

GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: February 8, 2022

TITLE: Study of Revised District Calendar for School Year 2022-2023 and Calendar Options for School Year 2023-2024

BACKGROUND:

Amphitheater Public Schools reviews and approves calendars two school years in advance for the benefit of its parents, students, and staff. Consistent with this, this agenda item is provided to permit the Governing Board to consider recommended calendar changes for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 and to consider viable calendar options for FY 2023-2024.

2022-2023 Proposed Calendar Revision

The Governing Board approved a FY 2022-2023 calendar on February 23, 2021, and it has been posted on the District website continuously since then. While planning for FY 2022-2023, Administration reconsidered the effectiveness of having the spring semester begin on Monday, January 2, 2023, given the high number of families and employees who return from winter break destinations on January 1 and 2 each year. Because January 2 technically qualifies as a federal holiday in 2023 (New Year's Day falls on a Sunday), calendar adjustments are warranted to permit families to enjoy the federal holiday on that Monday after New Year's Day.

For this reason, a revised FY 2022-2023 calendar is recommended that adjusts the winter break schedule to accommodate this change. Proposed revisions are as follows:

- Extend fall semester by one day to include Friday, December 16, 2022
- Move Teacher Planning Day to Monday, December 19, 2022 with permission for teachers to work remotely on that planning day as long as they can timely meet their grade submission requirements
- Reduce spring semester by one day and include Monday, January 2, 2023 as part of the winter break
- Revise District office closure dates to observe Monday, December 26, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023 as federal holidays.

The proposed revisions meet the instructional day requirements in Arizona state law. They also maintain the number of scheduled work days for each employee classification and are budget neutral for the District.

2023-2024 Calendar Options

Arizona state law governs the number of days that schools must provide instruction in a calendar year. In Arizona, public schools must provide a minimum of 180 instructional days or the equivalent number of instructional minutes in a fewer number of days. For several years, Amphitheater Public Schools has utilized the "equivalent number of instructional minutes" option to permit it to provide the requisite number of instructional minutes within 178 school days. The attached proposed calendars for the 2023-2024 fiscal year reflects a calendar of 178 days again.

Administration is presenting two options, for the 2023-2024 calendar. The dates for Spring Break are the only differences between the two options. Administration recommends the calendar entitled "Option 1" because it provides more instructional days between Rodeo Break and Spring Break, which should enable better focus for students in early March.

RECOMMENDATION:

This agenda item is presented for the Board's review and discussion at this time; no action is required. Following the Board's two-meeting procedure for policy implementation, proposed calendars for FY 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024, as appropriate, will be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

INITIATED BY:

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Michelle H. Tong, J.D., // Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: January 31, 2022

Todd A. Jaeger, .D aperintendent