

School Calendar Steering Group

October 21, 2013

Meeting Objectives

- Confirm School Calendar Steering Group roles, responsibilities, expected outcomes and process timeline
- Review 2013/14 School Calendar rationale and decision
- Review plans for collaboration time
- Update on secondary schools plans and strategies for managing semester and year end timelines
- Set additional Steering Group meeting dates
- Clarify next steps including additional information needs, homework and subsequent meetings

Proposed Agenda

- Steering Group Roles, Responsibilities, Expected Outcomes and Process Timeline
- 2013/14 Calendar Rationale and Decision
- Plans for Collaboration Time
- Secondary School - semester and year-end
- 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

School Calendar Steering Group

Process Overview:

Roles, Responsibilities, Process Timeline &
Expected Outcomes

Steering Group Role

- Provide advice on the consultation process regarding the School Calendars for the next 3-4 years
- Consider legislation, past feedback and other relevant information regarding school calendars
- Identify perspectives, values and considerations associated with school calendars
- Review and consider consultation feedback
- Make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Board of Education regarding the 2014/15, (2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18) School Calendars

Steering Group Responsibilities

- Attend Steering Group meetings (Dates TBA)
- Represent the membership of your organization or constituency
- Attend all meetings
- Keep your constituency informed of SCSG discussions
- Strive to be inclusive of the array of perspectives within your constituency when participating in Steering Group discussions.
- Support in carrying out duties as required

Steering Group Expected Outcomes

- Recommendations brought forward in 2013/14 school year, for a school calendar for 2014/15 (for Board adoption in Feb 2014)
- Recommendations brought forward in 2014/15 school year, for a three year calendar (2015/16, 2016/17, and 2017/18) would ensue in Fall 2014 (for Board adoption in Feb 2015)

Steering Group Communications

- A meeting summary will be generated after each Steering Group meeting and posted on the School District Website
- A Final Steering Group Summary will incorporate findings and recommendations for consideration by the Executive Committee and the Board of Education

Steering Group Timeline

- October 2013 – Steering Group Meeting. Additional meeting dates to be confirmed.
- 2013/14 –
 - Monitor implementation of elementary collaboration;
 - Track plans to manage year end (including exam time) changes in secondary schools
 - Review Yearly Calendar including “Days” for 2014/15
- Final School Calendar Steering Group Meeting (Late January or Early February '14 – Date TBC) to consider consultation information and confirm recommendations to Executive Committee and the Board of Education for 2014/15, etc.

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 survey information, January 24 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, NVTAs, 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?

1. Establishment of the School Calendar for 2013/14 – **Completed**
2. Representative Steering Group work continues
 - a) One/Two meetings in May/June – **Completed**
3. Come together in Late Fall to have a limited review and make a recommendation to the Board of Education for 2014/15 - **In Progress**

Where to from here?

4. There needs to be time to further review Collaboration Time at the Elementary level and the start and end dates of the year. This would be their major area of consideration. We will not have enough time to have a serious consideration by the time the 14/15 calendar is required - **In Progress**
5. Review/Necessity of Policy #904 (School Calendar Bylaw) – **Completed** – **School Act and Regs**

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)

Review of
Secondary and Elementary
Staff Collaboration Time Plans

SEYCOVE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

School	Sept 25	Oct 30	Nov 27	Jan 29	Feb 26	April 30	May 28
Seycove	SEL Social Media Awareness – Social Media Abuses	C II SEL How Mobile Technology has Redefined the Classroom	C II SEL Power of Social Media	C II A Social Media Positive Uses	C II SEL Student Engagement	A Year-End Assessment	C II SEL Sharing and Celebration of Collaboration
Cove Cliff	SEL Self-Regulation – Supporting Emotional Needs of Students Through Periods of Transition	C II Foundational Writing Skills – Student Feelings of Success During Writing	SEL Opportunities for Communication – Student Oral Communication	II A Differentiation in Math and Formative Assessment	II A Differentiation in Math and Formative Assessment	II Using Technology to Support Student Learning and Digital Communication	SEL Supporting Student Emotional Needs Through Periods of Transition – Continued Development of Strategies and Structures
Dorothy Lynas	SEL Self-Regulation: 5 Domain Model – Student Sense of Social Responsibility	SEL Biological Domain – Classroom Strategies to Help with Biological Regulation	SEL Emotional Domain 1 – Modulating Feelings and Moods, Emotional Resiliency and Healthy Self-Esteem	SEL Emotional Domain 2 – Communication Skills, Self-Regulation and SNAP	SEL Cognitive Domain – Executive Functions, Mental Processes, Memory and Attention	SEL Social Domain – Social Cues	SEL Pro-Social Self-Regulation; Goal-setting for Next Year
Sherwood Park	SEL Improve Ethos of School by Working on Social/emotional Aspects – Code of Conduct	SEL Improve Ethos of School by Working on Social/emotional Aspects – Interventions Creation	SEL Improve Ethos of School by Working on Social/emotional Aspects – Interventions Creation II	A Improve Success Rate of Students in K-7 in Mathematics – Math Assessments	C Improve Success Rate of Students in K-7 in Mathematics – Math: Uncovering Curriculum K-7	II Improve Success Rate of Students in K-7 in Mathematics – How do we teach Math? Instruction Strategies	A Improve Success Rate of Students in K-7 in Mathematics – Math Assessment – Validity and Examining Students' Progress

Secondary Schools –

Plans and strategies for managing

Semester and Year-end timelines

Review of 2014/15 School Calendar Matrix

AUGUST 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SEPTEMBER 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2*	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 2* 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL IS PARTIAL DAY
- STAT HOLIDAY
- WINTER BREAK (2 weeks)
- SPRING BREAK (2 weeks)
- CLOSURE DAY - NO SCHOOL
- DISTRICT (NVTA) PRO D DAY (3)
- SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2)
- NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)
- ELEMENTARY STAFF COLLAB X7
- SECONDARY STAFF COLLAB X7
- ADMIN DAY

Questions & Answers

Steering Group Meeting Dates

- Late November/ Early December 2013
- January 2014

Next Steps

- Develop meeting summary - circulate to Steering Group and post on website
- Steering Group members to communicate progress to constituencies
- Next Meeting – late November/ early December