

Board Information Item

Information
Packet

Board Agenda
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Action

Board Agenda
Consent

01/13/2025

Subject:

Act on 2025-2026 Student and Staff Instructional Calendar

Contact Person:

Dr. Holly Ray, Chief of Schools

Policy/Code:

EB(LEGAL); DMC(LOCAL)

**Priority and
Performance
Objective:**

Priority1: Student Achievement and Post-Secondary
Preparedness

Priority 2: Faculty and Staff Recruitment, Retention and
Capacity-Building

Priority 3: Parents, Families and Community Satisfaction and
Engagement

Priority 4: Strong Financial Stewardship and Internal System
Efficiency

Summary:

Each year, the administration develops an instructional calendar for the next school year based on state and local parameters, input from stakeholders and comparisons with neighboring school districts. State and local parameters provide school districts little flexibility in the school calendar. Parameters include:

- District of Innovation flexible start date;
- State requirement that public schools begin classes no earlier than the fourth Monday in August;
- State requirement that the last day of instruction not be scheduled before May 15;
- State requirement for number of student instructional minutes, 75,600;
- State requirement for number of teacher contract days, 187;
- State requirement for at least one workday before the start of each semester;
- Federal holidays; and,

- Dates for state and local testing/assessments

The primary update to the proposed instructional calendar for GCISD is to the instructional minutes per day. All schools will begin five minutes earlier than the previous year, and dismiss five minutes later than the previous year, for a total of ten additional instructional minutes per day. This update allows GCISD to designate two instructional planning days within a teacher's 187-day contract where students will be out of school, while also keeping the school year beginning on a Wednesday and still concluding before Memorial Day. These days are *not* for professional development, but rather designate time at the end of grading periods for staff to plan with teams, analyze data, hold professional learning communities (PLCs), and address any additional classroom needs.

After incorporating the given parameters, input was gathered from the District leadership team, campus leadership, and various departments. The proposed calendars were presented and reviewed by the District Excellence Committee (DEC) on September 26, 2024. Draft calendars were reviewed, and further input was sought from campus leadership and District staff. Feedback was used at each phase to make changes to the drafts and create new drafts.

Since the feedback from each of these groups overwhelmingly favored one draft calendar, the District is recommending the proposed 25-26 instructional calendar for Board approval.

Attachments: Proposed 2025-2026 Student and Staff Instructional Calendar

Recommendation: The recommendation is for the Board of Trustees to approve the 2025-2026 Student and Staff Instructional Calendar.

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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		

July 1-4: District Closed
July 11, 18, 25: District Closed

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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						

Aug. 4-12: Prof. Dev./No School
Aug. 13: First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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				

Sept. 1: Labor Day/District Closed
Sept. 22: Prof. Dev./No School

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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	

Oct. 9: End of Grading Period
Oct. 10: Instructional Planning/No School
Oct. 13: District Closed

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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						

Nov. 3: Prof. Dev./No School
Nov. 24-28: Thanksgiving/District Closed

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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			

Dec. 18: Early Release/End of Semester
Dec. 19-31: Winter Break/District Closed

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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

Jan. 5-6: Prof. Dev./No School
Jan. 19: MLK Day/District Closed

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

Feb. 16: Prof. Dev./No School

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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				

Mar. 12: End of Grading Period
Mar. 13: Instructional Planning/No School
Mar. 16-20: Spring Break/District Closed

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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		

Apr. 3: District Closed

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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						

May 21: Early Release/Last Day of School
May 22: Teacher Work Day/No School
May 25: Memorial Day/District Closed

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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				

June 5, 12, 19, 26: District Closed
June 29-30: District Closed