

Issues to Consider When Creating the 2009-10 School Calendar

1. By state law, the earliest student start date for 2009-10 is August 24, 2009.
2. Should AISD maintain 175 student days? (The state standard is 180.) For each additional student day, one of two things must happen: a teacher staff development day is lost, or an additional paid teacher day must be added at considerable additional cost.
3. Should the first semester continue to end before winter break?
4. What is the best day of the week for students to start school and end school?
5. How many long weekends for students should be included in the calendar?
6. Should spring break coincide with UT's spring break? Historically, it has in past years.
7. Six and nine-week grading periods should end on a Friday.
8. When a change is made to only one day on the calendar, it has a domino effect on other portions of the calendar.
9. When a staff development or planning day is moved from/to the beginning of the calendar, the student starting and/or ending date will be changed.
10. When a holiday is added or deleted, the student starting and/or ending date will be changed.
11. Teachers currently start work approximately 2 weeks before the end of August. Teachers also receive a full paycheck at the end of August. If teachers start work too late in August, the August paycheck may be reduced or delayed.
12. Holidays for classified employees are paid. Therefore, when a holiday is added or deleted during the school year, it will impact salaries of classified employees.
13. There must be at least two bad weather make-up days in the spring semester. For employees, bad weather make-up days should be scheduled either on a holiday or on a day at the end of the school year after the employee's duty period has been completed. Do not schedule a bad weather make-up day on a weekend, because classified employees must be paid at time and one-half for working in excess of a 40-hour week, regardless of the reason for the additional work.
14. Be mindful of testing dates.
15. Be mindful of religious holidays.
16. Be mindful of U.I.L. activities/conflicts.
17. Other?