



Riverside Unified School District

3380 14th Street • Riverside, CA • 92501

Board Meeting Agenda February 3, 2014

Topic: **REVISED**: Adoption of the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 School
Calendars

Presented by: Susan Mills, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Personnel –Leadership
and Development

Responsible
Cabinet Member: Susan Mills, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Personnel–Leadership
and Development

Type of Item: Action

Short Description: The Riverside Unified School District’s proposed Standard School Calendar for
the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 school year is being submitted for Board
approval.

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:

The School Calendar Committee has had the opportunity to meet, discuss and study school calendar designs for the 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017 school years. The Committee consists of members, which are representatives of our school and community stakeholders. The Committee also includes representatives of the California School Employees Association Chapter #506 and the Riverside City Teachers Association. One proposal is being submitted for Board approval.

FISCAL IMPACT: To be determined

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommendation for the upcoming three (3) year calendar cycle that encompass the school years: 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 is to stay the same as our current configuration not moving to finishing the 1st semester prior to the Winter Recess.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: PowerPoint

Attached: Yes

Calendar Committee Final Report
Recommendation
February 3, 2014



Surrounding School Start/End Dates

District	Start	End
Alvord	8/14/13	6/4/14
Banning	8/12/13	5/29/14
Corona Norco	Year Round Elementary Sites (vary) Track T & Track HS 8/7/13 Elementary, Middle, & HS	Track T and Track HS 5/29/14
Fullerton	8/13/13	5/30/14
Hemet	8/12/13	5/30/14
Jurupa	8/7/13	5/30/14
Moreno Valley	8/14/13	6/13/14
Murrieta Valley	8/14/13	6/13/14
Newport Mesa	9/2/13 Early College HS 8/14/13	6/19/14 6/5/14
Placentia Yorba Linda	9/3/13	6/12/14
Riverside	8/26/13	6/12/13
Santa Ana	8/27/13	6/19/14
Temecula	8/13/13	6/5/14
Tustin (pending ratification by their teacher's union, their teacher's union sets the calendar)	9/3/14	6/17/15

PTSA Parent Survey Results

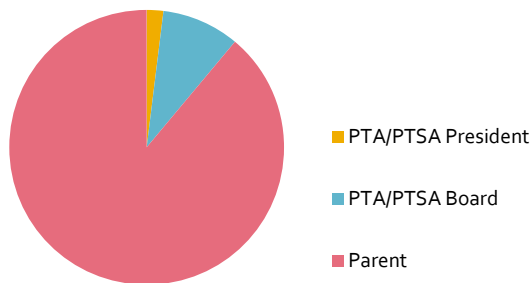
PTSA

309 Parents Participated in the Survey

Summary of your Position

PTA/PTSA President	6	2%
PTA/PTSA Board Member	28	9%
Parent	273	89%

Position Breakdown



School Your Child/Children Attend(s)	Number participated	School Your Child/Children Attend(s)	Number participated
Poly	42	Emerson	1
King	25	Franklin	28
North	3	Hawthorne	1
Ramona	2	Jackson	2
Raincross	1	Kennedy	40
Gage	12	Lake Mathews	44
Central	4	Liberty	1
Chemawa	1	Pachappa	2
Earhart	12	Rivera	10
Miller	13	Taft	1
STEM	39	Twain	9
Sierra	1	Victoria	1
Alcott	13	Washington	12
Bryant	7	Woodcrest	1
Castle View	4		

PTSA Parent Survey Results Cont.

Would you like to see the calendar stay the same?

Yes	153	55.23%
No	124	44.77%

Would you like to see it change to an earlier start date in August, if so, how early in August?

Yes	38	15.32%
No	210	84.67%

Would you like to see longer school breaks?

Yes	97
No	164

If you said yes to an early start date in August, when would you like to see this change?

Immediately	0
2014-2015	9
2015-2015	1
Next Year	15

Would you like to see the changes reflected immediately in 2014-2015, or to keep the calendar the same for next year and start an early August calendar in 2015-2016?

Immediately	39
2014-2015	46
2015-2016	4
No	35

Energy Efficient Data

District-Wide Energy Cost

Month	Cost per Day	Cost at 5 Days
December 17-21, 2012	\$26,816.80	\$134,084.00
January 7-11, 2013	\$24,389.36	\$121,946.80
June 9-13, 2013	\$67,496.37	\$337,481.85
August 26-30, 2013	\$68,501.72	\$342,508.60

The cost per day is calculated by the number of instructional days for that month.

Energy Efficient Data

Week Decrease costs using costs from past year	January 7-11,2013	June 9-13, 2013
Cost for that week	\$121,946.80	\$337,481.85
Total estimate for the two weeks not open	\$459,428.65	

*Estimated cost for the week of August 26-30,2013 is \$342,508.60

Week Increase costs using the above August Estimation above	August 11-15,2014 August 18-22, 2014	\$342,508.60 x 2
Total	\$685,017.20	

Summary

Increase	\$685,017.20
Decrease	\$459,428.65
Total Difference	+\$225,588.55

Average Monthly Temperatures

Month	High	Average	Normal
June, 2013	102.7 June 29 th	86.9	86
August, 2013	101.5 August 29 th	92.4	93
September, 2013	104.1 September 4	90.3	91
October, 2013	92.1 October 6	79.9	81

Data obtained from Weather Currents for Riverside which achieves weather for years, months, and days. Data station locator is in Canyon Crest.

ADA Data

Chart defines for us the potential lose of LCFF Funding due to absences based on Independent Study non completion. Provided you will see a random week in October and the two weeks surrounding the Winter Recess for comparison.

	TIME PERIOD - WEEK OF		
	10/15/2012-10/19/2012	12/17/2012-12/21/2012	01/07/2013-01/11/2013
TOTAL ABSENT OCCURRENCES*	4397	6997	6214
INDEPENDENT STUDY OCCURRENCES	1223	1632	1511
COMPLETED' INDEPENDENT STUDY DAYS	807	1324	971
INCOMPLETE/PENDING IND STUDY DAYS (ABSENCES)	416	308	540
TOTAL ABSENCES EXCL COMPLETED IS DAYS	3590	5673	5243

* Includes All Ind Study Absences (Complete & Incomplete)

POTENTIAL LCFF FUNDING GAIN/(LOSS) BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT IS DAYS INCREASE DURING WINTER BREAK	6,202.44	(7,121.32)
POTENTIAL LCFF FUNDING (LOSS) BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT TOTAL NUMBER OF ABSENCES INCREASE DURING WINTER BREAK SESSION	(119,626.69)	(94,931.79)

Survey and Districts Contacted

District	Person Contacted	Responded
Alvord	Monalisa Hasson , Assistant Superintendent, Human Relations Development	Yes
Banning	Jennifer Serrano, Human Resources Classified and Felicia Atkins, Director of Ed Services	Yes
Corona Norco	David Hansen, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction	Yes
Hemet	La Faye Platter, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources	No
Jurupa	Theresa Roush, Director of Classified Personnel	Yes
Moreno Valley	Robert Verdi, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources	Yes
Pasadena	Yolanda Mendoza, Chief Human Resources Officer	Yes
Temecula	Joe Mueller, Coordinator Human Resources	Yes

Survey Questions

1. Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?
2. What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?
3. What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?
4. Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?
5. Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

Alvord Response to Questions

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

Alvord has been on this calendar for two years.

- *“We have no data to support student achievement increased as a result of our current August start calendar.”*
- *“Students are able to complete the first semester at the Winter Break which according to teachers and Instructional Support Services administration protects instructional minutes which would otherwise be used to review content upon return from the Winter break in preparation for finals that would take place at the end of January if an after Labor Day calendar were adopted.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

Several implications have been cited by the various stakeholders including:

- *“Working and learning conditions are negatively impacted because of the extreme heat during the month of August.”*
- *“10-month classified personnel have difficulties securing or maintaining summer jobs because the gap between the end of the fiscal year and the beginning of the new year is shortened.”*
- *“We gain around 155 students between Mid-August and the day after Labor Day which may result in a loss in ADA/Revenue.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“Students can complete the first semester and high school finals prior to the Winter Break.”*
- *“No need for review after the Winter Break in preparation for finals that would take place at the end of January.”*
- *“Students complete the year in late May or first week in June providing greater opportunities for jobs and a break between the end of the school year and college.”*
- *“Students end the academic year prior to the warmer weeks of school.”*
- *“Calendar is aligned with those of surrounding districts.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“We have not completed an analysis has been made. Our enrollment peaks in November of each year.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *“There is a net increase in utilities of approximately \$76,000 (see attached fact sheet).”*

Alvord Survey Results

Alvord shared with us their process they took a survey which was sent out District wide below and you will also see their results. They determined even though their results desired Calendar B they are going to continue with Calendar A.

2013- 2014 Academic Calendar Survey

Dear Alvord Employees and Parents,

The District Calendar Committee has been meeting to develop a calendar for the 2013-14 school year. As a result, the Committee has developed two proposed calendars. The two proposed calendars are attached to this notice. Please designate your recommendation for the 2013-14 Academic Calendar via Survey Monkey by visiting the District's website at www.alvord.k12.ca.us and clicking on the 2013-14 Academic Calendar survey. Once you are in the survey, you will have an opportunity to indicate your preference. Please select either Calendar A or Calendar B. **The survey will close at 2:00 p.m. on December 19, 2012.** If you do not have a home computer, there are computers available at each of the school sites, at the District Office, and at local libraries, for your convenience. Below are highlights of each calendar:

Calendar A	Calendar B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School starts on August 14, 2013, before Labor Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School starts on September 4, 2013, after Labor Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First semester ends at Winter Break and Final Exams are administered prior to students leaving for the Winter Break 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First semester ends on January 31, 2014 and Finals are administered after Winter Break.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School ends on June 4, 2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School ends on June 18, 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This calendar includes a one week President's Day break on February 11 – 14, 2014. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This calendar does not include the one week President's Day break on February 11 – 14, 2014.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are approximately 155 more students enrolled after Labor Day. The student Average Daily Attendance (ADA) revenue loss for the period between the first day of school and Labor Day is approximately \$55,300. 155 students represent 0.8% of students enrolled in the District. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May result in an increase in ADA by approximately 155 students and increased revenue of approximately \$55,300. 155 students represent 0.8% of students enrolled in the District.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The net additional energy costs for air conditioning in August is approximately \$76,722 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible energy savings of \$76,722
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some schools have reported a noticeable drop in attendance in the weeks leading into Winter Break which may result a loss of instructional time and student absences during final exams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some students return late from Winter Break which may result in loss of instruction prior to the Final Exams that will take place at the end of January.

Board Update, December 21, 2012

2013-14 Calendar Survey Results

The calendar survey closed yesterday. The Calendar Committee will reconvene on January 30, 2013 to review the results and finalize its recommendation for the 2013-14 calendar. There is a slight margin in favor of Calendar B which designates the first day of school as September 4, 2013 (after Labor Day). This kind of split that is almost 50/50 is not what we would consider an optimal situation as half of the respondents will not be happy regardless of the direction the Committee decides to recommend and ultimately how the Board decides to vote.

Note: Five (5) respondents did not designate the group to which they belong.

Results	Overall	Parents	Teachers	Classified	Administration	Support Staff	Other
# of Responses	776	121	398	148	43	22	39
Calendar A	49.1%	39.4%	52%	43.7%	59.5%	27.3%	69.2%
Calendar B	50.9%	60.6%	48%	56.3%	40.5%	72.7%	30.8%

Banning Survey Results

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

- *“This is our 3rd year of changing the calendar. We can’t say if it impacted achievement. The first year our scores went up and the second year our scores went down. It is just one factor.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

- *“The teachers this year want to start August 8 and the classified want to start August 18. There is also a population of Native Americans that want us to take off Columbus day. We don’t work in committee so we are trying to figure out how to work with both groups. We have two weeks at Christmas, two weeks at Spring Break, and one week in February.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“Our kids are focused all the way to the test and not a lot of wasted time after the test in May. There is not a lot of down time. We had no community issues, everyone was on board.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“We added the February week because students were missing the whole week anyway with the Monday and Friday off. This helped with ADA, otherwise no change.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *“We didn’t look at it.”*

Corona Norco Survey Results

Background

Over the past few years they have gone from out of 49 school and 36 on year round, they now have 9 still on year round. (2 Intermediate and 7 Elementary) This is the start of their third year on the new schedule where the semester ends before the holidays. When they implemented the new calendar they also took schools off year round, implement 9 furlough days (adding to the weeks off during Christmas and Spring Break) They felt that it was a perfect storm to make these large changes along with stakeholder input to have the semester end before the holidays.

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

- *“They feel there is not enough time and information to direct achievement to the calendar. Their high school district test scores went down just like everyone’s in the state and their AP went up. They cannot correlate the AP scores to the calendar, they feel there are too many variables.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

- *“They had no challenges. The secondary staff and community wanted to get more instructional time in. The elementary schools, some on year round were not affected at first but they looked at many of the districts around and decided to mirror their other district start dates. According the Dr. Hansen they felt that ending so late even affected freshman orientation for colleges.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“It was stated that people don’t want to go back. First time they implemented it, it was a push. There are no holidays until Veterans Day and then Thanksgiving so it was just something to get used to. Dr. Hansen felt everyone sees the wisdom is the new schedule.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“It was stated that they did initially see an increase but not just because of the calendar change, they also pushed that all of the high schools had to give final exams each day so that students had to show up to school. It had to be valuable end of the semester time.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *“It was stated that they saw a decrease but because we took 25 schools off year round at this time so it is difficult to look and see if taking the schools off or the new calendar affected energy costs.”*

Jurupa Survey Results

They refer to their calendar as an ACADEMIC CALENDAR –Theresa Roush, Director of Personnel Services stated it is a shift in mindset that they wanted their calendar based around the academics.

1. Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?
“We do not have any data. This was an overall positive for students, teachers and parents. They love it. They finish finals before Christmas break, school ends end of May – seniors transcripts are readily available for college, students do not have to study or do projects over Christmas breaks – parents love this. AP exams are complete and no lag time.”
2. What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?
“The first year implemented only because school ended in June and started early August so not a lot of down time. There is statistically more heat in September than August.”
3. What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?
“All stakeholders love it. It has been a very nice flow. Each year there is a demand not to go back to the old calendar. We have used this calendar since 2010-2011.”
4. Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?
“We have not seen an impact positive or negative.”
5. Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?
“Again not really seen a positive or negative impact.”

Moreno Valley Survey Results

Background: Have had the schedule over five years

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

- *“We are not aware of any immediate impact. Teachers say that their own benchmark test showed improvement before finals in December. Otherwise they are giving the tests for three weeks in January before the end of the semester. The testing window changed so they had more time to study.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

- *“They had no challenges. Everyone saw the benefits of the schedule. Elementary liked the parent conference and grading periods also.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“The schedule mirrored the colleges. We felt it made the students more college and career prepared and put them in the mindset.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“We did see an increase in after the holidays because they went to three weeks at Christmas and two weeks at Spring Vacation. We felt that the students and family had a lot of time to spend on vacation and then returned on time increasing ADA.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *They have just invested in an energy firm so they have not studied it.*

Pasadena Survey Results

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

- *“We had a committee come together because we were looking at year round and academics. We did not see the achievement affected.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

- *“Salary-Our employees went from 10 pay to 11 pays. That really helped out teachers buy in. The committee had trouble changing so drastically so the first year we changed by one week, the second year by two weeks and the third week by three weeks.”*
- *“The other issues is the effect this calendar has on Classified 9,10 or 11 month employees. Their work year changes like it does in Pasadena.....having to deal with student days. So for example in November we are off the Thanksgiving 3 days.....so classified must take those days without pay.....because they are on a student run calendar.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“We wanted to have a schedule like cities around us and we did so when we got transfers.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“We saw some changes but it didn't seem to make a lot of difference over time.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *“This was not something we considered.”*

Temecula Valley Survey Results

Do you have data that indicates there was a growth in student achievement due to the change in the school calendar?

- *“We have received great feedback from our secondary students, teachers and parents that the change has made the semester ending more manageable. While academic achievement continues to increase, these successes are attributed to our focus on collaboration and instruction.”*

What were some of the challenges that you faced with your various stakeholder groups (parents, teachers, students, etc.) with the implementation of the early August start date?

- *“Initially our associations and parents expressed concerns about the early start. Most of these concerns revolved around having enough advanced warning as to not interfere with existing vacation plans.”*

What have been some of the positive outcomes from the implementation of your current calendar?

- *“Our schedule change allowed Semester One to end at winter break.”*

Did you see an increase in ADA due to the implementation around the Winter Recess?

- *“We have not noticed any significant changes.”*

Did you see an increase or decrease in energy costs due to the implementation of your current school year calendar?

- *“We have not noticed any significant changes, however, the District has also been implementing formal energy conservation efforts as well.”*

AP Exam Data Statistics

Yearly Rates in AP Scores of 3+					
	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
Alvord Unified	44%	41%	48%	42%	38%
Banning Unified	27%	33%	33%	24%	23%
Corona-Norco Unified	46%	52%	53%	53%	56%
Hemet Unified	44%	43%	44%	44%	46%
Jurupa Unified	37%	36%	34%	35%	42%
Moreno Valley Unified	34%	36%	39%	34%	35%
Murrieta Valley Unified	59%	69%	62%	60%	58%
Riverside Unified	45%	44%	43%	44%	47%
Temecula Valley Unified	54%	59%	59%	60%	61%
Val Verde Unified	31%	35%	36%	39%	56%
County (RIVERSIDE)	44%	46%	46%	45%	47%
Statewide	57%	58%	58%	58%	59%

The highlighted is the first year they changed their schedule.

API Data Statistics

Due to the formula for API changing each year the chart below only reflects year to year point changes for the Districts in the area of API.

Changes in API Scores - Riverside County						
	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13
Alvord Unified	13	28	16	25	3	-2
Banning Unified	20	30	-1	24	14	-11
Corona-Norco Unified	11	15	11	13	11	-2
Hemet Unified	10	13	11	1	5	-6
Jurupa Unified	13	19	8	6	10	1
Moreno Valley Unified	17	20	10	18	11	3
Murrieta Valley Unified	13	15	11	7	11	-5
Riverside Unified	11	12	21	7	7	0
Temecula Valley Unified	14	13	8	3	11	-6
Val Verde Unified	26	26	17	8	16	-3

Studies and Resources

- <http://savefloridasummers.org/research.html>

Who are they: Save Florida Summers is a grassroots group of parents, teachers and administrators in support of the current school start date law and against allowing any school district to begin prior to 14 days before Labor Day.

What do they believe: They believe the school calendar configuration does not impact academic performance in students, but does negatively impact non-instructional costs for schools by increasing cooling costs as well as reducing the amount of state funding available.

Stance: Pro Starting Later

- <http://schoolyear.info/issearly1.html>

- <http://www.summermatters.com/early.htm>

Who are they: Information on this site is based on research compiled by Billee Bussard, a veteran journalist who began investigating school calendar issues in 1992 as an editorial writer for The Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville. She is co-author with Suzanne McCrary of "**Year-Round Education: Lessons Learned the Hard Way.**" (See order information below.)

- <http://educationnext.org/time-for-school>

Is a journal presenting the facts as best they can be determined, giving voice (without favor) to worthy research, sound ideas, and responsible arguments. Bold change is needed in American K–12 education, but *Education Next* partakes of no program, campaign, or ideology. Some of their sponsors are: Thomas B. Fordman Institute, Hoover Institution Stanford University, Harvard Kennedy School.

What do they believe/Stance of Article: Article references the positive impact of higher achievement on tests when students have had more time in school prior to exam.

The top three sites are sites that have been started predominately in the Florida region to support schools not starting in early August. The fourth site is a journal that is sponsored by Thomas B. Fordman Institute, Hoover Institution Stanford University, Harvard Kennedy School which takes a different stance. Lastly, below we have included the Resource for you to see all states in the United States with a break down of how many hours they attend school a day, their instructional year, and when they start.

Resource only:

<http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/95/05/05/9505.pdf>

Education Commission on the States/Number of Instructional Days/Hours in the School Year/August 2011

Recommendation

The staff recommendation for the upcoming three (3) year calendar cycle that encompass the school years:

- 2014-2015
- 2015-2016
- 2016-2017

is to stay the same as our current configuration not moving to finishing the 1st semester prior to the Winter Recess.