

Minidoka County School District #331
2019-2020 Calendar Option Descriptions

January 9, 2019 Update

District policy indicates that the calendar committee should meet to establish the calendar for three years. It was recently changed so that we would review those three years of calendars in depth every other year and make minor changes in the off year.

Since only minor changes were made last year the District's administrators met to discuss professional development needs in the District and then the calendar committee met to determine the impact of various holidays and community events on the calendar.

Calendar Option A is very similar to this year's calendar (2018-19) with a full week off at Thanksgiving and two full weeks at Christmas. Here is a summary of the differences between this year's calendar and Option A:

- **Option A** has two more student contact days (172 vs. 170).
- The first week of school for students has three days vs. the two days this year.
- The Friday before Labor Day there is no school making it a four day weekend.
- The Professional Development (PD) days the first week in October have been eliminated. *There were very few staff who took this time to go to state –wide conferences and since we are not implementing a new reading curriculum we scheduled these as student contact days.*
- The first Parent Teacher Conference (PTC) of the year was moved up a week to provide more time for students to improve grades before the end of the first trimester.
- A PD day was added November 1. *By adding a PD day on November 1 would avoid issues with student behavior the day after Halloween (and it was a Friday).*
- First semester has 84 days, second semester 88 days.

Here is a comparison between the Option A calendar and Option B calendar:

- **Option B** has the same number of student contact days (172).
- The first day back for staff is one day earlier (August 14).
- There would be school the Friday before Labor Day.
- There would be two days of school Thanksgiving week.
- First semester would end before Christmas Break.
- There would be a PD day for staff on President's Day (February 17).
- The last day of school would be the Friday before Memorial Day (5/22/19).
- The last day for staff would be the Tuesday after Memorial Day (5/26/19).
- First semester has 81 days, second semester 91 days.

NOTE: This year the District did provide opportunities for buildings administrators to trade some of the scheduled PD days for PD spent after school hours. We are considering doing this again next year and the District administrators will work out the details before the end of this school year.