



Revised School Year Calendar 2020-2021

To: Special Regular Meeting

Date: 15 July, 2020

Report No.: 07-20-3923

Strategic Directions

- Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students
- Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being
- Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the revised school year calendar for 2020-2021 for elementary, secondary and year round alternative schools be approved.

Context

On 11 March 2020 the Board approved the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar and staff submitted the calendar to the Ministry of Education for approval as per requirements under applicable Regulations in the Education Act. On 28 April 2020, the Ministry of Education advised school boards that 2020-2021 school year calendar submissions were not being considered at that time due to uncertainty around the reopening of schools for September. On 30 June 2020, a memo from the Minister of Education was received (Appendix E) advising of new guidance and deadlines for 2020-21 school year calendar submissions. The memo advised that the Minister of Education is prepared to approve any modified calendars that would start before September 1 provided that the calendars meet the other requirements of the regulation and that schools are able to plan for the range of delivery scenarios outlined in the Approach to Reopening Schools for the 2020-21 School Year document, and implement based on local public health advice.

Further, the memo indicated that in order to maximize instruction time for students, school boards and school authorities have been encouraged to start their school year

Agenda Page 2

by September 1. It was also advised that boards schedule three PA days prior to the start of student instruction. There are consultations currently underway with the sector's stakeholders on PA days and training that may be necessary to prepare for the reopening of school. Further direction will be provided in the future.

To meet these ministry requirements, the School Year Calendar Committee met on 7 July, 2020 and consensus was reached to revise the PA days as outlined below.

	Elementary	Secondary
1.	1 September 2020 (previously 30 June 2021)	1 September 2020 (previously 30 June 2021)
2.	2 September 2020	2 September 2020
3.	3 September 2020	3 September 2020
4.	20 November 2020	20 November 2020
5.	15 January 2021	12 February 2021
6.	12 February 2021	29 June 2021
7.	4 June 2021	*2 February 2021 (<i>Semestered schools only</i>) *28 June 2021 (<i>Full-year schools only</i>)

*PA Day for semestered schools only on 2 February 2021

*PA Day for full-year schools only on 28 June 2021

A revised version of Key Dates - School Year Calendar 2020-2021 is attached to this report (Appendix A). Aside from changes to the PD days, the Ministry of Education announced on 23 June 2020 that Grade 3 and 6 students will not participate in Education Quality an Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments during the 2020-21 school year. Students in Grade 9 and Grade 10 will continue to take the mathematics assessment and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), respectively. This change is also noted on the key dates document.

The attached calendars for the elementary and secondary panels represent recommended dates for all schools in the Board (Appendices B, C).

Year Round Alternative Schools

The Board operates four alternative programs in the Year Round Model: Year Round Alternative School; Etobicoke Year Round Alternative Centre; South East Year Round Alternative Centre; and North East Year Round Alternative Centre. The program is based on quadesters and students study throughout the entire calendar year. The timetable for the placement of PA days and holidays has been confirmed by the Principal of Secondary Alternative Schools and Year Round Schools, in consultation

with staff and community (Appendix D). Adjustments to the initial calendar which was approved by the Board have been made by moving a previously scheduled PA day from 30 June 2021 to 26 August 2021.

Consultation with Other Boards

Staff has consulted with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), as well as the Durham, Peel and York Region District School Boards, to ensure the most consistency possible with their School Year Calendar plans. It is important that the Board align the calendar as much as possible with the TCDSB because of shared student transportation services. Since the changes to PD Days do not impact transportation, alignment for these changes is not critical.

Implementation and Review

The following are the revised timelines for the submission of the 2020-21 school year calendar to the Ministry of Education:

If a board intends to change a previously submitted calendar, any changes to a modified calendar must be submitted to the ministry for approval no later than July 10, 2020. If approval of your modified calendar is not granted by July 20, 2020, or if the changed calendar is still a regular calendar, the board will be required to submit a regular calendar by July 24, 2020.

Students, parents and staff will receive communications in order to make plans for the 2020-2021 school year following Ministry approval.

Appendices

- Appendix A: Key Dates – School Year Calendar 2020-2021
- Appendix B: Elementary School Year Calendar 2020-2021
- Appendix C: Secondary School Year Calendar 2020-2021
- Appendix D: Year Round School Year Calendar 2020-2021
- Appendix E: Memo from the Ministry of Education regarding 2020-21 School Year Calendars

From

Carlene Jackson, Associate Director at carlene.jackson@tdsb.on.ca or at 416-397-3188, or Andrew Gold, Executive Superintendent, Employee Services at andrew.gold@tdsb.on.ca or at 416-397-3726

KEY DATES - SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2020-2021

The official school year calendar for the Toronto District School Board runs from September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, inclusive.

Professional Activity Days	September	November	January	February	June
Elementary Schools	1, 2, 3	20	15	12	4
Secondary Schools	1, 2, 3	20		2*, 12	28*, 29

*Semester Change: The first day of second semester is February 3, 2021. Secondary school calendar includes a PA day for semestered schools only on February 2, 2021 and a PA Day for full-year schools only on June 28, 2021.

Designation of Professional Activity Days	
Elementary	Secondary
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. September 1, 2020 – Professional Development 2. September 2, 2020 – Professional Development 3. September 3, 2020 – Professional Development 4. November 20, 2020 – Parent/Teacher Conference 5. January 15, 2021 – Assessment and Reporting 6. February 12, 2021 – Parent/Teacher Conference 7. June 4, 2021 – Assessment and Reporting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. September 1, 2020 – Professional Development 2. September 2, 2020 – Professional Development 3. September 3, 2020 – Professional Development 4. November 20, 2020 – Common PA Day 5. February 12, 2021 – Common PA Day 6. June 29, 2021 – Common PA Day 7. February 2, 2021 - <i>*Semestered Schools only</i> June 28, 2021 - <i>*Full Year Schools only</i>

EQAO: - The following dates have been established:

Gr. 9 Math: 1st Semester: January 11 - 22, 2021 **OSSLT:** April 8, 2021
Gr. 9 Math: 2nd Semester: June 3 - 16, 2021

Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education)	
Labour Day:	September 7, 2020
Thanksgiving:	October 12, 2020
Winter Break:	December 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021
Family Day:	February 15, 2021
Mid-Winter Break:	March 15 - 19, 2021
Good Friday:	April 2, 2021
Easter Monday:	April 5, 2021
Victoria Day:	May 24, 2021

School Year Calendar 2020 - 2021

Legend ▶ **H** - Statutory Holiday Schedule **E** - Scheduled Examination Day **P** - Professional Activity Day **B** - Board Designated Holiday ☐ Half Day

FD = First Day of School for Students

Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Activity Days	Number of Scheduled Examination Days	1 st Week					2 nd Week					3 rd Week					4 th Week					5 th Week				
				M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August 2020				3 H	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
September 2020	17	3			1 P	2 P	3 P	4	7 H	8 FD	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
October 2020	21						1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12 H	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
November 2020	20	1		2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20 P	23	24	25	26	27	30				
December 2020	14				1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 H	28 H	29 B	30 B	31 B	
January 2021	19	1					1 H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 P	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	
February 2021	18	1		1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15 H	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26					
March 2021	18			1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
April 2021	20					1	2 H	5 H	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	
May 2021	20			3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24 H	25	26	27	28	31				
June 2021	20	1			1	2	3	4 P	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
July 2021						1 H	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	
TOTAL	187	7		<p>Note: The 2020-2021 calendar provides for 196 possible school days between September 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days</p>																								



Ministry of Education

School Year Calendar 2020 - 2021

Legend ▶ **H** - Statutory Holiday Schedule **E** - Scheduled Examination Day **P** - Professional Activity Day **B** - Board Designated Holiday ☐ Half Day

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				M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August 2020				3 H	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
September 2020	17	3			1 P	2 P	3 P	4	7 H	8 FD	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
October 2020	21						1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12 H	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
November 2020	20	1		2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20 P	23	24	25	26	27	30				
December 2020	14				1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 H	28 H	29 B	30 B	31 B	
January 2021	19							1 H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
February 2021	18	2		1	2 P*	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15 H	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26					
March 2021	18			1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
April 2021	20						1	2	5 H	6 H	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
May 2021	20			3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24 H	25	26	27	28	31				
June 2021	20	1			1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28 P*	29 P	30		
July 2021							1 H	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
TOTAL	187	7		<p>Note: The 2020-2021 calendar provides for 196 possible school days between September 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days</p>																								

YEAR ROUND ALTERNATIVE



Ministry of Education

School Year Calendar 2020 - 2021

Legend → **H** - Statutory Holiday Schedule

E - Scheduled Examination Day

P - Professional Activity Day

B - Board Designated Holiday

Half Day

Q1 = First Day of Quadmester 1 for Students

Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Activity Days	Number of Scheduled Examination Days	1 st Week					2 nd Week					3 rd Week					4 th Week					5 th Week									
				M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F					
August 2020	1	3		3 H	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26 P	27 P	28 P	31 Q1									
September 2020	21				1	2	3	4	7 H	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30							
October 2020	21						1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12 H	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30					
November 2020	14	2		2	3	4	5	6 P	9 B	10 B	11 B	12 B	13 B	16 Q2	17	18	19	20 P	23	24	25	26	27	30									
December 2020	14				1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 H	22 H	23 H	24 H	25 H	28 H	29 H	30 H	31 H						
January 2021	20							1 H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29					
February 2021	17	2		1	2	3	4 P	5 Q3	8	9	10	11	12 P	15 H	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26										
March 2021	23			1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31							
April 2021	15						1 H	2 H	5 H	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19 B	20 B	21 B	22 B	23 B	26 Q4	27	28	29	30					
May 2021	20			3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24 H	25	26	27	28	31									
June 2021	21				1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30							
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TOTAL	187	7		<p>Note: The 2020-2021 calendar provides for 194 possible school days between September 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days</p>																													

From: Ministry of Education (EDU) [<mailto:MinistryofEducation@ontario.ca>]
Sent: June 30, 2020 7:31 PM
To: Ministry of Education (EDU)
Subject: 2020-21 School Year Calendars | Calendriers scolaires 2020-2021

Memorandum to: Chairs of District School Boards
Directors of Education
School Authorities

From: Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

In the school year update you received on April 28, 2020, school boards and school authorities were informed that 2020-21 school year calendars submissions were not being considered at that time due to the uncertainty around the reopening of schools for September.

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with new guidance and deadlines for 2020-21 school year calendar submissions. Please note that references to school boards also include school authorities.

Ontario Regulation 304 - School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days under the *Education Act* outlines the requirements for school boards in preparing and submitting school year calendars to the ministry:

- A regular school year calendar shall provide for a school year that commences on or after September 1 and ends on or before June 30.
- The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days. Of those, school boards must dedicate three (3) Professional Activity (PA) days to provincial education priorities. Boards may designate up to four (4) additional PA days per school year. School days not designated as PA days are instructional days. Up to 10 instructional days may be examination days.
- Boards may implement modified school year calendars that provide for alternative start and end dates and holidays that differ from those prescribed in the regulation, subject to the approval of the Minister of Education.

In light of the recent release of the Ontario's [Approach to Reopening Schools for the 2020-21 School Year](#), the Minister of Education is prepared to approve any modified calendars that would start before September 1, provided that the calendars meet the other requirements of the regulation and that schools are able to plan for the range of delivery scenarios outlined in the Approach to Reopening Schools for the 2020-21 School Year document, and implement based on local public health advice.

In order to maximize instruction time for students, school boards and school authorities are encouraged to start their school year by September 1. It is also advised that boards schedule three PA days prior to the start of student instruction. There are consultations currently underway with the sector's stakeholders on PA days and training that may be necessary to prepare for the reopening of school. Further direction will be provided in the future.

Timelines

The following are the revised timelines for the submission of your 2020-21 school year calendars:

Previously submitted calendars with no changes

If your board/authority previously submitted either a modified or regular calendar that meet the above requirements and for which you will not be making any changes, please notify your regional office in writing no later than July 10, 2020. Notifications regarding regular calendars provided in advance of July 10 will be reviewed immediately and in the order they are received.

Previously submitted calendars with further changes

If your board/authority intends to change a previously submitted calendar, any changes to a modified calendar must be submitted to the ministry for approval through the [Ontario School Year Calendar online application](#) no later than July 10, 2020. If approval of your modified calendar is not granted by July 20, 2020, or if the changed calendar is still a regular calendar, the board/authority will be required to submit a regular calendar by July 24, 2020.

No previous calendar has been submitted

If your board/authority has not yet submitted a 2020-21 calendar, you must submit a calendar to the ministry through the [Ontario School Year Calendar online application](#). Modified calendars must be submitted no later than July 10, 2020. If approval of your modified calendar is not granted by July 20, 2020, or if your board/authority has not yet submitted a regular calendar, the board/authority will be required to submit a regular calendar by July 24, 2020.

Regional offices will provide confirmation letters in accordance with regular practice before the end of July.

PA day descriptions

PA day descriptions for both modified and regular calendars must be submitted through the [Ontario School Year Calendar online application](#) no later than July 24, 2020.

We thank you for completing your 2020-2021 school year calendar submissions. Should you have any questions, please contact your regional office representative.

Thank you for your continued efforts and ongoing cooperation.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister of Education

- c. President, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
- President, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
- President, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
- President, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
- Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
- President, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)
Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)
- President, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
General Secretary, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
- President, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)

Agenda Page 10

General Secretary, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)
President, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)
General Secretary, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)
Chair, Ontario Council of Educational Workers (OCEW)
Chair, Education Workers' Alliance of Ontario (EWAO)
President of OSBCU, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)
Co-ordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)