

## **Prepared by Dr. Jeffrey Alstadt**

### **2026-2027 Public School Calendar**

Administration presents the draft 2026-2027 Public School Calendar for the Board's review and discussion. This item is presented as a "First Reading" to allow for Board input and public comment. The final calendar will be presented for formal approval at the February Board meeting.

#### **Key Considerations & Data Analysis**

- While the district collected quantitative data on specific break preferences, the qualitative feedback from staff and parents overwhelmingly prioritized alignment with Streator Township High School. Mismatched schedules create significant logistical and childcare challenges for our families. Therefore, the proposed draft prioritizes a unified community schedule over the specific break preferences identified in the survey.
- The District surveyed stakeholders regarding Spring Break preferences (130 responses). The results were as follows:
  - **39.2%**: Preferred a split break (March 26–29 and April 12–16).
  - **30.8%**: Preferred an early break (March 22–29).
  - **30.0%**: Indicated "It doesn't matter to me."
- Although the "split break" received the highest percentage of votes, adopting it would create a misalignment with the High School. Consequently, the Administration proposes a schedule that mirrors the High School's break: Friday, March 26 through Friday, April 2, 2027. This compromise ensures consistency for families across the community.
- Streator Township High School has designated November 3, 2026, as a non-student attendance day due to the General Election. While this is not currently a statutory requirement for 2026, the legislative landscape may change to mandate it. If the District adopts this non-attendance day to maintain alignment or comply with future requirements, the calendar will be adjusted, resulting in a last day of school on Friday, May 21, 2027, and a Teacher Institute on Monday, May 24, 2027.
- The proposed calendar maintains the established philosophy for Thanksgiving and Winter Break, ensuring the schedule remains consistent with previous academic years.
- The proposed calendar maintains the current instructional day. Survey results indicated a clear preference for maintaining these start and dismissal times to preserve established family routines and transportation schedules.
- Administration has reviewed the proposed changes with the Streator Education Association.

#### **Calendar Specifications**

- **First Student Day:** August 12, 2026
- **Last Student Day:** May 20, 2027
- **Total Attendance Days:** 176

**Recommendation** That the Board of Education discuss the proposed 2026-2027 Public School Calendar. Administration will incorporate any feedback provided and present the final calendar for a vote at the February meeting.