

## 2024-2025 School Calendar Process

School Board Meeting October 17, 2023
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## THE CALENDAR PROCESS

- The District Level Planning and Decision-Making (DLPDM) Committee of Conroe ISD is responsible for developing a school calendar to present as a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.
- The DLPDM Committee will develop one or more draft calendars and will receive input on the calendars from the community and the schools. Hopefully these will be up before the Thanksgiving break.
- The calendars will be posted on the CISD website and will be available for review and comment (late November timeframe).
- It is anticipated that the DLPDM Committee will present its recommendation to the Board of Trustees in January 16, 2024.
- October 11 th - Present process to DLPDMC to begin the discussion

October 17th - Calendar process presented to Board to solicit their feedback and direction

- November 8th - Present initial survey results and Draft calendars
- November 14th - Calendar process update presented to Board to solicit their feedback and direction for next steps
- December - No DLPDMC meeting
- January 10th - DLPDMC considers public feedback and selects a calendar to recommend to the Board for approval
- January 16 th - Recommended calendar is presented to the Board for its consideration
- *February 14th - DLPDMC considers additional Board and public feedback and selects a calendar to recommend to the Board for approval
*February 20th - Recommended calendar is presented to the Board for its consider
*tentative meeting dates


## HIGHLIGHTS

The District of Innovation(DOI) Plan allows the flexibility for the first day of instruction to occur prior to August 26, 2024. Without a DOI, we will need to start on August 26 or later.

- Calendar must ensure a minimum of 75,600 instructional minutes ( $420 \times 180$ ).
- We build in minutes for the two required make-up days (840 minutes) in case of weather or other emergencies.
- Holidays are not scheduled on days identified by TEA for student assessment.


## THINGS WE HAVE LEARNED...

- Our calendar greatly affects family schedules and the county as a whole
- Had positive feedback on starting midweek.
- Excluding the first week, short weeks (3 days or less) are an attendance challenge
- The week off at Thanksgiving is popular
- People like three weekends in their Winter Break
- December 28 is the common possession change date in divorce decrees
- Spring Break can be moved, we historically go with the majority of Texas universities (i.e., University of Texas - March 17-22, 2025)
- The debate about balanced semesters is ever present

174 current days for students ( 180 days is the state standard), 187 days for teachers

- Staff Development Days or Early Release - End of each semester
- We historically take off for Labor Day (Sept. 4), Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 15), Good Friday (March 29), and Memorial Day (May 27)
- Our staff development waiver is for up to 2,100 minutes
- Adding 5 minutes to the school day results in two additional school days that may be used for staff development days.


## School Calendar Start Dates Past 15 Years

| School Year | Start Date | Day of the Week |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2008-2009$ | August 25th | Monday |
| $2009-2010$ | August 24th | Monday |
| $2010-2011$ | August 23rd | Monday |
| $2011-2012$ | August 22nd | Monday |
| $2012-2013$ | August 27th | Monday |
| $2013-2014$ | August 26th | Monday |
| $2014-2015$ | August 25th | Monday |
| $2016-2017$ | August 22nd | Monday |
| $2017-2018^{*}$ | August 16th | Wednesday |
| $2018-2019$ | August 15th | Wednesday |
| $2019-2020$ | August 14th | Wednesday |
| $2020-2021$ | August 12th | Wednesday |
| $2021-2022$ | August 11th | Wednesday |
| $2022-2023$ | August 10th | Wednesday |
| $2023-2024$ | August 9th | Wednesday |
|  | * First year of District of Innovation |  |

* First year of District of Innovation


## 2024-2025 Calendar Highlights and Trends

## Highlights and Trends in District Comparisons

- The majority of districts start prior to the 4th Monday in August
- The number of Instructional Days for students average is 171.4
- The number of Teacher Days average is 186.1
- 3 districts have applied for a District of Innovation plan for flexibility in the 187-day requirement for teachers
- Fall and/or Winter week breaks are combined with exchange days
- Variations of staff development/workday options for teachers (i.e., instructional planning days, parent/teacher conference days, exchange days)
- 9 of the 16 comparison school districts have a staff development requirement after the Memorial Day holiday
- Variations in staff development days and week-long breaks are a trend in recruitment practices


## 2024-2025 Calendar Highlights and Trends

## DLPDMC Feedback to Consider - October 11, 2023 Meeting

- Later start - August 14, 2023 or later
- Offer flexibility in staff development/workday days for teachers (i.e., instructional planning days, parent/teacher conference days, exchange days)
- Move Junior High start and end times due to losing instructional time
- Plan a break each month
- If extending the school day is an option, limit it to only 5 minutes
- Consider childcare implications for Fall and/or Winter week breaks
- Consider moving Spring Break
- Consider a Monday start
- We are losing viable teacher candidates due to neighboring school districts' calendars


## 2024-2025 Galendar Survey Feedback

## DLPDMC Feedback to Consider - October 11, 2023 Meeting

- Separate community feedback by grade levels
- Separate staff feedback by grade levels
- Separate student feedback by grade levels
- Can Spring Break be shifted?
- Holiday preference (4-day weekend, 3-day weekend, or a week off)
- Fall and Winter full-week break questions separately in a yes/no format
- Ask teachers separately about exchange days
- Ask more yes/no questions instead of ranking options
- Ask start/end day questions (i.e., August 7 - May 22, August 14 - May 30, or August 21 - June 6)


## SCHOOL BOARD FEEDBACK DISCUSSION



THANK YOU

