

# Proposed HCPS Calendar

2024-2025 School Year

# Calendar Committee Charge

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- Share and dialogue calendar viewpoints from committee members and those they represent
- Develop initial proposal to present to the Board of Education
- Receive and review public feedback for 60 days
- Evaluate public feedback on behalf of the Board
- Present a final calendar proposal for the upcoming school year at least 8 months in advance of the first day of the out-going school year

# Timeline for 2024-2025 Proposed HCPS Calendar

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September 7, 2023

Calendar Committee Meeting via Teams

- Establish proposed calendar for community review

September 18, 2023

Proposed Calendar Presentation to Board of Education

- Allow 60 days for public feedback

November 30, 2023

Calendar Committee Meeting 2.0 via Teams

- Discussion to finalize calendar proposal to Board

***December 18, 2023***

***Board of Education Final Decision on 2024-2025 Calendar***

# Calendar Elements

## Requirements

- Schools must be open for 180 days for students
- Schools must be open for 190 days for teachers
- Official Holidays per Negotiated Agreements
  - Labor Day
  - Primary & General Election Days
  - Thanksgiving Day & Thanksgiving Friday
  - Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
  - New Year's Day
  - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
  - President's Day
  - Good Friday
  - Memorial Day
- Board Policy - Minimum of 6 inclement weather days included

## Past Practice

- Board Observances
  - Rosh Hashanah
  - Yom Kippur
  - MSEA Convention Day
  - Veteran's Day – early dismissal for schools/offices
  - Easter Monday – state observed
  - Juneteenth
- Professional Development Best Practices
  - 3 or more PD days before the start of school
  - 2 additional PD days for new teachers
  - 10 PD days in total during the school year
  - PD day scheduled for end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter
  - 8-10 Early Dismissal days

The calendar must designate four quarters,  
with an approximate number of equal days per quarter.

# HCPS Community/Board Feedback

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- Survey to Collect Data
  - Allows quick analysis
  - Provides opportunity for all stakeholders to provide input
- Board Adjustment Requests during Community Feedback Period
  - Maintain Board observed holidays

# Survey Considerations

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- Add PD days at the beginning of the school year for returning staff
- Add early dismissals
- Remove days from winter break
- Add days to spring break

# Survey Considerations

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## Key Findings

Below are some of the key findings and themes that emerged from the analysis of the open-ended comments:

1. Respondents **emphasize the need for more preparation time before the school year begins**, with a preference for a minimum of five days. (Phase 1 and 2)
2. **Mixed opinions exist regarding the preference for starting the school calendar before or after Labor Day**, influenced by family needs, priorities, and support.
3. **Concerns are raised about the inclusion of diverse holidays in the calendar**, with several respondents (Phase 2) strongly advocating for retaining Jewish holidays.
4. **Consistency in the school calendar from year to year** is advocated by respondents. (Phase 1 and 2)
5. Some respondents recommend **utilizing virtual learning options or asynchronous time to minimize disruptions** to the school calendar and provide mental health breaks for staff and students

# Committee Feedback at November 30 Meeting

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- Ensure 9 early dismissals *for students only*
  - These allow staff PD and opportunities for teacher planning throughout the school year
- Edit December 20, 2024, to be an early dismissal for students *and* staff
- Acknowledge other religious holidays
  - This will be addressed with other departments to propose inclusion on the handbook/calendar
  - In the future, an attempt to align PD with other religious holidays
- Include conversations around early dismissals in work groups throughout the school year to discuss impact of “outside the box” suggestions/recommendations that will have greater impact to the system



## PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2024 - 2025, START BEFORE LABOR DAY

		Aug-24							Sep-24							Oct-24							Nov-24							
Weekend		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
HOLIDAY/sched closed schools & offices						1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5							1	2
1st day school		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
last day of school		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
3 hour early dismissal students only		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
3 hour early dismissal schools & offices		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31*			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Professional Development (PD)																														
New teacher PD		<b>Dec-24</b>							<b>Jan-25</b>							<b>Feb-25</b>							<b>Mar-25</b>							
First day for Prekindergarten		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
Last day for Prekindergarten		1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1							1	
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
180 Number of student days		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24*	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
9 Number of early dismissal days		29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28*	29	
10 Number of PD days (schools closed to students)																														
190 Number total teacher days (all)		<b>Apr-25</b>							<b>May-25</b>							<b>Jun-25</b>							<b>Jul-25</b>							
		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
6 POTENTIAL SNOW MAKE UP DAYS				1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5*	6	7			1	2	3	4	5	
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
* Denotes Quarter End		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
		27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30				

# Next Steps

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- December 18, 2023 Board of Education vote on final 2024-2025 HCPS Calendar