#### EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 25, 2008

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: School Year Calendar 2010-2011

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE

STAFF: Jan Favel, Mike Falk

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the 2010-2011 school year calendar be approved.

\* \* \* \* \*

The recommended 10-month school year calendar for the 2010-2011 school year is included in Appendix I. In order to meet the instructional time requirements of Alberta Education, it is recommended that the first day of instruction for the 2010-2011 school year fall on Wednesday, September 1, 2010 and the last instructional day fall on Wednesday, June 29, 2011. The recommended calendar meets the requirements of Board Policy HCA.BP, shown in Appendix II.

Other highlights of the recommended 2010-2011 school year calendar include:

- The last instructional day prior to the Winter Recess is Friday, December 17, 2010. Staff and students return to school on Monday, January 3, 2011.
- Teachers' Convention is designated to fall on March 3 and 4, 2011.
- The last instructional day prior to the Spring Recess is Friday, March 25, 2011. Students return to school on Monday, April 4, 2011.
- Thursday, June 30, 2011 is designated as a non-instructional operational day there is no opportunity to designate another end-of-year non-instructional operational day.
- The Easter week-end is almost as late as possible, with Easter falling on April 24, 2011.

## **Requirements of School Calendars**

In constructing these calendars, the following requirements of Alberta Education have been met:

- Elementary and junior high school students must receive 950 hours of instruction per school year.
- Senior high school students must have access to 1000 hours of instruction per school year.

- Senior high school five credit courses require 125 hours of instruction and three credit courses require 62.5 hours of instruction. The number of instructional days available in each semester must be sufficient to meet this requirement for every course offered either in a quarter, semester or full-year term and must take into account the placement of Alberta Education diploma exams.
- These instructional time requirements must be met on an annual basis.

The following requirements are also addressed:

- A full school week requires a minimum of 1520 minutes of instruction at the elementary and junior high school levels, or an average of 304 minutes per day. To meet the 950 hours of instruction for the year, at least 188 instructional days are required.
- Schools are able to declare up to three professional development days and one day-in-lieu. This requires that 192 possible instructional days are made available in the calendar
- Two days at the end of February or early March are reserved for the Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention.

#### Use of the 10-Month Calendar within the District

The 10-month calendars are used by all district schools except the following:

- Talmud Torah follows a 10 month calendar that is modified to account for Jewish holidays.
- Four schools Donnan, Eastwood, Parkdale, and L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy follow a modified 11-month calendar.
- All institutions with the exception of Kennedale follow the 10-month calendar, although summer programs are offered in some institutions. Kennedale follows a 12-month instructional calendar.
- Schools may apply to the Superintendent for approval to modify the calendar to meet local instructional needs while adhering to Alberta Education's minimum instructional time requirements.

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APPENDIX I: School Year Calendar 2010 – 2011

APPENDIX II: HCA.BP – Approval of the School Year Calendar

# EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# 2010-11

## **AUGUST**

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#### **SEPTEMBER**

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#### **JANUARY**

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#### **FEBRUARY**

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# APRIL

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#### JUNE

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## JULY

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## INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS = 192\*

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS = 5

NON-OPERATIONAL DAYS

TOTAL DAYS = 197

<sup>\*</sup> Instructional days may be reduced by three Professional Development Days and one day-in-lieu.

# School Calendar 2010 - 2011

2010 - 2011	Total Days	Instructional Days
August	2	0
September	21	21
October	20	20
November	21	21
December	13	13
January	21	21
February	19	19
March	19	17
April	18	18
May	21	21
June	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u>
	197	192*
Labour Day	September 6, 2010	
Thanksgiving Day	October 11, 2010	
Remembrance Day	November 11, 2010 (Thursday)	
Winter Recess	December 20, 2010 - January 2, 2011 inclusive	
Family Day	February 21, 2011	
Teachers' Convention	March 3 and 4, 2011	

Easter Monday April 25, 2011
Victoria Day May 23, 2011

First day of operation August 30, 2010 (Monday)
First day of instruction September 1, 2010 (Wednesday)
Last day of instruction June 29, 2011 (Wednesday)
Last day of operation June 30, 2011 (Thursday)

Spring Recess Good Friday

April 22, 2011

March 28, 2011 - April 1, 2011 inclusive

<sup>\*</sup>Instructional days may be reduced by up to three school professional development days and one day in lieu.

## Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: HCA.BP EFFECTIVE DATE: 13-02-2007

TOPIC: Approval of the School Year Calendar ISSUE DATE: 14-02-2007 REVIEW DATE: 02-2012

The school year calendar is the calendar that is used by the majority of district schools that follow the September through June instructional year.

The Board of Trustees believes that a consistent school calendar should be used by schools offering instruction during the September through June time period. This allows the majority of the district's students to start and end the school year and to be dismissed for major recesses on the same dates, while still allowing schools some discretion in scheduling and identifying professional development days and days-in-lieu. A standard calendar allows the Board to more easily undertake its responsibility to ensure that all students in Edmonton Public Schools have available to them as a minimum the amount of instructional time mandated by the Minister of Education and communicated in the Guide to Education.

Whereas the Board believes that it is ideal for students to commence their instruction on the Tuesday after Labour Day, there will be years in which the number of available instructional days during the September through June timeframe may preclude this. In such years the Board will endeavour to ensure that instruction commences after August 31.

The Board believes that parents, students, staff and community need to be made aware of future planned school calendars to allow time to appropriately plan ahead to ensure that students are given the optimum opportunity to access instruction.

During each school year, the Board shall:

- 1. Approve an additional school year calendar, thereby giving staff, students, parents and the public access to approved school year calendars for two years after the current school year.
- 2. Approve any changes to any previously-approved school year calendar made necessary by information not available at the time the calendar was approved.

Should circumstances arise at a school where the approved calendar does not meet the school's needs, the superintendent of schools is given the authority to modify the school calendar for that school on an annual basis.

#### Reference(s):

GCBD.AR - Time in Recognition of Duties Related to Reporting Student Achievement

GLC.AR - School Professional Development Days

**HCA.AR** - The School Year Calendar

**HCAA.AR** - Dismissal Times Before Vacation Periods

**HCAB.AR** - Remembrance Day

**HD.BP** - Instructional Time

HE.BP - Organization for Instruction

<u>HEA.AR</u> - Semester Changeover - Senior High Schools

School Act Sections 39(1)(a),39(1)(c), and 56(1) - (6)

Alberta Education's Guide to Education - ECS to Grade 9 Programming, Senior High School Programming