



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 21, 2021

TO: The Honorable Kili Namau'u
Chairperson, Student Achievement Committee

FROM: Keith T. Hayashi 
Interim Superintendent

SUBJECT: **Committee Action on Department of Education's Multi-Year School Calendar (2023-2024 and 2024-2025)**

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) recommends that the Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) take action to approve the Department-proposed school calendars for two future school years: 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

2. RECOMMENDED EFFECTIVE DATE

Effective for School Years 2023-2024 (Attachment A) and 2024-2025 (Attachment B). These calendars would be approved but subject to future legislative action and funding, Board action, and collective bargaining agreements.

3. RECOMMENDED COMPLIANCE DATE

See section 2.

4. DISCUSSION (if different from the effective date)

a. Conditions leading to the recommendation:

The school calendar has a wide-ranging impact on the community, our employees, and our students. Adopting a school calendar with ample time before the start of future school years allows for better planning for school improvement (e.g., coordinating teacher planning and collaboration, securing professional development resources), employees, families, partners that provide supplemental services (e.g.,

afterschool and intersession programs, wraparound services), and facilities improvement projects. Having official school calendars established for multiple years assists schools, families, employees, and community organizations to plan for upcoming years. The impact of Board approval of the school calendars for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 would result in two years of approved school calendars.

The Department recommends that the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 calendars include design principles which are the basis of the current school calendar:

- **Provide 180 days of instruction**, as required by state law (Section 302A-251, Hawaii Revised Statutes), with approximately 90 days of instruction in each semester. Most secondary schools offer semester courses providing 0.5 credit per semester or are "block scheduled" with 1 credit per semester to facilitate teachers' pacing of course content, usually organized by quarter.
- **Complete first semester by Winter Break:**
 - Ending the semester before the holidays maximizes learning time to complete the semester's final student assessments (i.e., exams, other demonstrations of learning) and grading. Completing the semester after the new year requires review and re-teaching in preparation for semester-end assessments and grades (due to "learning loss" during breaks);
 - Ensuring that students are graded by the teacher who has taught and assessed their progress for most of the semester. Approximately 100 teachers retire at the end of each calendar year and ending the semester in January would mean that the students of those teachers would have a new teacher complete their semester and assess their learning based on 1-3 weeks in January; and
 - Providing high school seniors with transcripts that include first semester grades in a timely manner for college admissions and scholarships.
- **Minimize potential budget impacts of changes in the calendar.**

Therefore, the Department is recommending a multi-year calendar (Attachment A and Attachment B) that:

- Begins school on or shortly after August 1 for students;
- Maintains a five-day Fall Break after the first quarter;
- Provides a two-week Winter Break;
- Provides a one-week Spring Break;
- Ends the school year in late May; and
- Maximizes five-day weeks for students:
 - Analysis of previous years' student attendance data indicate that more students attend school in five-day weeks;
 - Analysis of previous years' teacher attendance data indicates more teacher absences on days leading into or returning from holidays, intercessions and long weekends; and
 - Five-day weeks provide the most continuity and least amount of disruption for secondary schools with rotating or block schedules.

- b. Previous action of the Board on the same or similar matter:

Most recently, the Board approved the school year calendars for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 on November 19, 2020.

- c. Other policies affected:

None.

- d. Arguments in support of the recommendation:

The recommended calendars meet the design principles described above (Section 4a).

Additionally, the calendars:

- Align with the University of Hawai'i (UH) academic calendar. This facilitates opportunities for teachers and administrators to pursue additional training, particularly during the summer. It also enables more high school students to take college courses through the Early College, Running Start, and Jump Start programs since the UH semester would be embedded within the high school semester; and
- Are consistent with current collective bargaining agreements.

Board approval of the recommendation would allow for better planning for school improvement, facilities improvements, and preparation of calendars for multi-track schools (which must be voted on by teachers in the school each year).

- e. Arguments against the recommendation:

None.

- f. Other agencies or departments of the State of Hawaii involved in the action:

Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) is responsible for construction, repair, and maintenance for Neighbor Island schools. Approved multi-year calendars would allow for better planning of DAGS projects.

- g. Possible reaction of the public, professional organizations, unions, DOE staff and/or others to the recommendation:

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association and Hawai'i Government Employees Association were sent drafts of the calendars for feedback and had no comments.

- h. Educational implications:

Educational implications have driven the design of the recommended calendars. The proposed calendar supports student attendance by maximizing five-day weeks; ends the first semester by Winter Break to minimize learning loss and ensure that students are assessed by the teacher who has provided instruction and monitored progress for most of the semester; enables more opportunities for students to earn college credits; and provides teachers more opportunities for training and

professional development at the UH over the summer. A multi-year calendar allows for better planning for school improvement.

i. Personnel implications:

The recommended calendars do not impact personnel differently than in the past.

j. Facilities implications:

None.

k. Financial implications:

The recommended calendars do not change any cost implications compared to prior years.

5. OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

KH:jd

Attachments: Attachment A - Department Recommended Calendar for School Year 2023-2024

Attachment B - Department Recommended Calendar for School Year 2024-2025

c: Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance

Hawaii State Department of Education 2023-2024 PROPOSED OFFICIAL SCHOOL

Teachers' Work Year - 1st Semester: August 1, 2023 - January 5, 2024; 2nd Semester: January 8, 2024 - May 31, 2024
Students' Work Year - 1st Semester: August 7, 2023 - December 21, 2023; 2nd Semester: January 8, 2024 - May 30, 2024

Week	Student	Teacher		Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
	Days	Days									
	0	0	July 2023	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	1st SEMESTER - 89 Student Days (Ends December 21)
1	0	4		30	31	1	2	3	4	5	August 1: Teachers' First Day
2	5	9	August	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	August 1-4: Teacher Work Days (no students)
3	9	13		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	August 7: Students' First Day
4	14	18		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	August 18: Statehood Day
5	19	23		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	Q1 43 days Ends October 6
6	23	27	September	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
7	28	32		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
8	33	37		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
9	38	42		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
10	43	47	October	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
11				8	9	10	11	12	13	14	October 9-13: Fall Break***
12	48	52		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
13	53	57		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
14	58	62		29	30	31	1	2	3	4	Q2 46 days Ends December 21
15	62	66	November	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
16	67	71		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
17	70	74		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	November 23: Thanksgiving
18	75	79		26	27	28	29	30	1	2	November 24: School Holiday****
19	80	84	December	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
20	85	89		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	December 22-January 4: Winter Break***/**
21	89	93		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	December 25: Christmas
22				24	25	26	27	28	29	30	2nd SEMESTER - 93 Student Days (Ends May 31)
23		94		31	1	2	3	4	5	6	January 1: New Year's Day
24	94	99	January 2024	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	January 5: Teacher Workday (no students)*
25	98	103		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	January 15: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
26	103	108		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
27	108	113		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	February 12-16: Institute Day (One day with no students during the week. Date for each island TBD.)
28	113	118	February	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
29	117	123		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	February 19: Presidents' Day
30	121	127		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
31	126	132		25	26	27	28	29	1	2	Q3 47 days Ends March 15
32	131	137	March	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
33	136	142		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
34				17	18	19	20	21	22	23	March 18-22: Spring Break***
35	139	145		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	March 26: Kuhio Day
36	144	150	April	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	March 29: Good Friday
37	149	155		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
38	154	160		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
39	159	165		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
40	164	170		28	29	30	1	2	3	4	Q4 46 days Ends May 31
41	169	175	May	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
42	174	180		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	May 27: Memorial Day
43	179	185		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	May 30: Last Day for Students and Second Semester Ends**
44	182	189		26	27	28	29	30	31	1	May 31: Last Day for Teachers
-2^	+1^^		June	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
180	190										

Approved _____

^2 Instructional days shall be converted to a non-student day for school planning and collaboration.

^^The employer may assign up to 6 additional hours, in half hour blocks (an "equivalent day") for training and meetings beyond the teacher's regular work day.

OFFICIAL STATE HOLIDAYS: 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Statehood Day:	August 18, 2023	New Year's Day:	January 1, 2024
Labor Day:	September 4, 2023	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day:	January 15, 2024
Veterans Day (observed):	November 10, 2023	Presidents' Day:	February 19, 2024
Thanksgiving Day:	November 23, 2023	Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Day:	March 26, 2024
Christmas Day:	December 25, 2023	Good Friday:	March 29, 2024
		Memorial Day:	May 27, 2024

*Teacher work day between semesters: January 5 **Commencement exercises: No sooner than May 24, 2024

***For 10-month teachers - Intersession: Oct. 9-13; Recesses: Dec. 22-Jan. 4 & March 18-22

****For 12-month teachers - Paid break days include the day after Thanksgiving: Nov. 24, and Winter Break: Dec. 22-Jan. 4

Educational Officer & Teacher Institute Days: Feb. 12-16 (one day per island)

PROPOSED CALENDAR

Hawaii State Department of Education

2024-2025 PROPOSED OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

Teachers' Work Year - 1st Semester: July 30, 2024 - January 6, 2025; 2nd Semester: January 7, 2025 - June 2, 2025

Students' Work Year - 1st Semester: August 5, 2024 - December 20, 2024; 2nd Semester: January 7, 2025 - May 30, 2025

Week	Student	Teacher	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa		
	Days	Days									
	0	0	July 2024 21 22 23 24 25 26 27							1st SEMESTER - 89 Student Days (Ends December 20)	
1	0	4	28 29 30 31 1 2 3							July 30: Teachers' First Day	
2	5	9	August 4 5 6 7 8 9 10							July 30 - August 2: Teacher Work Days (no students)	
3	9	13	11 12 13 14 15 16 17							August 5: Students' First Day	
4	14	18	18 19 20 21 22 23 24							August 16: Statehood Day	
5	19	23	25 26 27 28 29 30 31							Q1 43 days Ends Oct. 4	
6	23	27	September 1 2 3 4 5 6 7								September 2: Labor Day
7	28	32	8 9 10 11 12 13 14								
8	33	37	15 16 17 18 19 20 21								
9	38	42	22 23 24 25 26 27 28								
10	43	47	October 29 30 1 2 3 4 5								
11			6 7 8 9 10 11 12							October 7-11: Fall Break***	
12	48	52	13 14 15 16 17 18 19								
13	53	57	20 21 22 23 24 25 26								
14	58	62	27 28 29 30 31 1 2							Q2 46 days Ends Dec. 20	
15	62	66	November 3 4 5 6 7 8 9								November 5: Election Day
16	66	70	10 11 12 13 14 15 16								November 11: Veterans' Day
17	69	73	17 18 19 20 21 22 23								November 28: Thanksgiving
18	74	78	24 25 26 27 28 29 30							November 29: School Holiday****	
19	79	83	December 1 2 3 4 5 6 7								
20	84	88	8 9 10 11 12 13 14								
21	89	93	15 16 17 18 19 20 21							December 23-January 6: Winter Break*** /****	
22			22 23 24 25 26 27 28							2nd SEMESTER - 93 Student Days (Ends May 30)	
23			29 30 31 1 2 3 4							December 25: Christmas	
24	93	98	January 2025 5 6 7 8 9 10 11							January 1: New Year's Day	
25	98	103	12 13 14 15 16 17 18							January 6: Teacher Workday (no students*)	
26	102	107	19 20 21 22 23 24 25							January 20: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day	
27	107	112	26 27 28 29 30 1							Q3 46 days Ends Mar. 14	
28	112	117	February 2 3 4 5 6 7 8								February 10-14: Institute Day
29	116	122	9 10 11 12 13 14 15								(One day with no students during the week.
30	120	126	16 17 18 19 20 21 22								Date for each island TBD.)
31	125	131	23 24 25 26 27 28 1							February 17: Presidents' Day	
32	130	136	March 2 3 4 5 6 7 8								
33	135	141	9 10 11 12 13 14 15								
34			16 17 18 19 20 21 22							March 17 - 21: Spring Break***	
35	139	145	23 24 25 26 27 28 29							March 26: Kuhio Day	
36	144	150	30 31 1 2 3 4 5							Q4 47 days Ends May 30	
37	149	155	April 6 7 8 9 10 11 12								
38	153	159	13 14 15 16 17 18 19								April 18: Good Friday
39	158	164	20 21 22 23 24 25 26								
40	163	169	27 28 29 30 1 2 3								
41	168	174	May 4 5 6 7 8 9 10								
42	173	179	11 12 13 14 15 16 17								
43	178	184	18 19 20 21 22 23 24							May 26: Memorial Day	
44	182	188	25 26 27 28 29 30 31							May 30: Last Day for Students	
45	182	189	June 1 2 3 4 5 6 7							and Second Semester Ends**	
	-2^	+1^^	8 9 10 11 12 13 14							June 2: Last Day for Teachers	
	180	190									

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		Veterans' Day:	November 11, 2024	Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Day:	March 26, 2025
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 Educational Officer & Teacher Institute Days: TBD (one day per island)

PROPOSED CALENDAR