

MDSO Calendar Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 3, 2017

In attendance: Susan Buescher, Tim Thomas, Sunny Matteson, Heidi Galyard, Virginia Herbst, Bill Borg, Karen Olsen, Ryan Aronson

Absent: Laurie Erekson, Becky Dwello, Suzanne Gebhards

1. Meeting Objective: Review MDSO Calendar Survey results and develop a tentative Calendar for 2018-2019.
2. Review minutes from February 13 meeting.
3. Review MDSO Calendar Survey results.
Survey results were reviewed. Tim Thomas suggested that the committee add an additional question regarding the last day of school to the next survey. The impact of a later end date for school was also discussed. Will going to school later in June impact local businesses? Do parents want their high school students attending athletic practices an entire month prior to the start of school? What will the impact on testing be? When competing with other students in the state, will our students be at an academic disadvantage starting 2-3 weeks later than other schools in the state? How will this impact district calendar guidelines?
4. Develop a 2018-2019 calendar
The committee discussed varying calendars. The second parent teacher conference day was discussed and it was suggested that it be eliminated. Susan Buescher said that recommendation was not within the scope of the Calendar Committee. Two calendars were tentatively developed. The impact of district test scores with a later start was also discussed. Susan Buescher said she would use the Committee's recommendations and draft them. The first calendar will mirror the 2017- 2018 calendar which had an 80% survey approval rate. The second calendar will include starting after Labor Day and a week off at Thanksgiving. All committee members, with the exception of Ryan Aronson, were in agreement with mirroring the 2017-2018 calendar. The other committee members agreed to send two calendars to the Board for their consideration.
5. Calendar guidelines will be updated after the Board meeting on Monday, April 10.
6. All committee members in attendance agreed to serve on the Calendar Committee for the 2017-2018 year. According to Board policy, a parent for each school needs to be on the committee. The next meeting will be held the end of October of the 1st of November. The additional calendar survey will include information about start and end dates with associated scenarios. For example, with a week off at Thanksgiving and an after Labor Day start...

