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June 22, 2026

To: WPS School Board Members

From: Dave Lutz, Executive Director of Human Resources

Chace Anderson, Superintendent

RE: 2027-28 Calendar Recommendation - Pending School Board Approval

School Board Members,

The following summary represents the Superintendent's recommendation for the 2027-28 school year calendar, pending school board approval on June 22, 2026. The recommendation is to adopt "Revised Option #1" from the calendar options that were sent to staff for their feedback this spring. This calendar option is being proposed in alignment with Board Policy 607 and 607-R.

Calendar Committee:

In alignment with board policy, a Calendar Committee was assembled in collaboration with the WEA. Committee members included:

Dave Lutz, Executive Director of HR

Dana Miller, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning

Rachel Falkowski, WEA President

5 Admin Reps: Sarabeth deNeui, Rob Rimmington, Tyler Shepard, Michele Bedor, Allana Walsh

11 Teacher Reps: Aaron Berndt, Andrew Kaus, Aron Kukowski, Ashli Anderson, Grace Lephart, Jenna Quick, Jennifer Landy, Joette Johnson, Kevin Pote, Mark Sullwold, Tami Arvig.

Thank you to the Calendar Committee reps for representing their buildings and levels and providing valuable feedback throughout the process.

Process Outline:

Three calendar options were drafted by the Executive Directors of HR and T&L and sent to Calendar Committee members for their review prior to the first meeting on April 22, 2026. At the first committee meeting, feedback was provided in order to refine options and establish areas for further study.

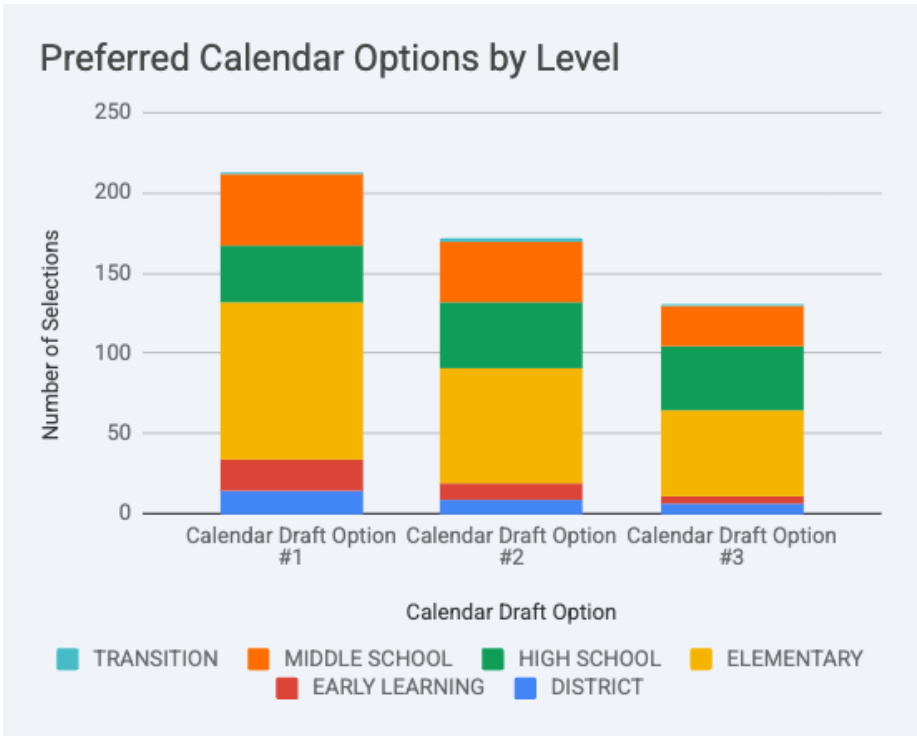
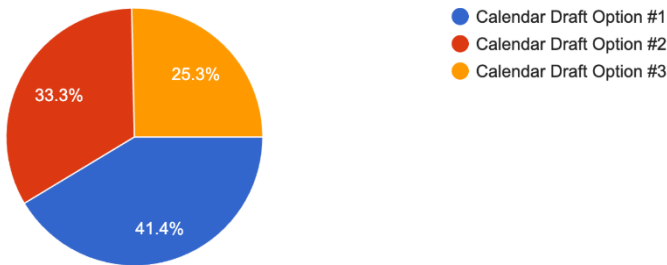
Three revised calendar options were sent to all WPS staff on May 6, 2026, with the opportunity to submit their feedback via a Google Form, articulating their most preferred option and what they felt was effective and ineffective about all three calendar options.

This feedback was then summarized and brought back to the Calendar Committee during a committee meeting on May 13, 2026. As expected, the feedback on the calendar options was split, with a variety of feedback provided on what was appreciated and what staff didn't like about each of the three options. That said, there was a notable approval level for Calendar Option #1, as demonstrated by the feedback summary tables below, which is representative of the 517 staff

responses to the Google Form. This option was changed slightly following feedback in the form responses and from the Calendar Committee about the placement of the end of quarter 3 PD/Grading day (moved from after spring break in Option #1 to prior to spring break in “Revised Option #1”).

Feedback Summary of “Most Preferred Calendar Option”:

What is your most preferred calendar option?
517 responses



2027-28 Draft Calendar Options Summary

Common Across all 3 Calendar Options

- 184 Teacher Contract Days
- 4 day Workshop Week, 8/23/27-8/26/27
- Friday 9/3/28 is non-contract day (Labor Day on following Monday)
- 170 Student Days K-5 (w/ 2 Elementary Planning Days)
- 172 Student Days for grades 6-11
- School Starts Monday, August 30, 2027 (Labor Day falls into 2nd week of September, similar to 2026-27)
- Student “Day 1” (Aug 30) is 7-8, 10-12 Flex Learning Day to allow for 6th and 9th grade orientation
- Two Flex Learning Days exist in all options (Teacher PD, Asynchronous Student Learning from Home)
- PD/Grading Days occur at end of each quarter
- Two E/K-12/T Conference Comp Days for Evening Conferences
 - One on 11/24/27 (Thanksgiving break)
 - One on day following last day for teachers in June
- Two Daytime Conference Days for K-8, occurring on the same day as Conference Comp Days for 9-12/T
 - One on 10/20/27 (day prior to MEA)
 - One on 2/18/28 (Friday before President’s Day)
- 11 District Closed “Holiday” dates, consistent with prior years.
- A couple of religious holiday notes:
 - All calendars have a note about “No evening events or special daytime activities” on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Diwali, Lunar New Year, Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. Minimal or no Homework/Testing. Students can make up any coursework missed without penalty.
 - Rosh Hashanah - Sundown on Friday, October 1, 2027 to Sundown of Sunday, October 3, 2027.
 - Yom Kippur - Sundown of Sunday, October 10, 2027 to Sundown of Monday, October 11, 2027.
 - Note: Flex Learning Day #1 - October 11, 2027 falls on Yom Kippur
 - Diwali - Friday, October 29, 2027
 - Lunar New Year - Wednesday, January 26, 2028
 - Eid al-Fitr - Sundown of Saturday, Feb 26, 2028 to Sundown of Sunday, Feb 27, 2028
 - Eid al-Adha - Sundown of Thursday, May 4 to Sundown of Friday May 5, 2028

Unique to Calendar “Revised Option #1” - Recommended Calendar

- Full 2 Week, 10 weekday, Winter Break (12/20/27-12/31/27)
- Last day of school for E/K-11/T on 6/6/28
- Last day of work for teachers on 6/7/28
- Second Flex Learning/PD Day on Monday, 3/6/28
- Seniors have 169 student days with last day on 6/1/28
- Semester Balance: S1 student days 6-11 = 85, S2 student days 6-11 = 87
- Same as “Calendar Option #1” below, with the End-of-Quarter 3 PD/Grading day moved from 4/3/28 to 3/24/28. This impacts the Q3 and Q4 student counts (pushes a day from Q3 to Q4).

STUDENT DAYS				
	E/K-5	6-8	9-11/T	12
Q1	43.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Q2	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0
Q3	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0
Q4	45.0	46.0	46.0	43.0
	170.0	172.0	172.0	169.0

Unique to Calendar Option #1

- Full 2 Week, 10 weekday, Winter Break (12/20/27-12/31/27)
- Last day of school for E/K-11/T on 6/6/28
- Last day of work for teachers on 6/7/28
- Second Flex Learning/PD Day on Monday, 3/6/28
- Seniors have 169 student days with last day on 6/1/28
- Semester Balance: S1 student days 6-11 = 85, S2 student days 6-11 = 87

STUDENT DAYS				
	E/K-5	6-8	9-11/T	12
Q1	43.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Q2	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0
Q3	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0
Q4	44.0	45.0	45.0	42.0
	170.0	172.0	172.0	169.0

Unique to Calendar Option #2

- 8 Weekday Winter Break (12/22/27-12/31/27)
- Last day of school for E/K-11/T on 6/2/28
- Last day of work for teachers on 6/5/28
- Second Flex Learning/PD Day on Thursday, 2/17/28 (same day as K-8 evening conferences)
- Seniors have 167 student days with last day on 5/25/26
- Semester Balance: S1 student days 6-11 = 86, S2 student days 6-11 = 86

STUDENT DAYS				
	E/K-5	6-8	9-11/T	12
Q1	43.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Q2	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0
Q3	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0
Q4	43.0	44.0	44.0	39.0
	170.0	172.0	172.0	167.0

Unique to Calendar Option #3

- 7 Weekday Winter Break (12/23/27-12/31/27)
- Last day of school for E/K-11/T on 6/1/28
- Last day of work for teachers on 6/2/28
- Second Flex Learning/PD Day on Friday, 3/3/28
- Seniors have 168 student days with last day on 5/25/26
- Semester Balance: S1 student days 6-11 = 87, S2 student days 6-11 = 85

STUDENT DAYS				
	E/K-5	6-8	9-11/T	12
Q1	43.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Q2	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0
Q3	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.0
Q4	42.0	43.0	43.0	39.0
	170.0	172.0	172.0	168.0

Considerations Identified for future calendars (2028-29 and Beyond)

It is the recommendation that both staff and parent feedback should be collected for future calendar cycles, in addition to a study of other districts's calendars, to inform practice in the following areas:

- Further consider alternative options to Flex Learning Day Model.
- Questions were raised about middle school daytime conference attendance/preference, in consideration of an evening-only model.
- Gather data on "Day 1" model, now that it has been in place for multiple years.
- Consider early school year starts (construction waiver) even after Labor Day resets to first week in 2028-29.