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Recommendations for the Academic Calendar for the 2026-27 School Year

September 25, 2025

Dr. Chris Bellmont, assistant superintendent

Policy Supported Parameters (602)

- 170 Student Days
- 184 Teacher work days
- 187 Days for new teachers
- Four workshop days prior to first day with students
- Must start after Labor Day unless special circumstance
  - Legislative exceptions made for 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years (Spring 2025)

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Policy Supported Parameters (602)

- Six non-student days for Professional Development (PD) and teacher preparation for conferences
  - One must be after both 1st and 2nd semester
  - One must be placed in preparation for fall and spring Family conferences

- Minimum of four K-12 Family Conference days, two in the fall and two in the spring

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Policy Supported Parameters (602)

Non-Student Days (beyond conferences and professional development days):

- Labor Day
- Two Days in October for the annual MEA convention
- Thanksgiving and the Friday after Thanksgiving
- Preference - a Winter Break of at least seven days (excluding weekends)
- MLK Jr. Day
- Memorial Day

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Design Team Members

Multi-Year Calendar Design Team including:

- Students (3)
- Parents (7)
- Administrators (9)
- Teachers (5)
- Social Worker(1)
- Cultural Liaisons (2)

Wendy Drugge &
Chris Bellmont = Co-Facilitators

Grounded in our Core Values and CPSS

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Design Team Process

- Design Team members met four times to discuss the 2026-27 School Calendar. Meetings were held virtually, in-person, and hybrid. There were also asynchronous feedback opportunities between meetings.

- The 2026-27 school calendar is somewhat unique as it features the latest possible date for Labor Day - September 7.

- There were 11 calendar versions developed for consideration - two options were ultimately selected by the Team to share with the Board in May.

Input Collection Process

- During the May Board meeting, after consideration of the two proposed calendar versions, the Board requested that the design team collect more input from the Community regarding the start date.
  - Fall survey sent out to families
  - Over 650 survey responses from the community
  - Themes identified on both sides of the question
  - Slightly more responses to the survey that expressed preference for an early start

Calendar 2026-27

Design Team Recommendations

Recommended Calendar version includes:

- School starts on August 31 and ends on June 3
- First two weeks of school are four-day weeks
- Grades K and 1 assessment days
- Fall Parent/Teacher conferences in conjunction with MEA break
- November 3 is a Remote Learning Day

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Recommendations (Cont'd)

Recommended Calendar version includes:

- Winter break starts on December 24
- PD day on MLK (Jan) and President's Day (Feb)
- Spring break is March 29 - April 2
- Family Conferences are the
  7th week in 1st quarter & 3rd quarter
  (first week of March)

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Appreciation

Thank you to all who helped contribute to this important collaboration.