

DATE: April 10, 2018

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2019-20 School Year Calendar

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent, Infrastructure

RESOURCE STAFF: Bob Morter, David Salmon

REFERENCE: [GCA.BP](#) – Approval of the School Year Calendar
[GCA.AR](#) – The School Year Calendar

ISSUE

Board Policy GCA.BP – Approval of the School Year Calendar requires that the Board of Trustees approve calendars for two years following the current school year.

BACKGROUND

The school year calendar is designed with a number of considerations many of which are included in Administrative Regulation GCA.AR – The School Year Calendar. This regulation includes requirements such as the fact that winter recess is two weeks long and must include December 24 and January 2. Other considerations include the draft Diploma Exam dates, Provincial Achievement Test dates, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam dates. Finally, the calendar is designed to balance the length of first and second semesters, and to align with the terms and conditions of the pilot program on the school year calendar within the Alberta Teachers' Association collective agreement.

RELATED FACTS

Key points of the draft 2019-20 School Year Calendar include:

- A start date for students of September 3, 2019, following the Labour Day long weekend;
- A fall break of three days composed of: Remembrance Day, one board approved non-instructional day and one day in lieu for reporting;
- A total of two days in lieu for reporting
- Five Professional Development days
- Balanced first and second semesters

RECOMMENDATION

That the attached 2019-20 District Calendar be approved.

OPTIONS

Based on the information provided in this report, the following options are considered most appropriate:

1. Approve the attached 2019-20 school year calendar.
2. Approve the attached 2019-20 school year calendar with modifications.

CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS

The attached calendar was developed in alignment with a number of District board policies and administrative regulations, most notably GCA.BP and GCA.AR. In addition, the calendar is aligned with the current Letter of Understanding - "Pilot Project on Revised School Year Calendar" between the District and the local of the Alberta Teachers' Association. As such, the calendar is designed around an annual figure for teachers' instructional duties of approximately 890 hours, but no more than 896.2 hours annually, versus a maximum weekly maximum for instructional minutes.

The proposed calendar maintains the 183 instructional days present in the 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 school year calendars. Building the calendar around the same number of days results in a greater consistency of school hours of operation from year to year, allowing schools for the most part to retain existing timetables for students and staff. This in turn assists parents with creating consistency of drop off and pick up times. Additionally, efficiency is created in Student Transportation with routing and timing of buses.

It is important to note that the proposed calendar shifts spring break a week earlier than is mandated through the administrative regulation. This shift is due to an overlap between the typical spring break period and the April diploma exam administration. As a result this proposed calendar will require the suspension of a section of the administrative regulation GCA.AR - The School Year Calendar. The Superintendent of Schools will address this suspension in the event the calendar is approved. Should the decision be made to shift spring break, it will be important to approve the calendar as soon as possible to minimize any issues of schools or families planning events around spring break 2020.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of the draft 2019-20 school year calendar, the Superintendent of Schools will suspend Section A.5 of GCA.AR - The School Year Calendar. This will be followed by the publication of the calendar on the District website.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Draft 2019-20 School Year Calendar

BM:il

2019–20 District Calendar – DRAFT

epsb.ca

AUGUST • 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER • 2019

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OCTOBER • 2019

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NOVEMBER • 2019

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DECEMBER • 2019

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JANUARY • 2020

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FEBRUARY • 2020

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MARCH • 2020

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APRIL • 2020

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MAY • 2020

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JUNE • 2020

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JULY • 2020

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APPROVED HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	September 2
Thanksgiving	October 14
Remembrance Day	November 11
Winter Break	December 23– January 3
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	December 26
New Year's Day	January 1
Family Day	February 17
Teachers' Convention	February 27–28
Spring Break	March 23–27
Good Friday	April 10
Easter Monday	April 13
Victoria Day	May 18

First Operational Day (No Students)	August 30
First Day of Classes	September 3
Last Day of Classes	June 26
Last Operational Day	June 29

LEGEND

- PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- PD DAY (NO STUDENTS)
- FIRST/LAST DAY OF CLASSES
- OPERATIONAL DAY (NO STUDENTS)
- TEACHERS' CONVENTION
- TEACHERS' DAY IN LIEU (NO TEACHERS OR STUDENTS)
- BOARD APPROVED NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (NO TEACHERS OR STUDENTS)
- WINTER/SPRING BREAK