



News Release

For Immediate Release
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NISD Seeks Feedback on School Calendar Options

Northwest ISD requests community feedback on the 2016-2017 school calendar options. Recent changes made to the Texas Education Code will affect the way the school calendar is developed. House Bill 2610, passed by the 84th Legislature, strikes language in the Texas Education Code requiring 180 days of instruction and replaces this with language requiring districts to provide at least 75,600 minutes of instruction. This bill allows districts to add minutes as necessary to compensate for minutes of instruction lost due to school closures caused by inclement weather.

The Northwest ISD District Education Improvement Council (DEIC) has been tasked with developing academic calendar option(s). Each year the DEIC, made up of parents, teachers and community members, develop and submit calendar option(s) for the upcoming school year(s) with additional input from staff, parents and community to the NISD Board of Trustees. DEIC will consider all input in developing the final calendar options for school board approval.

Based on feedback in previous years, the calendar options were designed with the following considerations:

- Prefer 2 flex days prior to Thanksgiving holiday
- Prefer semester exams prior to Winter holiday
- Need breaks in fall and spring
- Prefer a teacher prep day following Winter holiday
- Prefer Good Friday as a holiday
- Incorporates more professional development time for teachers instead of removing them from the classroom for instructional training during a regular school day, as well as time for teachers to meet with their teams or time for other instructional responsibilities as needed. Parents have provided input for students to have additional breaks during the six weeks.

There are two options for the 2016-2017 school calendar. Both calendars include a 440 minute school day and three bad weather days built into the calendar. Go to <http://www.nisdtx.org/calendarioptions> to view the calendars, a list of frequently asked questions and to complete the survey.

The online survey will be available through December 11. The NISD Board of Trustees will vote on the final school academic calendars in February.

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