

School Calendar Steering Group

January 13, 2014



Meeting Objectives

- Review considerations associated with three draft calendar matrices
- Consider additional feedback regarding the 2014/15 calendar
- Confirm recommendation to the Board of Trustees' January 21, 2014 Public Board Meeting
- Clarify next steps including additional information needs and subsequent meetings



Proposed Agenda

- Discuss considerations associated with three draft calendar matrices
- Consider additional feedback regarding 2014/15 Calendar
- Confirm recommendation to the Board of Trustees January 21, 2014 Public Board Meeting
- Confirmation of Agreements and Next Steps



A few guidelines

We will work best if we:

- Honour one voice at a time
- Challenge ideas, not people
- Listen
- Try to be succinct
- Make space for others to participate
- Stay on topic and on time
- Make sure your words are recorded



Review of How “We Arrived Here”

March 12, 2013 Board Meeting

Guiding Principles

- No dramatic changes to school calendar
- Look at students’ best interests first
- Compliance with Ministry of Education requirements
- Compliance with Collective Agreement provisions



Recommendations of School District #44 Partner **School Calendar Steering Group**

Based upon feedback over the years, this year's (2013) survey information, January 24 (2013) Community Forum Style Calendar Information Session, and the Steering Group perspective and priorities, discussion focused on the areas below.

Each area was discussed and reviewed at length

The Steering Group arrived at Consensus in all areas and in arriving in the overall recommendation to the Executive Committee and the Board of Education

Guiding Principals

1. No dramatic changes to school calendar
2. Look at students' best interests first
3. Compliance with Ministry of Education requirements
4. Compliance with Collective Agreement provisions



2013/14 Summary Topics for Steering Group

1. Winter Break
2. Spring Break
3. Collaboration Time
 - a. Secondary Schools
 - b. Elementary Schools
4. Curriculum Implementation Day
5. Professional Days
6. Start Date
7. End Date



A Decade of Review

1. Partner groups face challenges understanding the complexity of School Calendar. Everything from School Day duration, timetables, Athletic Seasons, Fine Arts Festivals, Provincial Exams, Programs of Choice, Family Interests, community interests, CA provisions, etc. all hinge on a School District Calendar
2. That 100% support of a School Calendar for a School District is the goal, but is notional as there are many competing interests which create paradoxical requests
3. Partners strive for 100% support of all options and alternatives



A Decade of Review – cont'd

4. Parents, students, CUPE Local #389, NVTa, Administrators (exempt and otherwise) are committed to striving to reach consensus for recommendations to the Board of Education
5. The majority of Survey Respondents in North Vancouver desire: (surveys conducted in 2004, 2010, 2011, 2012)
 - A two-week Winter Break (95%+)
 - A two-week Spring Break (75%-80%)
 - Logical extensions to weekends when a statutory holiday like November 11th falls on a Tuesday (75%-94%); hence, people generally support a Monday closure. That there is potential interest in looking at Thanksgiving and Family Day for 4-day weekends



A Decade of Review – cont'd

6. There are issues for some families for a myriad of reasons when there are two week Winter Breaks, and two week Spring Breaks and professional development days. These include daycare, parents/care givers holidays, etc.
7. That amendments to the School Calendar outside of traditional Standard School Calendar may be more balanced and provide educational opportunities, these amendments need to be negotiated with the Local Teachers' Association to gain agreement. They may also need to be negotiated with CUPE Local #389 depending upon the amendment to the Calendar.



A Decade of Review – cont'd

8. That two week Winter and Spring Breaks see a decline in student, teacher and support staff absenteeism by 2/3 for the two weeks following the Winter and Spring Breaks
9. That the 4-day weekend on November 10, 2010 and 2005, also saw a decline in absenteeism by 2/3 in the days following the 4-day weekend. This break coincides with flu season and an extremely busy time of the year for both students and teachers.



A Decade of Review – cont'd

10. At the Secondary Level, that school trips including Band trips, athletic tournaments, global initiatives trips and the like usually access the first week of the Two Week Spring Break. This results in less loss of class time for both students on the trips and students in class.
11. At the Elementary and secondary levels, there are less students being removed from school to go on “holidays” early. This results in less loss of class time for both students on their trips and students in class.
12. There is conflicting perspectives when looking at the “Bookends” of the summer. Preliminary feedback indicates not a majority of partners interested in July/August schooling at this time.



Where to from here?

Givens

- 2 Week Winter Break
- 2 Week Spring Break
- Secondary Collaboration Time
- Elementary Collaboration Time (for 13/14 and 14/15 under review)
- May need some tweaks for 14/15 (collaboration time)



Considerations associated with draft calendar matrices



School Calendar Considerations

- No dramatic changes to school calendar
- Look at students' best interests first
- Compliance with Ministry of Education requirements
- Compliance with Collective Agreement provisions
- 2 Week Winter Break
- 2 Week Spring Break
- Logical extension to weekends with statutory holidays
- Student and employee health and wellness
- Congruence with other School Districts
- No July/August schooling time



DRAFT - 2014-15 SCHOOL CALENDAR - Option A
 181 Instructional Days, 2 Week Spring Break, November Long Weekend

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2* 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL IS PARTIAL DAY

STAT HOLIDAY

NO SCHOOL

WINTER BREAK (2 weeks)

SPRING BREAK (2 weeks)

DISTRICT (NVTA) PRO D DAY (3)

SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2)

NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)

STAFF COLLAB X 7

ADMIN DAY

Dec-13



Considerations – Option A

Considerations	Option A



DRAFT - 2014-15 SCHOOL CALENDAR - Option B

181 Instructional Days, 2 Week Spring Break, November Long Weekend, June 29 Admin Day

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2*	1ST DAY OF SCHOOL IS PARTIAL DAY
	STAT HOLIDAY
	NO SCHOOL
	WINTER BREAK (2 weeks)
	SPRING BREAK (2 weeks)
	DISTRICT (NVT) PRO D DAY (3)
	SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2)
	NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)
	STAFF COLLAB X 7
	ADMIN DAY

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Considerations – Option B

Considerations	Option B



DRAFT - 2014-15 SCHOOL CALENDAR - Option C

187 Instructional Days, 1 Week Spring Break, November Long Weekend, June 30 Admin Day

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2*	1ST DAY OF SCHOOL IS PARTIAL DAY
	STAT HOLIDAY
	NO SCHOOL
	WINTER BREAK (2 weeks)
	SPRING BREAK (2 weeks)
	DISTRICT (NVRTA) PRO D DAY (3)
	SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2)
	NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)
	STAFF COLLAB X 7
	ADMIN DAY

Dec-13



Considerations – Option C

Considerations	Option C



DRAFT - 2014-15 SCHOOL CALENDAR - Option D

181 Instructional Days, 2 Week Spring Break (9-20), November Long Weekend, June 29 Admin Day

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	DISTRICT (NVTA) PRO D DAY (3)
	SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2)
	NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)
	STAFF COLLAB X 7
	ADMIN DAY

Dec-13



Considerations – Option D

Considerations	Option D



Confirmation of Recommendation to Board of Trustees January 21 Public Board Meeting



Questions & Answers



Next Steps

- Develop meeting summary - circulate to Steering Group and post on website
- Steering Group members to communicate progress to constituencies
- January 21, 2014 Public Board Meeting
- 30 day public review of draft 2014/15 calendar(s)
- Next Meetings – February 24, 2014

