

## **WOODRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 68**

### **Administration Office**

TO: Dr. Patrick Broncato

FROM: Dr. William Schmidt

**SUBJECT: 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR DISCUSSION**

For the Board's review, I have attached the proposed 2025-2026 School Calendar. This proposed calendar has already been reviewed by the Calendar Committee on December 16<sup>th</sup>, which includes both administrators and certified staff members. There were no suggestions made by a parent since we posted a draft in December. We will continue to post the calendar draft for comments until the February Board meeting. The calendar remains substantially the same to the 2024-25 School Calendar, with discussion happening on the issues below:

#### **1) First and Last Days of School**

Each year we meet as a Calendar Committee, and have a list of items to consider when developing the calendar, including any legal requirements (e.g. number of student attendance days, legal school holidays, etc.). The first item we address as a group is the student return to school date. Factors we consider are Dupage County Regional Office of Education (ROE) recommendations, District 99's start date, and summer construction around the District. The ROE provides an early and late first pupil attendance day window for districts. The early start date for next school year is Monday, August 18, 2025 and a late start date of Wednesday, August 27, 2025. Our recommended Wednesday, August 20, 2025 student start date is two days later than District 99 and within the ROE's recommended pupil attendance start window.

Typically, we start a few days later than District 99, and next year would be no exception. District 99 has a goal to build its calendar to ensure students complete midterm finals prior to Winter Break and end-of-year finals prior to Memorial Day. Our last day of school will be May 28, 2026 which is three (3) days later than District 99. This date is after Memorial Day weekend, but before June.

#### **2) Parent Teacher Conferences**

Last year the committee recommended moving February Parent Teacher Conference dates from the third week of February to April. There were a couple of reasons for the recommendation, specifically the Illinois Assessment for Readiness (IAR) administration date. This date will be the same for the 2025-26 school year, and the IAR will be administered prior to Spring Break. We are able to gain additional days of instruction in preparation for the assessment by hosting Parent/Teacher Conferences after Spring Break. Again, this change allows our teachers a real opportunity to focus on student growth over a period of time (November to April not November to February), and have more meaningful conversations with parents. We will have more data on the impact of this decision after conferences this Spring.

### **3) Spring, Winter, and Holiday Breaks:**

Every two years the DuPage Regional Office of Education's (ROE) sends a memo out to all DuPage School Superintendents containing school calendar recommendations. Typically, District 99 adopts their school calendar with these recommendations. When it comes to Winter and Spring Break, we have always aligned our weeks with District 99. This year District 99 adopted their calendar for next year with the weeks of 12/22/25 and 12/29/25 as their Winter Break in order to get finals completed prior to break. This is the same as the ROE suggestion. We align our Winter and Spring Breaks with District 99 so we may accommodate our families with children in both high school (District 99) and elementary (District 68). Therefore, our recommendation is we continue to align Winter and Spring Break with District 99.

Further, the committee decided to have the Spring holiday on Monday, April 6, 2026, which is the Monday after Easter. Historically, our Spring holiday would either be on Good Friday and/ or the Monday after Easter depending when the dates fall. The committee recommends including only one Spring holiday date next year in order to complete the school year the week of Memorial Day and not extend the year into June.

### **4) School Improvement Days (SIP):**

All School Improvement Days are exactly aligned with the 2024-2025 calendar. The only difference in 2025-26 is that October 31st SIP Day falls on a Thursday instead of a Friday. The School Improvement dates are listed and coded purple in the attached calendar.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning these proposals.