

Process and Rationale of the Academic School Calendar 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

The Calendar Committee set the following goals (for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024):

- Maximize student contact time prior to K-12 required assessments (AP, SAT, Dual Enrollment, End-of-Course, CTE, ISAT, IRI, WIDA [February] which typically occur mid-March through mid-May [3/14-5/13/2022]);
- 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.
- We are committed to utilizing student data when making academic calendar decisions.
- Embed time to build partnerships and communicate student progress with families in an ongoing manner.
- Based on the Superintendent's Council's recommendation, and understanding that the key to improved student learning is continuous job-embedded learning for adults, we will embed consistent and ongoing time focused on a systematic approach to adult learning.

Improvement Priorities per District Accreditation Review:

- Align all District curriculum vertically and horizontally across each grade level and content area.
- Review and revise the current assessment system, ensuring it includes both formative and summative measures, and is consistent across grade levels and content areas.
- Implement instructional strategies which promote student engagement and active learning across the District.

The Superintendent's Council shared the following feedback/possible suggestions for calendar consideration when creating:

- 2019-2020 calendar
 - PD day(s) prior to school starting
 - Distribute days throughout the year
 - Early release for PD, with a preference for embedded PD rather than after a full day of school
 - 1 PD day per quarter.
 - 2 PD days in October
- 2020-2021 calendar
 - The Superintendent's Council recommends moving the August PD day to October for the upcoming year, due to the changes in building configurations. At this time, this is not a request for subsequent years, just 2020-2021.
- 2021-2022 calendar
 - 2 PD days prior to school starting with a focus on PLCs, OR
 - 2 PD days in September/October, OR
 - 1 PD day prior to school starting and 1 in September/October
- 2022-2023 and 2023-2024
 - Superintendent's Council met on December 2, 2021
 - The Superintendent's Council members agreed that it would be beneficial for the district to have a systematic approach to adult learning.
 - This time should be consistent, ongoing, and time without students.
 - The focus of the Superintendent's Council is on adult learning.
 - **A Professional Learning Community (PLC)** is an ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve.

- PLCs operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators.

Pieces that must be considered/incorporated into the calendar, based on input from stakeholders or facility needs:

- Student contact days--177
- Certified contract days--190
- Graduation will not occur on a Sunday
 - LCSC Activity Center is not available until the Saturday after Memorial Day weekend, due to the NAIA tournament
 - Memorial Day Weekend influx to Lewiston will reduce the number of hotel rooms for graduation guests
 - Must avoid the State baseball/track and field/tennis tournament weekend
- Winter break must be two, full weeks
- Spring break must be one, full week
- Keep an October break (Calendar Committee will re-evaluate this with further discussion)
- Week at Thanksgiving (there may be an interest in considering this)
- Attempt to balance semesters
 - Goal is 89/88 days per semester, with 90/87 as second option
- Attempt to keep finals during the span of one week (especially at the end of the year)
 - Avoid Mondays as the last day of school for students
- District PD--3.5 days
 - 3 days are embedded into the calendar
 - .5 day embedded into the calendar as a placeholder (Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving), with buildings able to determine actual dates/time

Each school has one representative on the Calendar Committee. In addition, there is an elementary school principal, a secondary principal, a Board member, an LEA representative, and a district administrator on the committee. Current members are:

- Camelot--Nancy Buttenhoff
- Centennial--Maria Valdivia
- McGhee--Kristi Groff
- McSorley--Tracy Riener
- Orchards--Vicki Lacy
- Webster--Julie Barron
- Whitman--Amy Shoemaker
- Jenifer--Laura Turner
- Sacajawea--Mike Uhling
- LHS--Mindy Pals
- THS--Derek Ax
- LEA--Deanna Didier
- Board Member--Char Kremer
- Elementary principal--Karla Carper
- Secondary principal--Tim Sperber
- CO administrator--Lisa Fenter

Based on the goals of the committee (which are reviewed and adjusted, if needed, each time the committee meets), at least one draft calendar is presented to the Calendar Committee from the central office administrator. The committee meets to review, discuss, and make any suggestions to the presented calendar(s).

- If the calendar(s) includes major changes from the current year (earlier start date, embedded PD, early release/late start--dates that will affect student attendance), the calendar(s) are typically shared with stakeholders for input.
- If the calendar does not have major changes from the current year, the Calendar Committee makes a recommendation to the Board for approval.

