


Date: January 18, 2020
To: Board of Education
From: Guadalupe Guerrero
Superintendent 
Subject: 2020-21 School District Calendar Update & Recommendation

Staff has continued gathering and considering feedback from a cross-section of stakeholders in preparing this school calendar formal recommendation, per Board Policy 3.20.010-P Annual Calendar. Based on some feedback from both teachers and parents, we are making an adjustment to the 2020-21 draft recommendation calendar shared previously to alternatively reflect a Wednesday, September 2nd start of school for students.

a full week or whether there would be an experienced benefit from a mid-week start. A number of parents and teachers suggested that a shorter week and return-to-school might better permit younger children to ease back into the routine of school. Given that Labor Day actually appears on September 7th during the second week of the month, we agreed in discussion with PAT leadership, to try the later mid-week start this school year -with an understanding that we would evaluate afterwards -week start. This still permits the district to frontload several instructional days, which also better ensures high school seniors have a margin or cushion of days to meet instructional time requirements prior to scheduled graduation ceremonies at the close of the school year (with the exception of a more severe winter that could result in canceled classes and where other measures would need to be implemented for seniors specifically).

Visually, the Communications and Language Access Departments created a new-look calendar intended to make it easier for families to navigate. Besides this revised appearance, the draft calendar for next year includes in a consistent manner many of the features and considerations that were factored into the school calendar the past two years:

Maintain the start of the school year on a date prior to Labor Day; this proposed 2020-21 calendar starts on Wednesday September 2nd and ends on Friday, June 11th. As a reference point compared to other local school districts: Lake Oswego has published a start date of August 31st; Beaverton has published a start date of September 8th. Goal of ensuring semesters and quarters have a balanced number of instructional days; attempt to balance length of quarters: Q1 = 45 days; Q2 = 45 days; Q3 = 43 days; Q4 = 44 days
Attempt to create a more student-focused, family-friendly school calendar, per input received; this recommended calendar continues to eliminate school late starts and early

dismissals for next school year and attempts to preserve five full uninterrupted instructional days in a typical week where possible.

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