total	19	S	17
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	1

Total	22	S	21
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	0

Total	13	S	12
W	1	H	0
I	0	P	0

School Closures will be made-up on the following Saturday of the same week

DRAFT OPTION 2: NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 2026-2027 District Calendar



Key:
 I = Inservice day
 W = Work day
 S = School day
 H = Legal holiday
 V = Vacation

Aug-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	I	I		S	S	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	S	S	S	S	S	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	S	S	S	S	S	
30	31					
	S					

Sep-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	I	I	I	I	I	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	S	S	S	S	S	
27	28	29	30			
	S	S	S			

Oct-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	I	S	S	S	S	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	P	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	S	S	S	S	S	

Total	16	S	13
W	1	H	0
I	2	P	0

Total	22	S	17
W	0	H	1
I	4	P	0

Total	22	S	20
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	1

Nov-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S	S	S	S	S	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	S	S	S	S	S	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	S	S	S	S	S	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	S	S	V	H	H	
29	30					
	S					

Dec-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	S	S	S	S	S	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	V	V	V	V	H	
27	28	29	30	31		
	V	V	V	V		

Jan-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
					I	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S	S	S	S	S	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	S	S	S	S	S	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	I	S	S	S	S	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	S	S	S	S	S	
31						

Feb-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	S	S	S	S	I	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	S	S	S	S	S	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28						

Total	20	S	18
W	0	H	2
I	0	P	0

Total	15	S	14
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	0

Total	21	S	19
W	0	H	1
I	1	P	0

Total	20	S	19
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	0

Mar-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	P	S	S	S	S	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	V	V	V	V	H	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28	29	30	31			
	S	S	S			

Apr-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	S	S	S	S	I	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	S	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	S	S	S	S	S	

May-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	S	S	S	S	S	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	S	S	S	S	S	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	S	S	W			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days	170
Holidays	6
Work days	2
Parent Conf.	2
Inservice	10
Total	190

Shaded dates = end of quarter/semester	
1st QTR	37
2nd QTR	45
3rd QTR	47
4th QTR	41
	82
	88

Total	19	S	17
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	1

Total	22	S	21
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	0

Total	13	S	12
W	1	H	0
I	0	P	0

School Closures will be made-up on the following Saturday of the same week



DRAFT REVISED OPTION 2: NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 2026-2027 District Calendar

Key:
 I = Inservice day
 W = Work day
 S = School day
 H = Legal holiday
 V = Vacation

Aug-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	I	I	W	S	S	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	S	S	S	S	S	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	S	S	S	S	S	
30	31					
	S					

Sep-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	H	I	I	I	I	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	S	S	S	S	S	
27	28	29	30			
	S	S	S			

Oct-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	I	S	S	S	S	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	P	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	S	S	S	S	S	

Total	16	S	13
W	1	H	0
I	2	P	0

Total	22	S	17
W	0	H	1
I	4	P	0

Total	22	S	20
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	1

Nov-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S	S	S	S	S	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	S	S	S	S	S	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	S	S	S	S	S	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	S	S	V	H	H	
29	30					
	S					

Dec-2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
		S	S	S	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	S	S	S	S	S	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	S	S	S	S	S	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	V	V	V	V	H	
27	28	29	30	31		
	V	V	V	V		

Jan-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
					H	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S	S	S	S	S	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	S	S	S	S	S	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	I	S	S	S	S	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	S	S	S	S	S	
31						

Feb-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	S	S	S	I	I	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	S	S	S	S	S	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28						

Total	20	S	18
W	0	H	2
I	0	P	0

Total	15	S	14
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	0

Total	21	S	19
W	0	H	1
I	1	P	0

Total	20	S	18
W	0	H	0
I	2	P	0

Mar-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	S	S	S	S	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	S	S	S	S	S	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	V	V	V	V	H	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	S	S	S	S	S	
28	29	30	31			
	P	S	S			

Apr-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
				S	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S	S	S	S	S	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	S	S	S	S	I	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	S	S	S	S	S	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	S	S	S	S	S	

May-2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	S	S	S	S	S	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	S	S	S	S	S	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	S	S	W			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days	169
Holidays	6
Work days	2
Parent Conf.	2
Inservice	11
Total	190

Shaded dates = end of quarter/semester	
1st QTR	37
2nd QTR	45
3rd QTR	47
4th QTR	40
	82
	87

Total	19	S	17
W	0	H	1
I	0	P	1

Total	22	S	21
W	0	H	0
I	1	P	0

Total	13	S	12
W	1	H	0
I	0	P	0

School Closures will be made-up on the following Saturday of the same week