

The Pittsylvania County Schools' Calendar for 2019-2020 was approved by the School Board on Monday, November 12, 2018.

Rationale from the Calendar Committee

The Pittsylvania County Schools' Calendar Committee initially met on Tuesday, October 30, 2018, to begin the proposed calendar process. The original proposed calendar included the modification to not start on August 1 due to VRS rulings and auditing requirements. The first day of any 10-month employee contract cannot begin on the 1st working day of the month of August. Therefore the original proposed calendar prepared by the committee, which started on August 1, was amended to remove August 1 as a contracted day. To make-up for the required teacher workday, October 14 was changed to a Teacher Workday instead of a holiday.

The proposed 2019-2020 calendar was posted on-line for public comments from November 1-8, 2018. There were 159 responses from employees, parents and the community.

The committee reconvened on Friday, November 9, 2018, to review the amended proposed calendar and the survey responses for the proposed calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. After discussion and thoughtful consideration, the committee felt that some changes to the original proposed calendar should be made as follows:

- Students to start school on Friday, August 9, 2019 in order for teachers to have five workdays prior to their return.
- Teachers are to return on Friday, August 2, 2019.
- Open House will be on August 6.
- Professional Development Day will be held on August 7.
- October 14 will remain as a Teacher Workday as amended from the original proposed calendar.
- Priority make-up day changes will be October 14, two banked days, and then November 27. No change to the other priority make-up days.

The committee did consider other requests and concerns, but felt that these requests could not be incorporated into the proposed calendar. The considered requests included the following:

- To make Open House prior to possible tax free weekend. Rationale: The division will once again make available on the website more detailed and accurate school supply lists, including middle and high schools. The schools will also make them available at their sites and in local stores as in the past. Therefore, parents and students should have these available prior to the possible tax free weekend.
- Move opening day of school to a Monday. Rationale: To make this a possibility, the committee would have had to recommend that a current holiday be changed to a student day. This would have been Wednesday, November 27 (to have changed to an early dismissal). The committee felt that the removal of this day would have created a very negative impact on the calendar and did not recommend the change.