



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

## KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**3E. Action**

**Date: November 22, 2004**

**SUBJECT: 2005-2006 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**BOARD GOAL: Academic Excellence**

**FISCAL NOTE: None**

### **Background Information:**

- Keller ISD has used a community-wide approach to determine calendars for a number of years,
- Qualifying calendars are presented to the Campus Education Improvement Committees and the District Education Improvement Committee as representatives of the entire community, for a vote,
- If there is the need for a runoff, the runoff is conducted between the calendar with the most votes and the next most popular calendar that is significantly different,
- TEC Chapter 25.0811 allows districts to begin instruction for students before the week in which August 21 falls,
- A public hearing must be conducted,
- Included in the waiver application there must be a summary of the opinions expressed at the hearing regarding the beginning date of instruction for students.

### **Administrative Considerations:**

- At the conclusion of the runoff voting calendars one and ten both received significant support,
- Out of 325 votes cast by CEIC and DEIC members only 29 votes separated the two choices,
- A majority of parent/community/business representatives on the CEIC's and DEIC favored calendar ten,
- A majority of staff representatives on the CEIC's and DEIC favored calendar one,
- There are new efforts at the state level to restrict or eliminate early starts;
  - The Comptroller has appointed a commission headed by the former Chancellor of the UT System to study school calendars,
  - Some legislators in Austin continue to call for later school start dates, including start dates after September 1,
- Requests have been made to consider a compromise calendar created from calendar one and ten capitalizing on the positive features of each,

- On November 15, 2004 nineteen members of the DEIC plus four ex-officio members met to discuss the calendars and create a recommendation to the Board,
- Based on calendar number one, the voting members of the DEIC unanimously endorsed a compromise calendar that starts school on August 8, retains the one week fall break and the one week break at Thanksgiving, provides a full two week winter break as well as a one week spring break, and concludes school on May 25.

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**The Administration and the DEIC recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the 2005-2006 calendar as presented.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Newton Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent  
Of Administration and Student Services