



Arlington  
Public  
Schools

# 2021-2022 School Year Calendar Options

Dan Redding,  
Assistant Superintendent,  
Human Resources

November 17, 2020

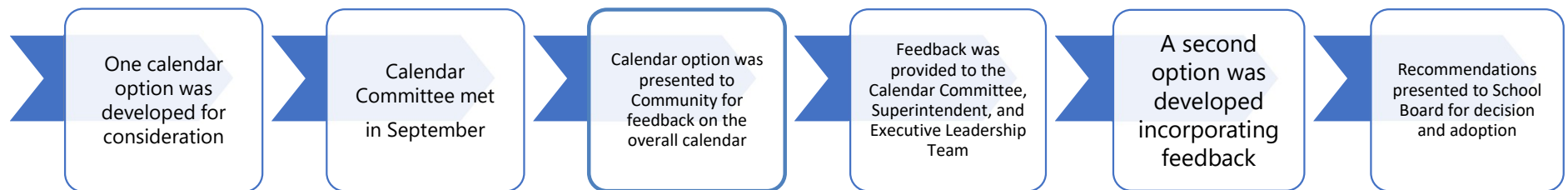


# Goals

- Outline the process for developing 2021-2022 APS instructional calendar
- Calendar requirements and considerations
- Discuss calendar options
- Share Superintendent recommended option



# 2021-22 Calendar Development Process





# Calendar Committee Makeup

- APS school-based administrators
- Arlington Education Association Members
- TCI Representative
- CCPTA representatives
- Transportation
- Extended Day
- Information Services



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# **Calendar Requirements and Considerations**



# Calendar Requirements

1. Develop one district-wide "Division Calendar"
2. Align three unique calendars to "Division Calendar"
  - Arlington Community High School and Langston High School Continuation Program (Semester Dates)
  - HB Woodlawn and Shriver Program Calendar (Early Release Dates)
  - Barcroft Elementary School Calendar (Modified Schedule)
3. Incorporate Summer School Calendar



# Calendar Requirements

1. VA Code § 22.1-79.1: Opening School Year
2. Students Instructional Days:
  - 180 days (all levels) / 990 hours
3. Teacher Work Days:
  - 200 contract days required
  - 194 reporting days (Historical) – 191 with three floating days during FY 2021
4. Recognized School Board and holidays outlined in Policy Implementation Procedure G-1.32 PIP-1 Holidays
  - Additional holidays proposed to be recognized this year



# Calendar Considerations

1. Consideration to surrounding school division calendars
  - Winter Break
  - Spring Break
2. Consideration for Election Day Bill
  - Virginia House of Delegates considered a bill requiring public schools to treat election day as a student holiday (may return)
  - Currently a teacher grade prep day with telework





# Calendar Considerations

Neighboring Jurisdictions Start Dates			
Jurisdiction	Teachers Return:	Students' First Day	Students' Last Day
Alexandria City	Not available	Not available	Not available
Falls Church City	Not available	Not available	Not available
Fairfax County	August 13 (Fri)	August 23 (Tues)	June 16 (Thurs)
Loudoun County	August 18 (Wed)	August 26 (Thurs)	June 17 (Fri)
Prince William County	August 16 (Mon)	August 23 (Mon)	June 16 (Thurs)

- Neighboring jurisdictions all have 2-week winter break
- Spring Breaks align week of April 11 – April 15
- Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day – Oct 11 – all divisions Professional Learning
- Veterans' Day – Nov 11 (Loudoun full day, FCPS full day, PWCS - holiday)



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# The Draft Option



# Original Calendar Option

## ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRAFT 2021-22 School Calendar

August-2021							September-2021							October-2021							November-2021							December-2021																																														
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									
S - 16 Staff Return * X 23 1st Day of School PL Professional Learning * 1 Pre-K First Day TP Teacher Planning							7 Rosh Hashanah 16 Yom Kippur 29 * E(PL)ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL							11 Student Holiday/Staff PL (TL) Day 21-22 *** Elem Conf *** MS Conf 27 * E(PL)ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL							2 GP Grade Prep Day / 11 Veterans Day 4 Diwali 24-26 Thanksgiving Break							8 * E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL 20-31 Winter Break																																														
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1						2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
17 MLK Holiday 24 - grade prep day							19 * E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL 21 Presidents' Day							10 * E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL 24-25 *** Elem Conf *** MS Conf							Apr 11 - Apr 15 Spring Break 8 GP Grade Prep Day							3 Eid Al-Fitr 30 Memorial Day																																														
June-2022							PARENTS AND STAFF																																																																			
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# Key Features

- Key features
  - Four additional cultural/religious holidays
  - Two full-days for parent-teacher conferences
  - Earlier start date (August 23 – aligned with FCPS)
  - Rename Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day
  - 2 "Floating Days" for T-scale employees



# Community Input

- ▶ Community survey
  - ▶ Engage Page
  - ▶ Launched for two weeks
  - ▶ Friday 5, Ambassadors, Robocall & Bilingual Family Liaisons
- ▶ Calendar Committee reviews feedback and offers revisions



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# Feedback



# Survey Feedback

Q1. Which best describes your relationship to APS? (Check all that apply)

Responses	Count	Percentage
Parent/guardian of a current APS student	2832	59.73%
Parent/guardian of a student not yet enrolled in APS	167	3.52%
I am an APS student	95	2.00%
I am an APS Staff member	1864	39.32%
I am a community member	334	7.04%
(Did not answer)	0	0.00%
Total	5,292	



# Survey Feedback

Q2.After reviewing the calendar

Responses	Count	Percentage
I support the calendar shown above with no changes.	1806	38.09%
I prefer a later start to the school year.	1643	34.66%
I prefer an earlier end to the school year.	760	16.03%
I have other suggestions that I would like staff to consider.	532	11.22%
(Did not answer)	0	0.00%
Total	4,741	





# Survey Feedback

Responses	Count	Percentage
October 11, 2021 (Columbus Day/Indigenous Persons Day)	1266	26.70%
September 3, 2021 (Friday of Labor Day Weekend)	1180	24.89%
November 11, 2021 (Veterans' Day)	1004	21.18%
December 20, 2021	906	19.11%
December 21, 2021	784	16.54%
June 20, 2022	615	12.97%
February 21, 2022 (Presidents' Day)	528	11.14%
June 21, 2022	520	10.97%
December 22, 2021	433	9.13%
June 22, 2022	403	8.50%
August 20, 2021	356	7.51%



# Survey Feedback

Topic	Feedback
Starting 2 weeks before Labor Day	Starting earlier should end earlier (staff, parents, students and community) Concerns around summer school schedule (staff) Conflict with families taking students to college (staff) Juxtaposition with school moves (staff) Concern about absenteeism before Labor Day (parents) Want additional instructional days due to COVID (Parents) Compromise Aug 30 recommended (Staff, parents, students and community) Consider child care needs (parents) Opportunities for summer employment impacted (staff and students) Why 5-day weekend at Labor Day? (parents) Try to end right after state/AP/IB testing



# Survey Feedback

Topic	Feedback
Ideas to start later but not change end date	Reduce number of snow days built-in to calendar (Staff, parents, community) Limit parent-teacher conferences to one day off and consider eliminating Spring conferences (staff and parents) Eliminate days in winter break (staff, parents, community) Move grade prep days to existing holidays (parents) Lengthen school day (parents)



# Survey Feedback

Topic	Feedback
Additional Holidays	<p>Appreciation for having holidays, contrasted with concern about adding holidays (staff, students, parents and community)</p> <p>Concerns about increased number of shortened weeks (parents)</p> <p>Concerns around childcare for the days off from school (parents)</p> <p>There are holidays for other cultural or religious groups not listed (staff and parents)</p> <p>Concerns around AP/IB testing on Eid Al-Fitr (staff, parents)</p> <p>Align with federal holidays working families follow (parents)</p> <p>Split over Veterans' Day (Staff and parents)</p> <p>Consider Buddhist holidays (students)</p>



# Survey Feedback

Topic	Feedback
Other feedback	<p>Coordinate with surrounding jurisdictions to support APS employees who do not live in Arlington (staff)</p> <p>Limit or eliminate mid-week days off (staff)</p> <p>Consider continuing virtual/asynchronous days for learning (Staff, parents)</p> <p>Split on October PL day (staff)</p> <p>Consider week at Thanksgiving (staff, parents)</p> <p>November schedule is problematic (parents)</p> <p>Develop calendar two years in advance for planning purposes (parents)</p> <p>Consider more models that include year-round with more frequent breaks (parents)</p> <p>Spring Break is too late – disconnect from Easter/ Other jurisdictions (staff)</p>



# Revised Calendar Option

## ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRAFT 2021-22 School Calendar

August-2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

§ 19-Staff Return \* 30 1st Day of School  
 PL Professional Learning \* 31 Pre-K First Day  
 TP Teacher Planning

September-2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 *	30		

§ 3 & 6 Labor Day  
 7 Rosh Hashanah 16 Yom Kippur  
 29 \* E(PL)ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL

October-2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 ++	22 ++	23
24	25	26	27 *	28	29	30
31						

11 Student Holiday/Staff PL (TL) Day  
 21-22 ++ Elem Conf +++ MS Conf  
 27 \* E(PL)ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL

November-2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	GP					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

2 GP Grade Prep Day / 11 Veterans Day  
 4 Diwali  
 24-26 Thanksgiving Break

December-2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 *	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

8 \* E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL  
 20-31 Winter Break

January-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	GP				

17 MLK Holiday  
 31 - grade prep day

February-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 *	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

9 \* E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL  
 21 Presidents' Day

March-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3 ++	4 ++	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 *	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

10 \* E(PL) ES/MS/HS - Early Rel for PL  
 24-25 ++ Elem Conf +++ MS Conf

April-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Apr 11 - Apr 15 Spring Break  
 8 GP Grade Prep Day

May-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

3 Eid Al-Fitr  
 30 Memorial Day

June-2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 E	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 E	16	17 §	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

E - Elem Early Release for all elem. Schools  
 HSL - Last Day/Early Release:  
 ACH - Last Day/Early Release: TBD  
 MSL - Last Day/Early Release  
 ESL - Last Day/Early Release:  
 § Last Day for Teachers (TL) - June 17

### PARENTS AND STAFF

- First Day of School for K-12 Programs (VPI and Special Education PK Classes):
- First Day of School for Pre-K Programs (VPI and Special Education PK Classes):
- Back to School Night: Elementary - September 9, 2021  
Middle - September 14, 2021  
High - September 22, 2021  
HB Woodlawn & Arlington Career Center/Tech - tbd  
Langston H.S.C.P. - tbd  
Arlington Community High School - tbd
- Campbell Early Release for Parent Teacher Conferences:
- High School Graduation: June 17, 2022
- Arlington Community High School / Langston H.S.C.P Graduation: TBD
- Middle School Promotion Ceremony: TBD

### STUDENTS do not attend school on Parent Teacher Conferences (+/+), and Grade Preparation Days (GP)

#### STAFF ONLY

- Professional Learning Early Release Elementary, Middle and High School: September \_\_, November \_\_, December \_\_, February \_\_, March \_\_
- Elementary Teacher Records/Closeout Day: Early Release Days on June \_\_ and June \_\_
- October \_\_ is a student holiday and a workday for all APS staff
- 12-month employees will have December \_\_ as a holiday



## Key Features in Option Two

- Start one week later than original draft
  - August 23 – ten-month employees
  - August 30 – K-12 students
- Move parent teacher conferences to one full conference day and one early release day
- Use hours past 990 to comply with instructional time requirements
- Longer pre-service and additional floating days
- Two floating days for PL (plus one for compliance)
- Floating day for parent-teacher conferences at Elementary, PL related to DOJ settlement at secondary



# Alignment with Neighboring Jurisdictions

- Winter Break
- Spring Break
- End Dates
- Recognition of additional holidays (FCPS, Loudoun):
  - Rosh Hashanah
  - Yom Kippur
  - Diwali
  - Eid Al-fitr
- Uses hours to make required time, rather than days





# Key Features in Option Two

	<b>Option 1 Hours</b>	<b>Make-Up Days Built-in</b>	<b>Option 2 Hours</b>	<b>Make-Up Days Built-in</b>
Elementary	1047	57 hours (9)	1024	34 hours (5-6)
Middle	1056	66 hours (11)	1033	43 hours (7)
High School	1049	59 hours (9)	1026	36 hours (6)
HB Woodlawn/ E.K. Shriver	1109	109 hours (19)	1085	95 hours (16)



# Superintendent's Recommended Calendar

## ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRAFT 2021-22 School Calendar

August-2021							September-2021							October-2021							November-2021							December-2021										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	*	9	10	11			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
29	30	*	31				26	27	28	29	*	30		24	25	26	27	*	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31				
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						1				1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	++	4	+++	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	*	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	*	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
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