



Walla Walla Public Schools
364 South Park Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509.527.3000
509.529.7713 (FAX)
www.wwps.org

Calendar Committee

2014-2015 and 2015-2016 Calendars

Q&A

Q: What calendars did the school board approve?

A: Calendars “A” for both 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Q. Why did the Calendar Committee only have two options for the staff and the community to consider?

A. The Calendar Committee established priorities for calendar development two years ago based on input from staff, administration and district stakeholders. The approved calendars represent these priorities and allow the district to remain consistent year-after-year with its calendar development.

Q. What are the priorities the Calendar Committee used for developing the calendars?

A. Below are the priorities:

- Start the school year the Tuesday after Labor Day (76% of 538 survey responders prefer post Labor Day start)
- Shorten Thanksgiving break to two days off and an early dismissal on Wednesday
- Two weeks off for Winter Break
- No mid-Winter break in February
- Spring break: First full week in April (Aligns WWPS schedule with Mid-Columbia Conference schools)
- Spring Professional Day, which also serves as a Snow Day, is placed on the Friday before Balloon Stampede weekend in May.

Q. If it is a priority to have school start the day after Labor Day, why is school starting before Labor Day in the 2015-16 calendar?

A. Approximately every seven years Labor Day is the second week of September. On these years, school will start before Labor Day and there will be no school the Friday of fair week.

Q. Why not start school the week of the Fair on the years when there is a late Labor Day?

A. It impacts a smooth start to the school year for all staff and students. Many students are involved in the fair. These students have difficulties connecting with teachers and learning beginning of school routines if the first week of school is also fair week. If school starts the week before fair week, students have the opportunity to establish routines, meet their teachers and plan for their absences.

Q. Who serves on the Calendar Committee?

A. This is a broad-based committee representing valley schools, families, higher education and business: Linda Boggs, David Brauhn, Holley Bryant, Carlos Delgadillo, Mira Gobel, Anne Golden, Bill Heiser, Sergio Hernandez, Cory Hewitt, Mark Higgins, Don Holbrook, Dana Hood, Heidi Leinweber, Lance Longmire, Arch McHie, Mick Miller, Tim Payne, Gary Peasley, Pete Peterson, Margo Piver, Laure Quresma, Steve Sinclair, Peter Swant, Mark Wegner, Josh Wolcott and Margaret Yount. Note: Not all members invited to join the committee actively participated in the process.