

Memorandum



TO: Parents/Guardians, Administrators, Teachers and Support Staff
FROM: Ken Garinger, Superintendent of Human Resources
DATE: February 1, 2023
RE: 2023-2024 School Calendar Vote

This year, Chinook employees and parents/guardians may vote for their preferred calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. The Chinook Calendar Committee has developed **two** calendar options. Typically, we try to set our Division calendar early so families may plan in a proactive manner.

Committee Members:

- Crystal Mellstrom – Bus Driver, Swift Current
- Dale Ross – Principal, Shaunavon Public School
- Elizabeth Baldwin – Educational Assistant, Cabri School
- Val Gordon – SWAC Athletic Coordinator
- Natasha Jahnke – Office Manager, Central School
- Char Peters – CTA Vice President/Teacher, Wymark School
- Joanna Ladouceur – Teacher/Principal, Colony School
- Kathy Robson – Deputy Director
- Duane Regier – Principal, Swift Current Comprehensive High School
- Shauna Lacher – Manager of HR
- Ken Garinger – Superintendent of HR (Facilitator)



Both calendar options are posted online for parents and staff to vote. **Voting is open February 1-7, 2023** at www.surveymonkey.com/r/23-24ChinookCalendar. The calendar options and survey link are also posted on chinooksd.ca under “Division News” and on your school website under “Latest News”.

The goal of this consultation process is to have a calendar recommended to the Chinook Board of Education in February.

Key Points

- For the 2023-24 school year, legislation requires students begin school prior to Labour Day.
- The chosen calendar will need to be reviewed and approved by the board and then approved by the Ministry of Education.
- As in the past, schools will have the opportunity to work with their local school communities to determine specific parent-teacher conference times and formats.

Defined Requirements

- The Saskatchewan Education Act requires the following:
 - A minimum of 950 hours of instructional time per year;
 - Six weeks of summer vacation;
 - Post Labour Day student start time, with an exception if Labour Day falls on September 5 or later (2023 Labour Day is September 4);
 - Christmas break that begins no later than December 23 and ends not sooner than January 2;
 - A Spring break with no more than 5 consecutive days excluding Good Friday.
- Ministry of Education Provincial Examinations – January 25-30; June 20-26.
- Chinook Board of Education requires 3 professional learning community days; 2 student conference days; 3 professional development days; 3 admin days; and one convention day.
- By May 1, 2023, the 2023-2024 calendar must be made available to all stakeholders.

Calendar Options “GREEN” and “BLUE” (197 days including non-instructional days; 186 instructional days)

- Three traditional breaks
- Students begin: September 5
- Teacher Convention: October 2
- Christmas break* **GREEN:** Dec 20 - Jan 2 or **BLUE:** Dec 23 - Jan 7
- February break week: February 19-23
- Long weekend in March for students and families
- Easter break: March 29 - April 7
- Students finish June 26

**The only difference between the two calendar options is the Christmas break dates.*

The vote results will be compiled by the Chinook Calendar Committee, who will submit the recommended calendar to the Chinook Board of Education for approval at the February 13, 2023 Board Meeting.

This initial calendar is based on teaching days. Support staff contracts will be based on the final calendar, but employment dates may vary.

Should you have any questions regarding the calendar, please feel free to contact me. *Teachers, if you have questions about voting, please contact me or your CTA president.*