



School Calendar Facts

Who are the decision makers?	The Board of Trustees
Who are the Board of Trustees?	Five people are either elected or appointed to the Board of Trustees. It is a voluntary, non-paid position.
Who reports to the Board of Trustees	One person, the Superintendent.
How often does the Board change the school calendar?	The Board sets a new school calendar once every three years. Occasionally changes have to be made more frequently for unexpected events.
Who decides who is on the School Calendar Committee?	Per Board Policy 220 the Board appoints 5 representatives from the community. In addition members include an elementary principal, a secondary principal, a teacher representative from each building, the teacher association president, and the superintendent.
Who served on the School Calendar Committee?	<p>The Board of Trustees appointed one person from each zone as well as administrators. The Blaine County Education Association selects representatives from each school.</p> <p>Calendar Committee members included: Dr. Holmes, Sara Gilman, Eric Anderson, Joyce Pratt, Sheila Naghsh, Lisa Thilmont, Brad Henson, Kelly Green, Marcia Grabow, Lydia Flynn, Debbie Drewien, Greg Carlson, Irene Healy, Kiley Hoefer, Lee Dabney, Brad Thompson, John Pearce and Melina Galvan</p>
What were the Board's directions to the Calendar Committee?	<p>The Board of Trustees established guiding principles at the December 12, 2017 School Board Meeting:</p> <p>1) Maximize student learning by providing</p>

	<p>significant stretches of uninterrupted weeks for teaching and learning.</p> <p>2) Maximize student attendance to support student learning.</p> <p>3) Propose a calendar that provides support for the Board’s priority of closing the achievement gap.</p> <p>4) Propose a calendar that supports student participation in a wide range of school related activities including competitions, extracurricular programs, dual credit opportunities, etc.</p> <p>5) Ensure the calendar meets with Idaho Statutes, including 33-1009 and 33-512.</p> <p>6) Recognize the importance of professional development for staff. 7) The calendar will be done on a 3-year cycle (2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22).</p>
<p>How many times did the Calendar Committee meet?</p>	<p>7 times over ten months in publicly noticed meetings.</p>
<p>Who developed the two calendar options?</p>	<p>Two sub-committees of the Calendar Committee, mostly comprised of educators.</p>
<p>Where are the survey results?</p>	<p>The survey results are at www.blaineschools.org under School Board/Calendar Committee. The results were pushed out through the website, social media and the BCSD Weekly Update under a story titled, “School Calendar Survey Results and Next Steps.”</p>
<p>How does the new calendar meet the directions/criteria established by the board. For example, how does this calendar help close the achievement gap? Promote attendance? Support student involvement?</p>	<p>At the March 14, 2018 Calendar Committee meeting, the committee reviewed the ways that both calendar proposals addressed the guiding principles. The calendar option selected by the Board of Trustees helps close the achievement gap by ending the first semester prior to Winter Break so that students have a full, continuous semester of learning. The calendar option selected by the Board promotes student attendance by holding as many full weeks of school as possible and provides vacation to students through Three Kings Day, a holiday that</p>

	<p>many of our families recognize. The calendar option selected by the Board supports student involvement by mirroring other Region IV school calendars for athletics and activities.</p>
<p>What challenges did the committee face in revising the calendar and what info (survey, data, examples, etc) was used to create a solution?</p>	<p>Challenges included meeting Idaho Code requirements, meeting the Teacher Master Agreement, meeting the needs of staff for Professional Development and meeting the Board's Calendar Guiding Principles. Data and input considered by the Calendar Committee included review of past student attendance data, Idaho Code, Teacher Master Agreement, community feedback via survey on two calendar options, and feedback from constituents prior to presenting the two calendar options to the Board of Trustees for consideration.</p>

Mt. Express articles on the School Calendar

November 22, 2017: [School District seeks candidates for Calendar Committee](#)

December 19, 2017: [School board appoints Calendar Committee](#)

October 31, 2018: [BCSD mulls changes to calendar](#)

December 6, 2018: [With pair of plans, BCSD closes in on new calendar](#) (online news)

December 7, 2018: [With pair of plans, BCSD closes in on new calendar](#)