From: Mark Fawdry Sent: December 15, 2022 4:05 PM To: Dale Burgos <<u>Dale.Burgos@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Re: Calendar Feeback

CAUTION: External Message

From: Dale Burgos <<u>Dale.Burgos@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2022 3:58:48 PM To: Mark Fawdry Subject: RE: Calendar Feeback

Thanks for the feedback Mark.

We left those days out on purpose as it is a federal stat holiday and the province is making decisions year by year.

Dale Burgos (He/Him/His) Executive Director of Communications, Privacy & Community Engagement Direct 250 741-5273 | Cell 250 616-6463

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-----Original Message-----From: Mark Fawdry Sent: December 15, 2022 3:50 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Calendar Feeback

Hello, just wanted to point out that all of those calendars are missing Truth and Reconciliation Day. Other than that, looks good!

From: Audrey Growcott
Sent: December 16, 2022 10:14 AM
To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: Calendar Feedback

CAUTION: External Message

Thanks for the insight and ability to give feedback on the calendars. I'm curious why Truth and Reconciliation day is not recognized on these calendars as it is a federally recognized statutory holiday as of 2021.

Thanks

Audrey

-----Original Message-----From: Maren McLean <> Sent: December 15, 2022 10:07 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Calendar feedback

Good morning, Is September 30th at stat holiday for truth and reconciliation day? Thanks Maren McLean

From: Jennifer Smith Sent: December 15, 2022 11:02 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: RE: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Hi,

I find the most difficulty with the school calendar is when Pro-D Days are blocked together into a 4day weekend. That is much harder to co-ordinate and manage than a 3-day weekend.

I would like to suggest that there be additional 3-day Pro-D weekends instead, and all 4-day weekends be eliminated from the calendar.

Sincerely,

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-----Original Message-----From: Valerie Sent: January 2, 2023 6:31 PM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: 2023-2024 draft

J

Hello,

Please can you move professional development days to align with statutory holidays. For example, pro-d day November 10 2023 with Remembrance Day Holiday November 13. This allows for families to travel to visit with grandparents etc. Thank you,

Valerie

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-----Original Message-----From: Tavia Cowie Sent: December 15, 2022 8:56 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Community engagement re: school calendars for the next 3 school years.

Hello,

I was wondering why the February professional days are not grouped with the family day holiday. (Ie: Feb 15 & 16 in 2023-24; Feb 13 & 14 in 2024-25; Feb 12 & 13 in 2025-26). I feel that it would benefit families rather then having two very short weeks so close together.

Also, in the 2023-24 draft the final curriculum implementation day is dated April 27 within the written dates, however it is blocked off on June 27th on number calendar.

Thank you for your consideration on these changes.

Sincerely,

Tavia Cowie, BA, RMT

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-----Original Message-----From: Lindsey Paauwe Sent: December 15, 2022 9:09 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Feedback for school

Hi

I like how other school districts format their year with stats. For example, comox valley uses the last week of august for three or 4 instructional/pro d days which allows less disturbances for parents during the year to find alternative care. It may intrude on the last week of teachers vacation, but much more efficient for families during the school year.

You can see this on comox valleys calendar for this year and next.

Lindsey Paauwe

From: Holly Taylor Sent: December 20, 2022 3:02 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Re: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

My feedback would be to move the Nov. 3, 3023 non-instructional day to Nov. 10 as there are already so many short weeks leading up to then it would be simpler to have the non-instructional day combined with Remembrance Day and combing it is similar to other years.

My other suggestion would be to move the February 9/10, 2024 non-instructional days to February 2/3, 2024. Having 5 full weeks prior with no breaks is a long run for the kids/families and moving it up to Feb. 2/3 is more in line with years past.

Thanks, Holly

From: 单涯 Sent: December 17, 2022 7:46 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: feedback about school calendar 2022-2023

CAUTION: External Message

Hello all,

My name is Rachel and I have been in Canada for 6 years. I am a daycare teacher and a mom with two boys, 13 and 2. To make it more specific, I am an immigrant mom with no family here to help, and I am going back to school to pursue my degree in the new year.

I understand it's my personal choice to lead my life in this busy and stressful situation, but I have a dream here in Canada which I was determined to be the place to help me fulfill my life. However, after reviewing the school calendar, all of them seems good to me, but, based on my expereince working with family and children, I am kind of concerning about the professional day. It's crucial for teachers to improve their knowledge and skills in order to better support and meet students' and family needs; however, it appears to be a big issue for those who has to go to work and/or school to take the day off to look after their chilren, as some daycares follow school calendars.

I am sure that thousands of parents would have the same concern regarding to the ProD day, unfortunately, I do not have a solution to this problem. But I am thinking about some changes or alternatives, i.e. maybe paid dayoff for working parents on the ProD day, or some programs funded by government that could take young children as needed.

Thank you so much for you effort to make the year round calendar to meet all of our needs, and a big thank you for taking the time to read my feedback. I apprecite it!

Rachel

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From: Jolene Edmunds Sent: December 21, 2022 12:37 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School Calendar Feedback

CAUTION: External Message

For the most part I understand that many things impact the school calendar, however, the double pro-d days in February of each year are a bit much. If there is a significant reason for this perhaps it could be explained? There is already a statutory holiday in February, it is the shortest month, and choosing a Monday and Tuesday is a significant impact on family schedules and finances.

We have had these double pro-d days for a number of years now and I don't know a single parent who doesn't find it costly, inconvenient (more than typical), or who understands why it is set up that way. Can these days not be moved to the end of the year, end of the December teaching period or start of January teaching period?

As I mentioned, perhaps there is a good reason for the double days, but if so, can it please be communicated more clearly, because right now it just seems irreverent.

Thank you for your consideration. Kindly, Jolene

From: Tara Wren Sent: January 2, 2023 8:27 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Re: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Parent of 2 elementary school kids.

Love the double Feb non-instruction day. See that there's usually consideration for matching up the Nov non-instructional with the stat to create a 4 day weekend. Am wondering about the possibility of doing that also or instead with the Oct stat. This suggestion / preference is purely weather-based. Am finding that in recent years, we try to get together with extended family when we can hold events outdoors. Thanksgiving can be a bit hit-or-miss, but by Nov it's all miss. A 4-day for Thanksgiving would really help us with this.

I know that you're balancing other people's needs to NOT have 4-day breaks, but wanted to add my voice as pro-4-day-breaks. A 3 day creates a total mess for our schedule, and making it 4 only makes it 10% messier (and then would ensure we have more regular-rhythm weeks that support both our work schedules and our neurodiverse structure-lovers).

Thanks for asking for input,

Tara Wren

From: KDelDel Sent: December 15, 2022 8:56 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Just looking at it all and thinking that pro d days should go after Halloween when it makes sense, like 2024/2025 calendar year, as Halloween is a Thursday. I find every year my kids and other parents always question why this doesn't happen. Thanks Karen Delves

-----Original Message-----From: Heather Trawick Sent: December 16, 2022 12:03 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: 3 year school calendar feedback

To whom it may concern,

I see that in both the 2023-2024 and the 2024-2025 school years, there is a non-instructional day in early November. In 2023 it is November 3.

I would like to suggest that for both these years, and any year November 1 is a weekday, the non-instructional day be moved to November 1. It is because it is the day after Halloween and always a day where very little learning happens because the students are either too overtired and sleepy in the morning and then hopped up on sugar in the afternoon.

Early in y career as a teacher in Coquitlam, when schools picked the dates for their school based pro-d, we always picked November 1. Elementary parents especially appreciated not having to drag their younger children to school half asleep that day.

Thank you for taking my thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely, Heather Trawick

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From: Gerald and Erin St. Pierre Sent: December 15, 2022 8:54 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Calendars

CAUTION: External Message

Is September 30th not a stat?

Also the middle calendar. I think the Pro D Friday November 8th should be moved to Friday November 1st - day after Halloween! I think that helps more people than making an extra long weekend!

Thanks, Erin

From: courtenay Althouse

Sent: December 15, 2022 8:55 AM To: Consultation Subject: School Calendar Feedback

CAUTION: External Message

Hi there,

great job on the calendar, my only feedback would be to ask that when we do the Pro D day in November, can we schedule it for the day after Halloween?

Personally, as a parent ,on Halloween my kid is up later, he is jacked up on candy and if he didnt have to go to school the next day, it would make my life a lot easier than having him off school 2 days later.

I think for teachers it would work as well since they wont have to deal with students who are tired and bringing all sorts of Candy to school from the excitement.

Thats my 2 cents.

Thanks for listening

Courtenay

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-----Original Message-----From: Miriam Hornby Sent: December 15, 2022 10:26 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Calender comments

My thoughts on the school calendar.

Let's face it, the closer you take school to Christmas, the less work gets done. I think changing the dates next year to be off on the 15th of December and coming back the day after New Year's day is a much better move. Teachers can get back to educational topics right away. No matter how much you ask teachers to keep teaching right till the 22nd, kids leave for holidays, they are unfocused because of all the activities occurring for the season etc. The risk of kids (and families) being sick also increases the closer you take school to Christmas Day. At least with a week before hand, parents can control who they expose themselves to which means families have a greater chance to celebrate that special day without having to worry about whether a child is bringing the flu home. Educationally, it makes more sense then having them off that first week of January. For high schoolers it also means an extra week in their semester that is closer to semester end instead of losing that week. One would hope that this would impact the end of semester tests and the cramming in of projects into just a few weeks. Gives students more time to prepare for the end of the semester.

Thanks Miriam Hornby

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From: Sarah Lane Sent: December 15, 2022 9:35 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Re: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Hi there,

I am not sure what kind of feedback you are looking for, and how much my words will influence your long-term, district-wide decisions. Assuming this is just protocol?

All looks fine - would be nice to have more time before Christmas on that first schedule - less time after Christmas, but Year 2 and Year 3 are fine.

Thanks,

Sarah

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From: Regan McKeever Sent: December 18, 2022 10:08 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: school calendars

CAUTION: External Message

Thank you for putting together draft school calendars for the following three years, and for requesting feedback.

My only request would be to shift the winter break holidays to a week earlier. They are falling too close to actual Christmas the way you have them scheduled. It is better for the kids to have time to prepare for the holiday the week before, and be able to work at their jobs when it's the busy season as well. They do not need a week off AFTER New Years. That also matches up better with most employers as most of us have to return to work right after New Year's, but it's less busy the week before Christmas.

I hope you will consider shifting them to start the week earlier and having the kids return to school January 2nd (or 3rd, wherever it falls).

Thank you,

Regan McKeever

From: Izabela Oliver Sent: December 15, 2022 9:40 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School year calendars

CAUTION: External Message

Hi,

For the school year of 2023-2024, it would be great if the kids could have their winter break similar to what they have this year.

So, instead of Dec. 25, 2023 - Jan. 5, 2024, it would be great if it could be December 18-29, 2023 instead.

The other year's calendars look great.

Thank you

Izabela Oliver

-----Original Message-----From: Ericka Brown Sent: December 17, 2022 1:57 PM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: School Year Drafts

Hello!

For the 2023/24 year, our preference would be for winter break to begin Dec 16 and go back to school Jan 2, or even a mid week start of Dec 20-Jan 3. Having just two days prior to Christmas off makes it hard to make travel or social plans, avoid people being sick for the special day, and means nearly 2 weeks of 'I'm bored' because Christmas has already passed and there's nothing to look forward to or get ready for. Please consider changing it to be more inline with what was done this year, giving a week before and a week after of Christmas Day off. The other years are better as Christmas Day moves forward in the week adding a couple more days beforehand.

Thank you!

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From:

Sent: December 15, 2022 9:21 AM

To: No-Reply <<u>NoReply@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Re: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Hi,

Feedback on the 23/24 and 24/25 calendar, please bump back winter break a week, it's crazy to have it so late and close to Christmas as well as have it overlapping so far into January. Please remove my name from any feedback to reporting I expect this to be anonymous

From: Mandy B Sent: December 20, 2022 12:31 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Fw: Consultation: DRAFT 3-year local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

My main concern regarding these proposed calendars are the 2-week long Spring Breaks. That is far too long of a stretch for working parents to have to find & pay for child care.

Thank you, - Mandy Brown

-----Original Message-----From: Lene Sent: December 15, 2022 11:00 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Calendar feedback

Good morning,

I just want to thank you for your continued support of a two week spring break. As a teacher I appreciate the break to re-energize for the final months of the year but, more importantly, I find that students need that two weeks. They come back rested and ready to learn. I worked for years and noticed with my own children that one week was not enough of a break. I always said that one week was not enough. They lacked focus because they did not have enough time to re-group for the final, busy months of the school year.

Lene Rounis

-----Original Message-----From: Joanne Rishworth Sent: January 15, 2023 11:15 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Feedback

Hi there, for the 2023-2024 year, you could look into starting March Break one week later so that the break ends up being combined with the Easter long weekend. It seems silly to have 2 weeks off for March Break and then go back for 4 days and then be off for 4 days again.

Thanks, Joanne

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From: Maryah McKibbon
Sent: December 15, 2022 10:56 AM
To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: Community Engagement 3 Year Calendar

Good morning,

I notice that for the next 3 years the district is continuing to offer the administrative day on the last day of June rather than the first day of September. Learning leaders at NDSS discussed how beneficial it would be for new and returning staff to have an administrative day as the first day back in September. A day to allow for staff to be back in the building and set up plans, as a school team for grade 8s, and to get new staff oriented with all the various expectations and procedures specific to each school site. I would propose that before this calendar is finalized that this topic be discussed at a PVP meeting and a recommendation brought forward from administrators. My understanding for our own administration team is that this idea has been floated in the past and the NDSS team feels it a worthwhile discussion.

Cheers, Maryah

From: Nick Janzen
Sent: December 15, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: Administrative Day suggestion

My suggestion is to change the administrative day planned for the end of June to September. The move would allow for new teachers to be better oriented to the building and expectations. Chances for departments to orient themselves, and to plan a robust welcome for grade 8s could also be tackled. This year, as with many previous, the time was not enough before students were in the building and questions about homerooms, locks, parking, sunshine fund etc. abounded.

Nick Janzen

From: Carol Funk Sent: December 15, 2022 11:25 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: draft district calendar

Rather than having the administrative day planned for the end of June (when the year is coming to an end), move it to September. The move would allow for new teachers to be better oriented to the building and expectations. Chances for departments to orient themselves, and to plan a robust welcome for students (in particular grade 8s) could also be tackled. This year, as with many previous, the time was not enough before students were in the building and questions about homerooms, locks, parking, sunshine fund etc. abounded....

From: Erin Bee Sent: December 15, 2022 8:58 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School calendar - input and feedback

CAUTION: External Message

Hi there,

I wanted to give my two cents about the school calendar. Thank you for holding space for input!

I personally would prefer a one week spring break and one less week of school in June. That would mean getting out of school around June 20th instead of June 27th.

If the adjustment could be made elsewhere, that would be fine, as long as school gets out earlier in June instead of just before Canada Day.

When I was younger school did not go till the end of June. I don't understand why school goes so long these days. It is really hard to convince children to go to school when the weather is beautiful and summer has already started.

Additionally, low income families such as myself (single mom with three children) cannot afford extended vacations, for example, in the spring. All of these extra vacation days and pro D days are extremely hard for parents. It is very stressful and expensive to find child care.

In conclusion, I am begging you guys to do less vacation days and planning days during the year, and just make the school year and earlier in June instead.

Thank you so much!,

Erin

From: Selena MacKay Sent: December 15, 2022 10:26 AM
To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: Feedback - Draft 3 yr. local school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Good morning

Regarding the draft three-year local school calendar for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, I just wanted to say that I appreciate this being shared. I had no idea that it needed to be done so far ahead of time. I think it looks great.

Thank you. Selena MacKay

-----Original Message-----From: Mallory Brenner Sent: December 15, 2022 3:18 PM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Calendar

Are these going to b available for parents ? If so I think these are a great idea instead of monthly news letters

From: Heather Dean Sent: December 16, 2022 10:41 AM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: Calendar feedback

CAUTION: External Message

All of these links lead to a 404- file not found message. Can you please let me know how I might view these calendars.

Thank you Heather Dean

From: barbara prince
Sent: December 15, 2022 11:09 AM
To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: Consultation for school year

CAUTION: External Message

Hello,

As a parent of 2 children, and one is special needs I would like the school board to consider a year round school schedule the 2 months off in the summer is too long and not affordable for families to pay for childcare. Also, for special needs children I feel it is just too long for them to retain the skills and learning. Thank you,

Barbara

From: Laura Augustine
Sent: December 15, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca>
Subject: Feedback for school calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Thanks for reaching out to parents for thoughts before solidifying the dates.

I found a couple things.

* Sept 4 2023 is a Monday. If school is to start on the Tuesday, it would be the 5th of September.

*A thought, I wonder if pro D Friday and Mondays that extend the weekend into 4 day weekends are useful. I liked those this year personally, it offers an opportunity for families to do a short getaway without missing school. If October 20th and October 23rd were both B Pro D days that would create that opportunity.

* curriculum implementation day is listed as April 27th, but I think it's supposed to say June 27th.

Thanks! Laura Augustine

-----Original Message-----From: Sent: December 15, 2022 8:31 PM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Feedback for School Calendars

Dear Board Members, I am pleased with the arrangements of the school calendars for the next three years. Kind regards, Marisa Paisley

-----Original Message-----From: April Levins Sent: December 15, 2022 9:03 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Feedback school calendar

Good morning,

Some feedback on the 23 to 26 SD68 proposed school calendars. First of all, the September 30 stat is missing from all three calendars. Also, in the 23–24 calendar it looks like there is an error. I believe curriculum implementation day should say June 27 not April 27.

In the 23-24 calendar and the 24-25calendar, I am wondering why the Christmas break is starting so late. For families with university students, the students have more time off before Christmas and return after the January 1 holiday. I'm wondering why SD68 wouldn't try for the same?

Kindest regards, April

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-----Original Message-----From: Todd Drew Sent: December 15, 2022 9:48 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: Proposed calendar

Links don't work to the proposed calendar. It I do have a some feedback though

1- spring break should be 1 week, not 2. It's a huge financial burden on families, especially the ones that have 2 working parents.

2- pro- d days should be all lumped together before the school year starts- delay the start by two weeks if you have to. I fully support paid professional development, but the way it's currently scheduled places a large financial burden on parents.

With appreciation,

Todd Drew

From: isabelle goyer Sent: December 15, 2022 4:36 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School calendar

CAUTION: External Message

Good afternoon,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to give our opinion on the calendars. As a parent, I really appreciate the two weeks of break in December and March. It is a good way for children, even teenagers like my daughter, to decompress from the ongoing stress and anxiety coming from work load, assessment, and requirements. We also appreciate that the last day, in June, isn't the 29th or so anymore. Again, for teenagers, it allows them to find a summer job after a few days of break, and for little ones, the last two weeks of June are very difficult and tiresome. We really like the three years planning.

Regards, Isabelle and JC

-----Original Message-----From: Alyssa.childress Sent: December 15, 2022 9:10 AM To: Consultation <consultation@sd68.bc.ca> Subject: School calendar drafts

I think that for the 23/24 school year, Christmas vacation should be from Dec 18 to Jan 2. This will give flexibility to families who want to travel to relatives for Christmas vs the proposed where school is not out until dec 22 resulting in everyone having to travel on the weekend before Christmas (when ferries are at the busiest!). Also, personally, my family enjoys the time leading up to Christmas to do baking, decorating, and other activities together. The proposed schedule will not really allow for much of that either...

Also, none of the draft calendars have Truth and Reconciliation Day on them. Why is that?

Thank you for seeking input, Alyssa Childress

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From: Katie Lonsdale Sent: January 5, 2023 1:02 PM To: Consultation <<u>consultation@sd68.bc.ca</u>> Subject: School Calendars

For those teachers/staff who work in NLPS and have children who attend a different school district, it would be wonderful if we could align our school breaks (Winter and Spring Break) with SD69 and SD79 to support these families.

Huychqa,

Katie Lonsdale (she/her)