

William Harbron

From: Lisa Dillingham
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2019 5:22 PM
To: William Harbron
Subject: 20-21 Calendar

Good afternoon,

I was just reading through the school board meeting materials for Monday's meeting. Unfortunately I won't be able to attend, but I wanted to offer some feedback about the 3 proposed school calendars.

First, my preference is Draft A. I think this one stays the most consistent with our current schedule; students only come for 2 days at the beginning and the workshop dates/months remain the same. This one offers the least amount of change.

In Draft B, while I like the idea of front-loading PD, I worry about the fact that there will be NO teacher workshop days January through June. This is a very long time without any opportunity for collaboration and professional learning. I also think this calendar doesn't offer that "roll in" that students and parents are used to at the beginning of the year; 2 days, then 4 days, then 5 days. Additionally, the months of March and May become very long without a break for students, something I feel they need.

In Draft C, the idea of having students present for one day and then having 5 days off does not seem productive for learning. I also feel that many students won't show up because parents wouldn't be worried about missing one day of school. Personally, I also feel this schedule would be difficult for teachers as they try to engage kids for one day only to have to reel them back in 5 days later; it would feel like starting all over again. Additionally, this schedule only offers one teacher workshop day between January and June.

Anyway, that's just my two cents. I'm not sure what your preference is, but I truly feel Draft A is the best option. I will be watching the meeting Monday night and look forward to hearing the discussion.

Have a great weekend,

Lisa