



2023-2024 Academic Calendar Questions

1. **Why are the reporting periods and semesters uneven?**
 - a. Reporting periods/semesters have historically been strategically structured around breaks and extended holidays. This allows for more effective planning of units of instruction in support of student learning.
2. **Why are there early release days on Calendar A?**
 - a. The early release days allow for an extension to holiday periods to maximize student and staff downtime, thereby enhancing teaching and learning.
3. **What time do we release on the Early Release days?**
 - a. Early release days will consist of a 4-hour schedule and staggered dismissals based on start times.
4. **Will lunch be provided on early release days?**
 - a. Lunch will be provided before dismissal on early release days.
5. **Many student activities and work responsibilities continue during a fall break. How can we ensure equity for staff that must be present these days?**
 - a. Staff working during the fall break holidays will be eligible for supplemental pay.
6. **How will the fall break impact Dual Credit classes?**
 - a. Classes will still be conducted, and staff will ensure that facilities are available for Brazosport College staff.
7. **Will intervention be provided on the early release days?**
 - a. No. Early Release days are for staff and students.
8. **Will support be available for staff working on student holidays based on Calendar B?**
 - a. The district will explore options for staff that must work and does not have childcare on student holidays.
9. **Why are the start dates different on each calendar?**
 - a. Each calendar has been developed to ensure that the required instructional minutes have been met.
10. **Why does Calendar A have a school start on Thursday?**
 - a. The stakeholder survey showed Thursday as the preferred start day.
11. **What is a Student Support Day?**
 - a. Student Support Days will allow staff to provide Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) for students needing intervention to promote higher academic outcomes.
12. **Are there any changes to the contract days for staff with Calendar B?**
 - a. There are no planned changes for any contracted staff. Current requirements require teachers to work 185 days per school year.
13. **Will transportation and child nutrition services be provided on the student support days listed on Calendar B?**
 - a. Transportation and child nutrition services will be provided to students on the designated student support days.
14. **How does a 4-day school week impact hourly employees?**
 - a. Employees will still be scheduled to work a 40-hour week.
15. **On Calendar B, students are not required to attend school on Friday unless they require intervention. What supports are available for families with young school-aged children?**

- a. The district will collaborate with various external groups to explore opportunities for other child-centered activities/supports.

16. What is the purpose of the 4-day instructional week on Calendar B?

- a. The development of Calendar B with a 4-day instructional week is in response to interest from stakeholders for such an option. Many school districts around the state, particularly in rural areas, have pursued and implemented this option for varied reasons. Benefits include:
 - i. Increased productivity for students and staff by providing more time for planning, catching up, and downtime.
 - ii. Reduced student and staff burnout.
 - iii. Increased staff retention by providing a more attractive work schedule that considers instructional, social, and emotional factors.
 - iv. Enhanced recruitment of new staff that takes an interest in having an alternative schedule and allowing the district to remain competitive.

17. How would a 4-day instructional week impact students involved in extracurricular activities who might miss multiple days for different events?

- a. Students are still responsible for keeping their grades up to participate in extracurricular events. All students would have access to additional support to promote academic success throughout the school year.

18. How would staff leave days be impacted by Calendar B?

- a. Personal time off granted would not change based on the calendar.