



YOUR VOICE COUNTS SCHOOL CALENDARS

Background Information to the [Survey Questions](#)

The information below has been compiled based on questions from parents and staff. Please read before responding to the calendar survey.

By answering the survey questions, am I voting on a particular calendar?

No. This survey is for gathering comment, not for voting on a particular calendar. The responses will inform the Board of Education as they choose the final calendars.

What are the implications for the four calendar options asked in Question 1?

The four scenarios represent the start dates that have been discussed in past years.

With the **early August** start date, it is also more feasible to finish the first semester before the winter break. With this option, the school year ends in early June. **(Question 1a)**

With a **mid-August** start date, the first semester ends before the winter break, but students spend far fewer classroom days in the first semester than they do in the second semester. The school year ends in mid-June. **(Question 1b)**

If school starts in **late-August or after Labor Day**, the first semester continues after students return from winter break. High school students take final exams in January, and start the second semester in early February. With these options, the school year ends from mid to late-June. **(Question 1 c and d)**

Some have suggested that the District should change the winter break from three to two weeks. How does the length of the winter break affect the calendar? **(Question 2)**

By reducing the winter break to two weeks, there are five instructional days that can be used in other areas of the early- to late-August calendar scenarios, for example:

- School starts one week earlier in January, and the school year ends one week earlier in June.
- School ends one week later in December, and the school year finishes one week earlier in June.

What is a “modified early August” calendar? (Question 3)

To improve graduation rates, the District offers a four-week high school credit recovery class after the winter break, and a four-week high school credit recovery class after the second semester. Under this model, the school year starts in early August, and finishes at the end of June. Students can make up credits before they even start the second semester.

Why does the survey ask about having all schools on the same calendar? (Question 4)

This question allows families with children in high school and at younger ages to provide input on the District adopting one calendar for all schools.

What is reason for asking whether the first semester should end before the winter break (Question 5)?

The later the school year starts, the more likely it is that the first semester continues after the winter break. When the first semester continues in January, the instructional program is interrupted by the winter break, and fall semester grades are not available until the beginning of February.