

2019-2020 Calendar Committee Meeting

December 4, 2019

Agenda and Notes

Members: Laura Turner (absent), Jeana Thomas, Julie Barron, Andrea Bartosz, Deanna L Didier, JoAnne Greear, Karla Carper, Maria Valdivia, Melinda Pals (absent), Nancy Buttenhoff, Robert Harper, Rebecca Browne, Hilary Gruehl Laughrey, Derek Ax, Michael Uhling, Sheri Allen, and Lisa Fenter

The calendar committee set the following goals:

- Maximize student contact time prior to K-12 required assessments (AP, Dual Enrollment, SAT, End-of-Course, CTE, ISAT, IRI, WIDA [February]), which typically occur the last week of March through mid-May;
- Allow teachers enough time to thoroughly teach to all of the standards prior to assessing these standards;
- Provide all students enough time to work toward proficiency of the standards, prior to assessing these standards.

Review the goals which guide our work

- Are there any changes needed to guide our work for an academic calendar?
 - None noted.

Review the Process and Rationale of the Academic School Calendar

- Any questions, concerns or comments about this?
 - None noted.

Superintendent's Council Recommendation Regarding August PD

- The Superintendent's Council recommends moving the August PD day to September 30 for the upcoming year, due to the changes in configurations. At this time, this is not a request for subsequent years, just 2020-2021.
- Agreement by the group that this is a good idea for 2020-2021.

Working group to learn more about trimesters

- K-5 Transition Group has requested looking at trimesters, as well as a spring conference
- Suggest a working group be put together in the spring to do this, and then make a recommendation to the Calendar Committee

Review the Draft Calendar for 2020-2021

- Two calendars presented for review
- Both calendars have two PD days just prior to fall break (September 30 and October 1)
- Halloween falls on a Saturday, so conferences will not be affected.
- Two full weeks for winter break
- One full week for spring break
- Draft A
 - Starts the third, full week of August, similar to past few years
 - Semester 1 is 89 days, semester 2 is 88 days
 - School starts during the third full week of August
 - PD Days--September 30, October 1, January 15, placeholder on November 25 for .5 day

- Draft B
 - Starts the third, full week of August, similar to past few years
 - Semester 1 is 91 days, semester 2 is 86 days
 - Teacher inservice days are August 13 and 14, school starts on Monday, August 17
 - PD Days--September 30, October 1, January 15, placeholder on November 25 for .5 day

Notes from review:

- Interest in learning about and considering a trimester calendar for elementary for 2020-2021. Between the return from winter break and end of semester, there is a week and a half, which is a difficult turn around for getting students back into routines and also completing assessments prior to reporting grades.
- Member shared that with the current testing schedule they do not feel they have additional time to teach prior to testing. JoAnne shared that as she creates her testing schedule, she starts at the end of the testing window and moves backwards, so she doesn't start testing immediately when students return from spring break. Lisa will share this information and suggest principals keep this in mind when creating school assessment calendars.
- It was asked if a different calendar could be shared. The additional calendar had a later start date, similar to what the district had prior to starting earlier. Conversation occurred, and the group was asked if the shared calendar met the set and agreed upon goals of the Calendar Committee. It did not, so will not be considered for 2020-2021.
- Team was asked to come to consensus on Draft A or Draft B, with the understanding that Lisa would talk with Bob regarding the possibility of a smaller working group to learn about the pros/cons of trimesters for elementary, as well as the other pieces that would need to be addressed (ex., report cards, rubrics). Based on findings, working group members will communicate with school staff and get a better understanding as to whether the change is warranted and if this is the right time for change.
- Lisa will follow up with the entire team as to any additional next steps.
- Draft A will be presented to the Board on Monday, during Superintendent's Report.