



Alexandria City Public Schools

# Calendar Update

## School Board Meeting March 2, 2023





# Essential Questions

- What is the rationale for the recommended changes to the 2023-24 academic calendar?
- What operational standards will best support the Calendar Committee moving forward in proposing options for the 2024-25 and future ACPS academic calendars?



# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2023-24

## Correct Errors

- Traditional Calendar
  - August 31 was omitted
  - October 12 was mistakenly identified as Diwali
    - Diwali is Sunday, November 12
- Modified Calendar
  - July 25 was correctly labeled as the first day of school, but mis-colored as a Teacher Work Day



# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2023-24

## Adjust Two Professional Development Days

- Exchange one Division day for a School-based day to support pre-service week priorities
- Step-Up to Kindergarten and other Open House events fit best on the day before school begins
- The same change was made for the current school year



# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2023-24

Provide a Consistent Format for both sets of Parent-Teacher Conferences across all levels - ES, MS & HS

- Thursday AM - Student Learning
- Thursday PM - Conferences Afternoon & Evening (7 PM)
- Friday - Full Day of Conferences (Contract Hours)



- Flip order of Winter Conferences based on feedback



# Recommendations

- August 31 and October 12 become student attendance days
- The last day of school for students becomes June 12, 2024
- Change August 17 to a division PD day
- Change August 18 to a school-based PD day
- Confirm July 25 as the first day of school at Samuel Tucker
- Last teacher work day on the Traditional Calendar is June 13
- Last teacher work day for Tucker is June 14
- Make all conferences half-day Thursday/full-day Friday





# Proposed Modified Calendar: 2023-2024

ACPS Modified Calendar 2023-2024	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23
<p><b>Student Days</b></p> <p><b>Holidays</b></p> <p><b>Prof Development-School</b></p> <p><b>Prof Development-Division</b></p> <p><b>Teacher Work Days</b></p> <p><b>New Teacher Orientation</b></p> <p><b>Conferences - ES - No School</b></p> <p><b>Intercessions</b></p> <p><b>Early Release- Designated</b></p>	<p><b>Jul-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>12-14 HTO</p> <p>17-18 Teacher Work Day</p> <p>19-24 Professional Dev</p> <p>25 First Day of School</p>	<p><b>Aug-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>16 Professional Dev</p> <p>21 1st Day Traditional</p>	<p><b>Sep-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1,4 Labor Day Holiday</p> <p>25 Yom Kippur</p> <p>29 End of Quarter</p>	<p><b>Oct-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>9 Indigenous Peoples Day</p> <p>9-20 Intercessions</p>
<p><b>Nov-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>7 Prof Development; 11 Veterans' Day</p> <p>12 Dueseli</p> <p>22-24 Thanksgiving</p>	<p><b>Dec-23</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>18-29 Winter Break</p>	<p><b>Jan-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 New Years Day; 11 EOQ</p> <p>12 Teacher Work Day</p> <p>15 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day</p>	<p><b>Feb-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>19 Presidents Day</p>	<p><b>Mar-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>11 Professional Dev; 14 EOQ</p> <p>15 TWD; 21-22 Elementary Conf.</p> <p>25-29 Spring Break</p>
<p><b>Apr-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1-12 Intercessions</p> <p>19 Eid al-Fitr</p>	<p><b>May-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>3 Professional Dev</p> <p>27 Memorial Day</p>	<p><b>Jun-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>10-12 Early Rel All; 12 EOQ</p> <p>12 Lurt Day; 13-14 Teacher Work Day</p>	<p><b>Jul-24</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p>	<p><b>SUMMARY</b></p> <p>Quarter 1: 45 days</p> <p>Quarter 2: 47 days</p> <p>Quarter 3: 41 days</p> <p>Quarter 4: 45 days</p> <p>Student Days: 178</p> <p>Teacher Days: 195</p>





# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2024-25

## The Work of the Calendar Committee

- 4 Meetings Oct. 20 - Feb. 23
- Reached Consensus on Membership Governance
- Recommending Consideration of a Board Calendar Policy



# Purpose

The purpose of the Calendar Advisory Committee this year will expand to...

- Create a guidance document to establish the process by which the advisory committee operates and calendar options are generated.

Two Deliverables:

1. Guideline Document
2. Calendar Options for SY 2024-25





# Calendar Committee Membership

## Stakeholder Organizations

- 2 PTAC
- 1 EAA
- 1 TAC
- 3 FACE Center

*Is there an existing organization at the high school that could appoint 1-2 students?*

## At-Large

- 1-2 Parents
- 1-2 Elementary Teachers
  - 1 Tucker
- 1-2 Secondary Teachers
- 1-2 Support Staff Members
- 1-2 Students
- 1-2 Central Office Staff Members



# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2024-25

## Timeline

- At Large membership advertised by September 1
- Membership secured by September 30
- Committee Meetings October-November
- Board approval in December



# Request for Board Guidance

- Length of the school year?
- What days will be holidays for students and staff?
- What student holidays will be staff professional development/teacher work days?
- What holidays will be observed on a Friday or Monday if they fall on a weekend?
- Length of winter break?
- Philosophy around parent-teacher conferences?
- Guidelines for staff acknowledging myriad cultural and religious days which aren't observed as student holiday



# ACPS Academic Calendar: 2024-25

## A “Good” Pause

- The importance of alignment weighed heavily in discussions
- Paused work when alignment effort across Region IV school divisions gained traction
- Ready, willing and able to resume the work



## Next Steps

- The Human Resources team and the Calendar Committee stand ready to collaborate in framing operating standards and/or policy
- We recommend ongoing support for the Region IV effort to align calendars to the extent possible
- Committee members are poised to reconvene as soon as feasible and we propose addressing calendar options for both 2024-25 and 2025-26



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# Questions?

## Rene Paschal

Acting Executive Director of Human Resources

