

Academic Calendar Recommendations 2024-25 & 2025-26; 2026-27 Preview

School Board Meeting November 30, 2023













Essential Questions

- How did the regulations approved by the ACPS School Board on June 2, 2023 impact the creation of future academic calendars?
- What variables did the committee consider in the placement of conferences and professional learning days on the proposed calendars?
- What implications are there for further review and study?

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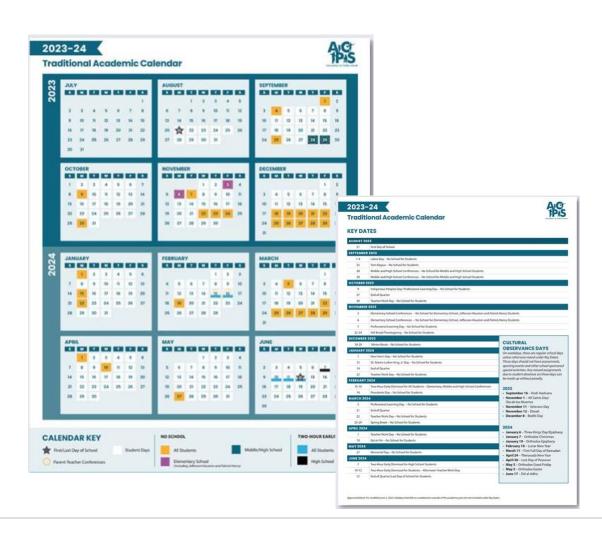






Updated Academic Calendar Format

- Improved readability
 - Single color to indicate when school is closed for PreK-12 students
 - List format provides additional detail
 - Cultural Observance Days
 Guidelines













Parameters for Framing the Calendars

Key Board Regulations:

- First & Last Day of School
- Length of School Year
- Federal & Religious Holidays
- O Cultural and ReligiousObservance Guidelines
- Length of Winter Break

• Calendar Committee Tasks:

- o Placement of Conferences
- Placement of Professional Learning
 Days
- Balancing of Instructional Days in each semester











Key Features At-a-Glance

- 2024-25 Traditional Calendar:
 - First Day of School August 19,2024
 - Last Day of School June 12,2025
 - o Winter Break 10 Days
 - Length of Year 178 StudentDays
 - Teacher Contract 195 WorkDays

• 2025-26 Traditional Calendar

- First Day of School August 18,2025
- Last Day of School June 12, 2026
- o Winter Break 10 Days
- Length of Year 178 Student Days
- o Teacher Contract 195 Work Days











Key Features At-a-Glance

- 2024-25 Samuel Tucker Calendar
 - o First Day of School July 22, 2024
 - Last Day of School June 12, 2025
 - Winter Break 10 Days
 - o Length of Year 178 Student Days
 - Teacher Contract 195 Work Days

• 2025-26 Samuel Tucker Calendar

- o First Day of School July 21, 2025
- O Last Day of School June 12, 2026
- O Winter Break 10 Days
- Length of Year 178 Student Days
- Teacher Contract 195 Work Days











Calendar Features

- A two-year calendar proposal based on the same framework supporting longrange planning for school programs, facilities projects and family activities
- Pre-Labor Day start to the school year; Year ends prior to Juneteenth
- Recognition of diverse holidays in alignment with the 2025 Strategic Plan "Equity for All"
- Winter & Spring Break Alignment with Region IV School Divisions
- End of 1st semester pairing of a professional learning day with a teacher work day in support of TLL initiatives
- More than the minimum 990 instructional hours providing flexibility in the event of unexpected school closures











Conference Considerations

Board Guidance

- Fall & Winter Conferences
- One Full Day and One Half-Day

Committee Considerations

- Dual Purpose of Conferences
 - o Connect & Inform
- Honor Parent Preference for Aligned Conference Dates
- The Unique Challenge of Half-Days
- Compromise Proposal -
 - Keeping the Spirit of Board Regulation
 - Avoids Half-Days
 - Meets Varying Preferences of ES, MS & HS











Proposed Conference Framework

Shift to 2 Full Days in the Fall One Month Apart and 1 Full Day in the Winter

Two Full Days in the Fall

- Increases opportunities for family engagement across all levels early in the school year
- Provides options for staff and parents
- Elimination of half-day conferences while maintaining expectations for hosting evening conferences

One Full Day in the Winter

- Requires additional direction from TLL / Superintendent
- Aligns with expansion of communication with families across the region

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Proposed Professional Learning Framework

Maintain a Balance Between Division-Based and Site-Based Days

Pair a Professional Learning and Teacher Work Day at the End of First Semester

- The TLL Professional Learning Department requested this concept as a priority for moving forward with key initiatives
- Teachers with semester courses have routinely advocated for a two-day turnaround period in between semesters
- Creating this option exchanges the professional learning day that has routinely been assigned to the Monday after Spring Break
- The 2025-26 calendar includes a Teacher Work Day on the Monday after Spring Break due to the third quarter ending the previous Friday

Proposal Includes a Floating Professional Day after the last day in 2025-26











Proposed Calendars For Approval

2024-25



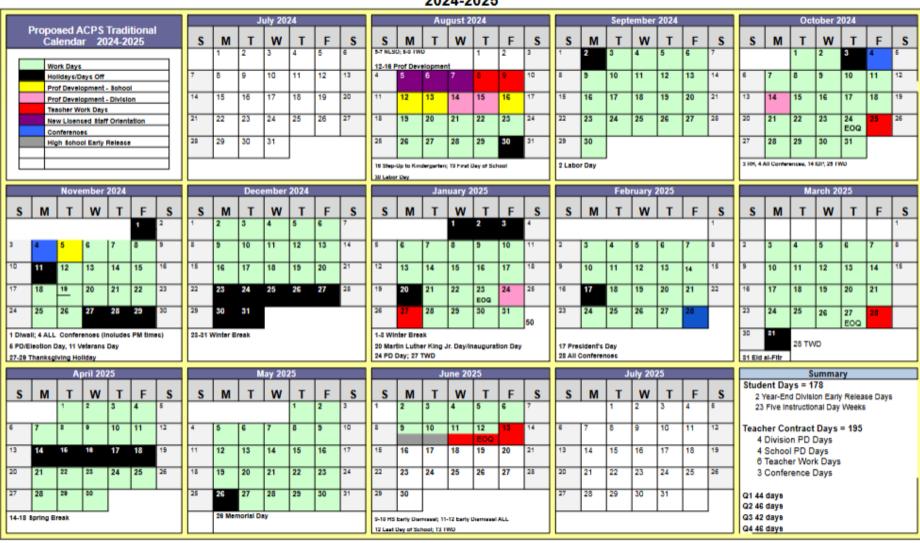








Proposed Traditional Academic Calendar 2024-2025





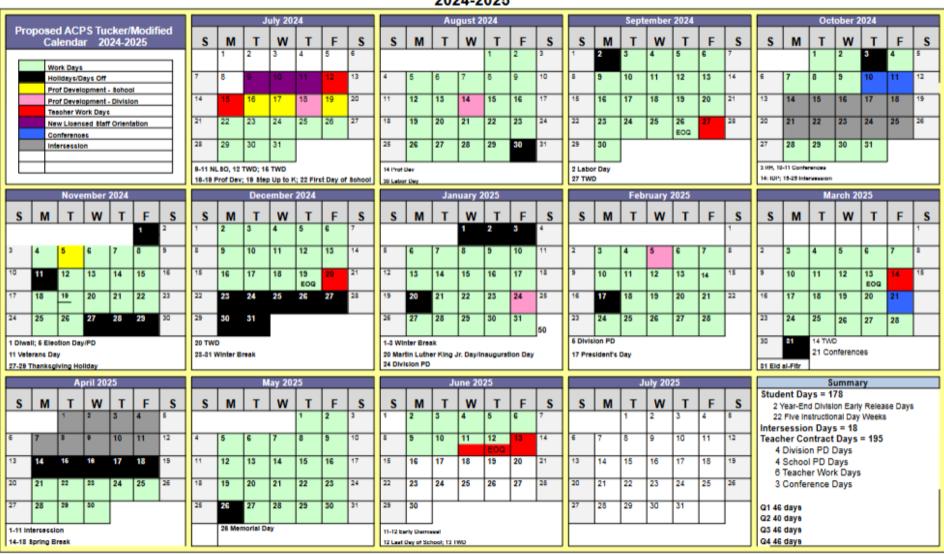








Proposed Tucker/ Modified Academic Calendar 2024-2025













Proposed Calendars For Approval

2025-26











Proposed Traditional Academic Calendar 2025-2026

Proposed ACPS Traditional Calendar 2025-2026 S M T W T F S
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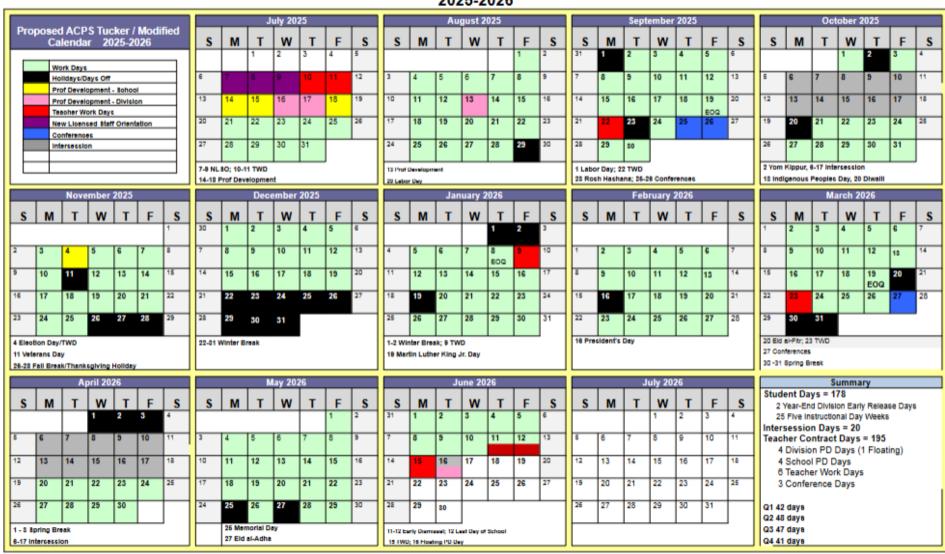








Proposed Tucker / Modified Academic Calendar 2025-2026













Calendar Preview

2026-27











The Unique Challenge of 2026-27

Labor Day falls on the latest possible day creating trickle-down beginning and end of year implications

- First day of school following the recommended framework would be August 24.
- Last day would be June 17 with no Teacher Work Day unless we place one on Monday following, June 21 (Juneteenth - Friday, June 18)

The committee looks forward to additional time to fully consider options that would avoid ending the year without a full teacher work day



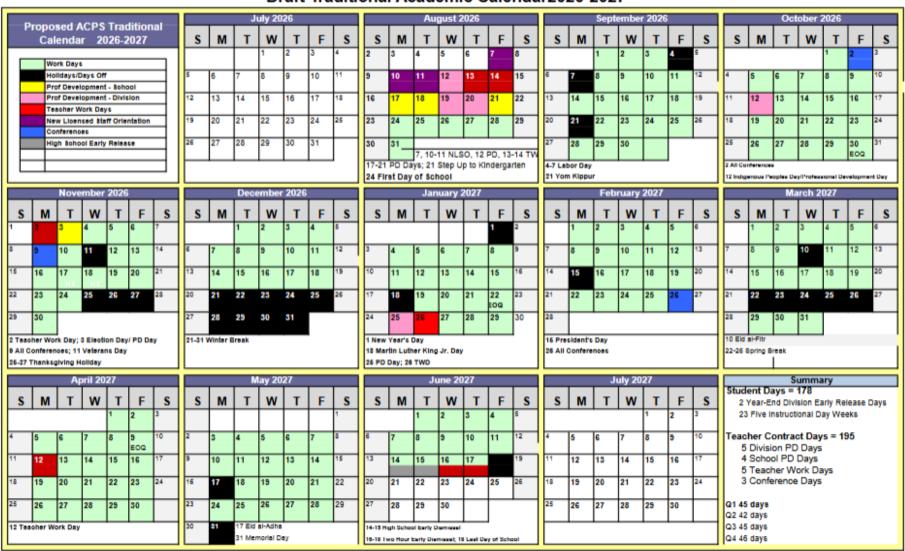








Draft Traditional Academic Calendar 2026-2027





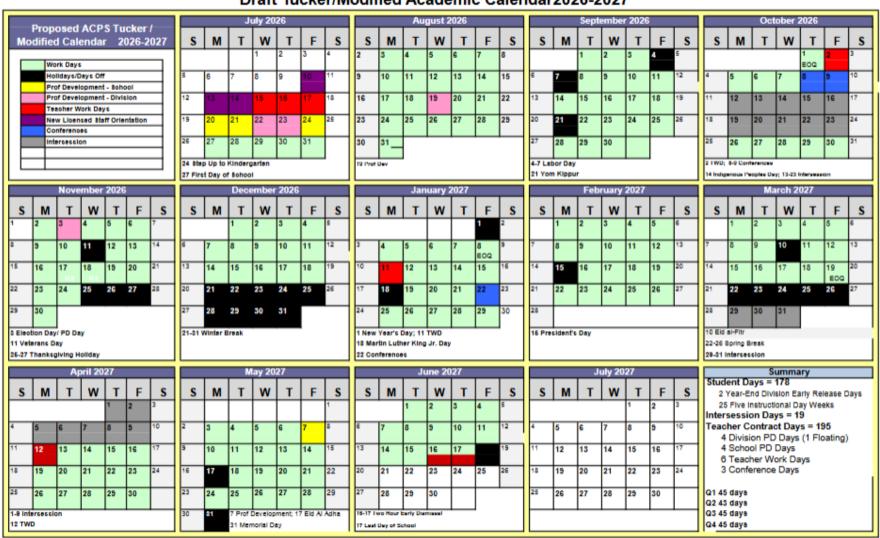








Draft Tucker/Modified Academic Calendar 2026-2027













Implications for Further Study

Develop a Statement of Purpose for Parent-Teacher Conferences and need for division guidance on hosting evening conferences

Communicate and revisit the Cultural & Religious Observance Guidelines

Continue the Dialogue with Region IV Colleagues; Develop a plan for reflection and review of current areas of alignment

Impact of Monday and Friday closures on elementary Encore classes

Monitor Stakeholder Feedback



Questions?

Taneika Taylor Tukan, Executive Director of Community Partnerships,

Kamika Valmond, Executive Director of Human Resources Rene Paschal, Acting Executive Director of School Leadership

Matt Smith, Policy Consultant



Superintendent

Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

School Board

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