



River Trails

SCHOOL DISTRICT 26

To: River Trails Board of Education
From: Dr. Jodi Megerle - Superintendent; Kristine Seifert - Assistant Superintendent Teaching & Learning
CC: Lisa Sulek - Human Resources; Bob Kastner - RTEA President
Re: Initial Draft for 2025-26 School Calendar Recommendations

Process:

As charged in the Negotiated Agreement between the Board of Education and River Trails Education Association, the Teaching & Learning Council (TLC) of RTSD26 representative of all district schools, is presenting a *draft* school calendar recommendation for the 2025-2026 school year. The initial draft was created using the parameters set by the building construction timelines for summer 2025.

The proposed school calendar for the upcoming year has been carefully developed to accommodate the same number of summer construction days as were allocated for the Euclid School project in 2024. This alignment ensures consistency in project planning and execution, reflecting the proven success of the previous timeline. By maintaining an identical schedule, we aim to provide sufficient time for contractors to complete all planned work while minimizing disruptions to staff preparations and student learning.

Timeline:

While the calendar does not need to be formally submitted to the board until April 1st, the committee felt making a recommendation earlier in the year would allow for better future planning for district families, teachers and staff. The committee understands the final calendar adoption is made by the BOE. Moving the timeline up a month will allow parents and teachers more time to plan for a longer 2025 summer and later fall 2025 start date.

Traditionally, the administration presents the school calendar to the Board of Education one month prior to approval for review and discussion. However, this year we are requesting early approval to provide our stakeholders with ample time to prepare for the extended summer break and the later start to the 2025-2026 school year.

Important Considerations:

Prior to building a draft calendar, the TLC reviewed the D214 approved calendar for 2025-26 and proposed construction calendar for Indian Grove School. The committee was provided with an ideal start and end date as determined by the construction calendar recommendations from the operations committee. The TLC committee also reviewed calendar guidance from ISBE as well as staff feedback gathered by the conference advisory committee. Finally, the administration worked closely with the RTEA regarding a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to allow for the addition of a non-attendance day following fall conferences. *Please note this calendar recommendation is contingent upon the approval of the MOU by both the RTEA Executive Board and the Board of Education.*

Recommendation:

Please see the attached copy of the calendar recommendation for the 2025-26 school year.

Start Date:

- Wed. August 27, 2025 (Teachers)
- Tues. September 2, 2025 (1-8 Grades)
- Wed. September 3, 2025 (Kindergarten) - Sept. 2nd Meet and Greet
- Fri. September 5, 2025 (Pre-Kindergarten) - Sept. 4th Meet and Greet

Institute Days:

- Wed. August 27, 2025
- Thurs. August 28, 2025
- Mon. January 5, 2026
- Fri. April 3, 2026

Inservice Day:

- Friday, August 29, 2025

Winter and Spring Break: *In alignment with the D214 Approved School Calendar

- Monday December 22, 2025- Friday, January 2, 2026
- Mon. Mar. 23, 2026 - Fri. Mar. 27, 2026

Parent Teacher Conferences:

- Thurs. November 6, 2025 noon - 8 PM
- Thurs. April 2, 2026 noon - 8 PM

*Teachers will have a teacher work day from 8AM-noon on both conference days to prepare for conferences.

*The changes in conference structure were studied by a representative group of teachers, parents, and administrators (2023-34) and initiated in Fall 2024. The change of schedule was well received, and the committee recommended for it to continue in 2025-26.

End Date:

- Fri. June 5, 2026 (June 12th w/5 emergency days)**

*RTSD26 has an approved eLearning plan allowing for the potential use of eLearning on inclement weather days to avoid adding days to the end of the school year.

Working Days:

This calendar proposal includes 177 student attendance days and 182 staff work days as determined by the negotiated agreement.

River Trails School District 26

2025 - 2026 School Calendar

August '25							September '25							October '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				
T Days 3 S Days 1							T Days 21 S Days 21							T Days 23 S Days 23						

November '25							December '25							January '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30																				
T Days 16.5 S Days 16							T Days 15 S Days 15							T Days 20 S Days 19						

February '26							March '26							April '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
							29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
T Days 19 S Days 19							T Days 17 S Days 17							T Days 22.5 S Days 21						

May '26							June '26							July '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				
T Days 20 S Days 20							T Days 5 S Days 5													

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Closed/ Holidays Parent Teacher Conf. Non-Attendance Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher in-Service Day (no school for students) First and Last Day of School Institute Day |
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