Calendar Recommendations for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020
WHO

- District Education Improvement Committee (DEIC) – 60 Members
  - 45 Campus Staff – 3 from each of the 15 campuses
  - 2 Business Leaders
  - 3 Community Leaders
  - 4 Parents
  - 2 Board Members
  - 4 Central Office Staff

- DEIC Calendar Subcommittee – 21 Members
  - 15 Campus Staff – 1 from each of the 15 campuses
  - 1 Business Leader
  - 1 Community Leader
  - 3 Parents
  - 0 Board Members
  - 1 Central Office Staff
WHAT and WHEN

- October 17, 2017
  - Presented the calendar adoption process and timeline to the entire DEIC
  - Asked for volunteers to serve on the DEIC Calendar Subcommittee

- October 30, 2017
  - DEIC Calendar Subcommittee Meeting
  - Blank calendars for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 with the 10 national holidays listed
  - Non-Negotiables
  - Closely Held Traditions
  - Input
WHAT and WHEN

- Non-Negotiables
  - 187 day teacher contracts
  - Minimum of 420 minutes per school day
  - 9 weeks grading periods
  - 2 bad weather days

- Closely Held Traditions
  - Full week off at Thanksgiving
  - 2 weeks off for Winter Break
  - Fair Day off/Long weekend in the fall
  - 1 week off for Spring Break
  - 3 Flex Days
WHAT and WHEN

- Input
  - Emails to input@coppellisd.com about the calendar
    - 33 requested Diwali as a holiday
      - 2018: Wednesday, November 7
      - 2019: Sunday, October 27
    - 1 requested no religious holidays
    - 1 requested election day as a holiday
    - 1 requested an early winter break
    - 5 requested the Lunar/Chinese New Year as a holiday
      - 2019: Tuesday, February 19
      - 2020: Wednesday, February 5
  - High school graduation at the end of May to help with possible venues for graduation
  - Diwali as a holiday
  - Even out grading periods and semesters
  - End 1st semester before the winter break
  - Shift winter break later to allow for more days in 1st semester
  - Start earlier in August to allow for more days in 1st semester
  - More time for professional learning and work days at the beginning of the school year as well as during the school year
Input Continued

- Lengthen winter break to 2½ to 3 weeks to allow for travel – many CISD families travel internationally to visit extended family during this time
- 1 full week for fall break in October – be sure to consider impact on year round employees
- As decisions are made consider hourly employees: What would their need for flex days and/or hours worked be with any decisions made?
- Dual credit schedules – Will our calendar align with Dallas County Community College District and Northlake College?
- Working parents and day care options must be considered when adding holidays that are outside of the 10 national holidays
- Consider the impact to extra-curricular programs and summer practices if the start date of school is earlier and/or the last day of school is earlier
- Consider whether new and/or renovated schools will be ready for move in if we start staff development and/or the school year earlier
- How will New Hire Induction Week be handled if all teachers come back on contract earlier?
WHAT and WHEN

- November 13, 2017
  - DEIC Calendar Subcommittee Meeting
  - Emails to input@coppellisd.com about the calendar between last meeting on October 30th and this meeting on November 13th
    - 87 requested Diwali as a holiday (Total of 120)
    - 53 requested Diwali as a professional learning day
      - 2018: Wednesday, November 7
      - 2019: Sunday, October 27
    - 3 requested no religious holidays (Total of 4)
    - 2 requested ending school before Memorial Day
    - 1 requested ending first semester by winter break
    - 1 requested keeping Columbus 4 day weekend
    - 1 requested winter break from 12/21/18 to 1/4/19
    - 1 requested shorten summer break and extend winter break to prevent summer brain drain
WHAT and WHEN

- Legal brief by Abernathy Rodeder Boyd Hullett regarding requests for consideration of religious observance desires of specific groups
- Based on legal brief subcommittee considered attendance information as well as other non-religious criteria:
  - Diwali: Thursday, October 19, 2017
    - Average Daily Attendance for the week of October 16 – 20, 2017
      - October 16: 97.65%, October 17: 98.15%, October 18: 97.93%, **October 19: 97.80%** and October 20: 96.89%
  - Religious Holiday Absence Codes for Students
    - October 18: 10, October 19: 57 and October 20: 11
  - Good Friday and Passover, Friday, April 3, 2015
    - Average Daily Attendance: 94.92%
    - Religious Holiday Absence Codes for Students: 263
  - Normal Average Daily Attendance in CISD is typically between 97 and 98%.
    - September 27: 98.67%, October 4: 98.34% and November 7: 97.66%

- 4 draft calendars reviewed based on input from previous meetings
- 2 calendar options selected for voting and input via CISD website
Both Options 1 & 2
- Have the required 187 work days for teachers
- Have greater than 75,600 minutes of instruction for students
- Include 3 flex days
- Include 2 bad weather days
- Have the same winter and spring breaks
- Include professional learning dates throughout the year to provide “just in time” support for teachers
- Utilize the District of Innovation option to start before the 4th Monday in August
- End first semester including exams prior to winter break

Option 1
- Similar to the 2017-2018 calendar
- School begins Monday, August 20th
- Ends after Memorial Day in May but before June

Option 2
- School begins Wednesday, August 15th
- Mid-week start optimizes student acclimation, especially in lower grades
- School year ends prior to Memorial Day
- Closer alignment of days in first and second semester
- Aligns with many surrounding districts who have proposed and/or approved earlier start dates
WHAT and WHEN

- November 30, 2017 – January 5, 2018
  - Calendar Survey Available on CISD Website
  - Emails to input@coppellisd.com during the survey window
    - 3 in favor of calendar Option 1
    - 1 requesting Diwali as a holiday – “As Diwali is one of the biggest festivals of India, we would want to request a leave granted for our children in Coppell ISD on that auspicious day.”
    - Other comments: “Early start time interferes with planned vacations,” “…love having semester over by Christmas!” “…love having the week off for Thanksgiving.”

- December 1st – Presented steps taken in the calendar development process at the PTO Presidents Meeting and availability of calendar survey and email for input
Calendar Survey Results: 1,856 Responses

- **Option 1**: 31% of 576 Votes
- **Option 2**: 69% of 1,280 Votes
WHAT and WHEN

- January 16, 2018
  - Presented results of the Calendar Survey and the Calendar Option being recommended to the Board to DEIC for final review

- January 22, 2018
  - Calendar recommendations made to the Board