December 3, 2024

To: New Fairfield Board of Education

From: Kenneth G. Craw, Ed. D., Superintendent

Re: 2025-26 Proposed District Calendar (attached)

Background

Attached please find the recommendation for the 2025-26 New Fairfield Public Schools District Calendar drawn from the work of the NFPS Calendar Committee, a representative body of the BOE, administration, faculty, staff and parents (listed below). The Calendar Committee met on November 18, 2024. The Committee's charge is to analyze options for the 2025-26 calendar and advise the Superintendent on recommendations to the BOE.

NFPS Calendar Committee 2025-26 Members in alphabetical order:

Iowa Cipollone (PTO)
Kenneth Craw (Superintendent)
Kristine Frederick (PTO)
Maureen Kenny (NFEA)
Kimberly LaTourette (BOE)
Karen Lovera (Para Assoc.)
Scott Rohwedder (NFAA)
Ed Sbordone (BOE)
Kim Tobey (NFEA)
Lori Vengalli (Secr. Assoc.)
Kristine Woleck (Asst. Superintendent)

Recommended 2025-26 Calendar

The recommended Calendar for 2025-26 is similar to the 2024-25 Calendar with a pre-Labor Day first day of school for students. For ease of review by the BOE, listed below are the essential points for each month of the proposed calendar.

1. August/September 2025 –
    a. Three days of teacher preparation (August 25, 26 & 27) precede the first day for students.
    b. First Day for Students– Thursday, August 28

    c. Two School Closure Days
        i. Labor Day – Monday, September 1
        ii. Rosh Hashana – Tuesday, September 23

Comment: Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on Monday, September 22 and runs until the evening of Wednesday, September 24.

2. October 2025 –
    a. Yom Kippur - Thursday, October 2
    b. Professional Development – Friday, October 3
    c. School Closure – Monday, October 13

Comment: Yom Kippur begins at sundown on Wednesday, October 1 and runs until the evening of Thursday, October 2.

3. November 2025 —
    a. Election Day/Professional Development – Tuesday, November 4
    b. Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 5, 6 & 7
    c. Extended Thanksgiving Vacation –
        i. No Students or Teachers - Wednesday, November 26
        ii. Standard Thanksgiving Break – Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28.

4. December 2025 –
    a. Professional Learning - Early Dismissal – Wednesday, December 10
    b. Early Dismissal – Tuesday, December 23
    c. Winter Recess – Wednesday, December 24 through Friday, January 2, 2026

5. January 2026 –
    a. School Closure - Observe New Year's Day - Thursday, January 1, 2026
    b. No Students or Teachers - Friday, January 2
    c. Students and teachers return from break - Monday, January 5
    d. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 19

6. February 2026 —
    a. February Break – Friday, February 13 and Monday, February 16
        i. School Closure - Friday, February 13 – Professional Development Day
        ii. School Closure - Monday, February 16 is Presidents' Day

7. March 2026 —
    a. Parent-Teacher Conferences – March 11, 12 & 13
    b. Professional Learning – Early Dismissal - Wednesday, March 25

8. April 2026 —
   a. Good Friday – April 3
   b. Spring Recess – Monday, April 13 – Friday, April 17

9. May 2026 –
   a. Professional Learning - Early Dismissal - Friday, May 22
   b. Memorial Day – Monday, May 25

10. June 2026 -
   a. Final Day for Students – Friday, June 12

   Comment: This schedule would provide up to seven days for school closures due to inclement weather. New Fairfield typically wants to have students finished before the final week of June.

   Please note the statement at the bottom right-hand side of the proposed calendar regarding loss of school days due to inclement weather:
   > *"Inclement weather emergency days will be made up on June 15-23 as needed. If more than 7 days are needed, days will be taken from spring vacation beginning with April 13th. The last day for students is expected to be no later than June 23rd. Students will not be in school more than 180 days."*

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025-26 Proposed District Calendar
2. 2024-25 Current Adopted District Calendar