

## **School Year 2019-2020 Calendar**

### **What feedback did we take and why?**

- SY 2019-2020 will remain similar to the SY 2018-2019 calendar. Students will start the Tuesday after Labor Day, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Families asked for half-day professional development days to be moved so they are adjacent to a weekend. SY 2019-2020 and SY 2020-2021 half-day professional development days will be moved to Monday rather than Wednesday. This is a change from the norm for our staff and administration. We appreciate their flexibility
- The District will be closed on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and will no longer be a single session day to allow 3 more days for families to travel for the holidays. As a result, students and teachers will report on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Friday before Memorial Day.

### **Not Starting Before Labor Day for 2019-2020 because....**

- Initial thinking of the calendar was to bring students back earlier than just the two days proposed in August. The two days was proposed to ease the transition to change.
- We are looking to gradually change and evaluate.
- We value our staff and they are important to the overall operation. We wanted to allow time for the staff to adjust to the calendar shift.
- We listened and made modifications.
- We want to provide families time to adjust to the change by giving them 2 years notice allowing for ample time to adjust their schedules.

### **Desire still exists to explore the academic impact**

- Robust instruction in the beginning is pivotal for setting our students up for success.
- Additional days upfront adds value to the social and emotional well-being of our students and eases the pressure of end of year deliverables.
- State and National assessment dates in grades 3-12 are fixed. Getting a jump on instruction at the front of the year will allow us to set up our students to be better prepared and less stressed for these assessments.
- As other schools have already moved or are looking to move to a pre Labor Day Start this is an opportunity for our District to enrich our students' learning experience.
- Being that Labor Day is late for the next two years, we plan to start a full week before Labor Day.
- This provides us the opportunity to implement and assess the impact a pre Labor Day start with our own students and correlate that with feedback from other districts that have implemented an earlier start date.

## **Moving Forward 2020-2021**

### **Advantages for change to 2020-2021 calendar...**

- Labor day is late. Therefore, we would typically be back before Labor Day.
- A full week prior to Labor Day will allow students and teachers a smoother transition for the school year.
- Provides a robust instructional start.

- Additional instructional time prior to Spring assessments.
- Allows for earlier targeting for differentiation.
- Grants time for earlier social transition.
- Student well-being
- Will continue to have 6 snow days built in keeping Spring Break intact.
- SY 2021-2022 will also be a late Labor Day weekend. Therefore, we would start a full week before.
- Opportunity to evaluate change. We will assess and reevaluate the pre Labor Day start date and its effect on our district.
- We understand that heat may be a concern. As we do every year, we will continue to look at opportunities for air conditioning at the middle school and areas of the high school. Please know majority of our schools have air conditioning.

Based on our thinking as well as feedback from schools who start pre Labor Day, we still strongly believe this is a practice worth pursuing for our students.