

School Year Calendar Discussion

Board Workshop – September 15, 2026

Discussion Outline

- Key considerations for school year calendaring
- Competing priorities
- Perspectives and process
- Timeline for calendar approval

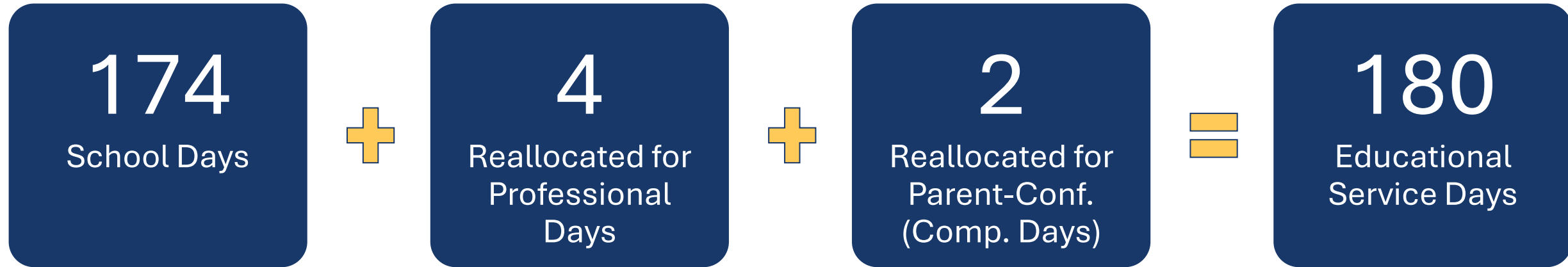
Key Considerations

- Legal/policy requirements
- Start date
- End date & graduation
- Semester break & balanced semesters
- Extended breaks & holidays
- Professional days

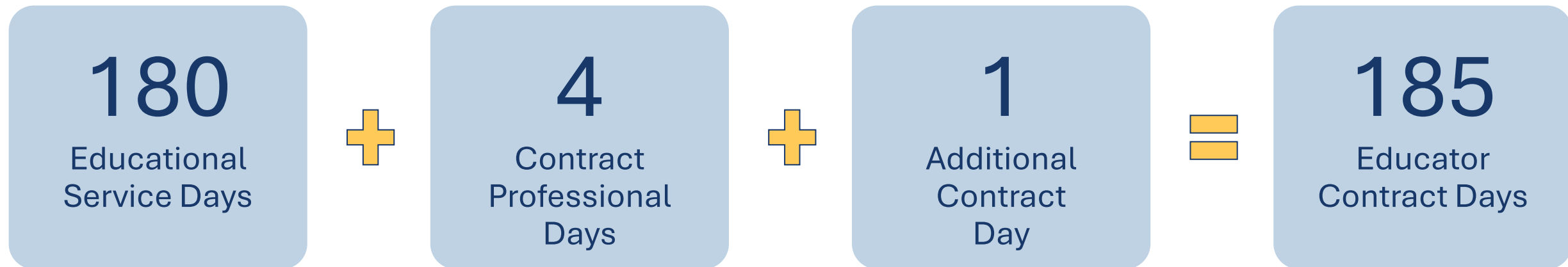
Legal/Policy Requirements

- Utah Code (53F-2-102)
 - Directs USBE to establish the number of school days
 - Allows up to 4 instructional days to be reallocated as professional days
- USBE Board Rule (R277-419-4)
 - LEA to provide instructional services over a minimum of 180 days
 - Allows up to 3 instructional service days to be reallocated for parent-teacher conferences (DSD historically uses 2)
 - Sets terms for emergency closures, etc.
- DSD Negotiations/Budgeting Process
 - Adds 4 additional professional days and 1 contract day to the educator contract

DSD Application – Educational Service Days



Educator Contract Days



Start Date

- Considerations
 - Largely a function of the end-date & required number of days
 - Athletic/religious/civic camps
 - Family trips/vacations
 - Facility considerations (HVAC, construction, etc.)

Start Date

- Other Districts Comparison

District	2024-25 First Day
Provo City	8/13/24
Morgan	8/14/24
Granite	8/14/24
Nebo	8/14/24
Davis	8/15/24
Alpine	8/15/24
Ogden City	8/16/24
Murray City	8/19/24
Canyons	8/19/24
Salt Lake City	8/20/24
Jordan	8/20/24
Logan City	8/21/24
Weber	8/21/24
Cache County	8/22/24
Box Elder	8/26/24

District	2025-26 First Day
Logan City	8/12/25
Box Elder	8/13/25
Granite	8/13/25
Alpine	8/13/25
Provo City	8/13/25
Nebo	8/13/25
Ogden City	8/15/25
Davis	8/18/25
Murray City	8/18/25
Canyons	8/18/25
Cache County	8/19/25
Weber	8/19/25
Morgan	8/19/25
Salt Lake City	8/19/25
Jordan	8/19/25

District	2026-27 First Day
Granite	8/12/26
Murray City	8/17/26
Canyons	8/17/26
Morgan	8/18/26
Salt Lake City	8/18/26
Jordan	8/18/26
Nebo	8/18/26
Logan City	8/19/26
Box Elder	8/19/26
Alpine	8/19/26
Provo City	8/19/26
Davis	8/20/26
Ogden City	8/21/26
Weber	8/24/26
Cache County	8/25/26

End Date & Graduation

- History
 - Week after Memorial Day through 2019-2020 school year
 - Week before Memorial Day since 2020-2021 school year
- Considerations
 - Athletic/religious/civic camps
 - Family trips/vacations
 - Graduation venue availability

Semester Break & Balanced Semesters

- History
 - Semester break @ MLK Day through 2022-2023 school year
 - Semester break @ Winter Break since 2023-2024 school year
- Days Differential

School Year	Semester 1	Semester 2	Difference
2021-2022	88 (44 A/B)	86 (43 A/B)	+2 (+1 A/B)
2022-2023	88 (44 A/B)	86 (43 A/B)	+2 (+1 A/B)
2023-2024	82 (41 A/B)	92 (46 A/B)	-10 (-5 A/B)
2024-2025	84 (42 A/B)	90 (45 A/B)	-6 (-3 A/B)
2025-2026	84 (42 A/B)	90 (45 A/B)	-6 (-3 A/B)
2026-2027	80 (40 A/B)	94 (47 A/B)	-14 (-7 A/B)

Semester Break & Balanced Semesters

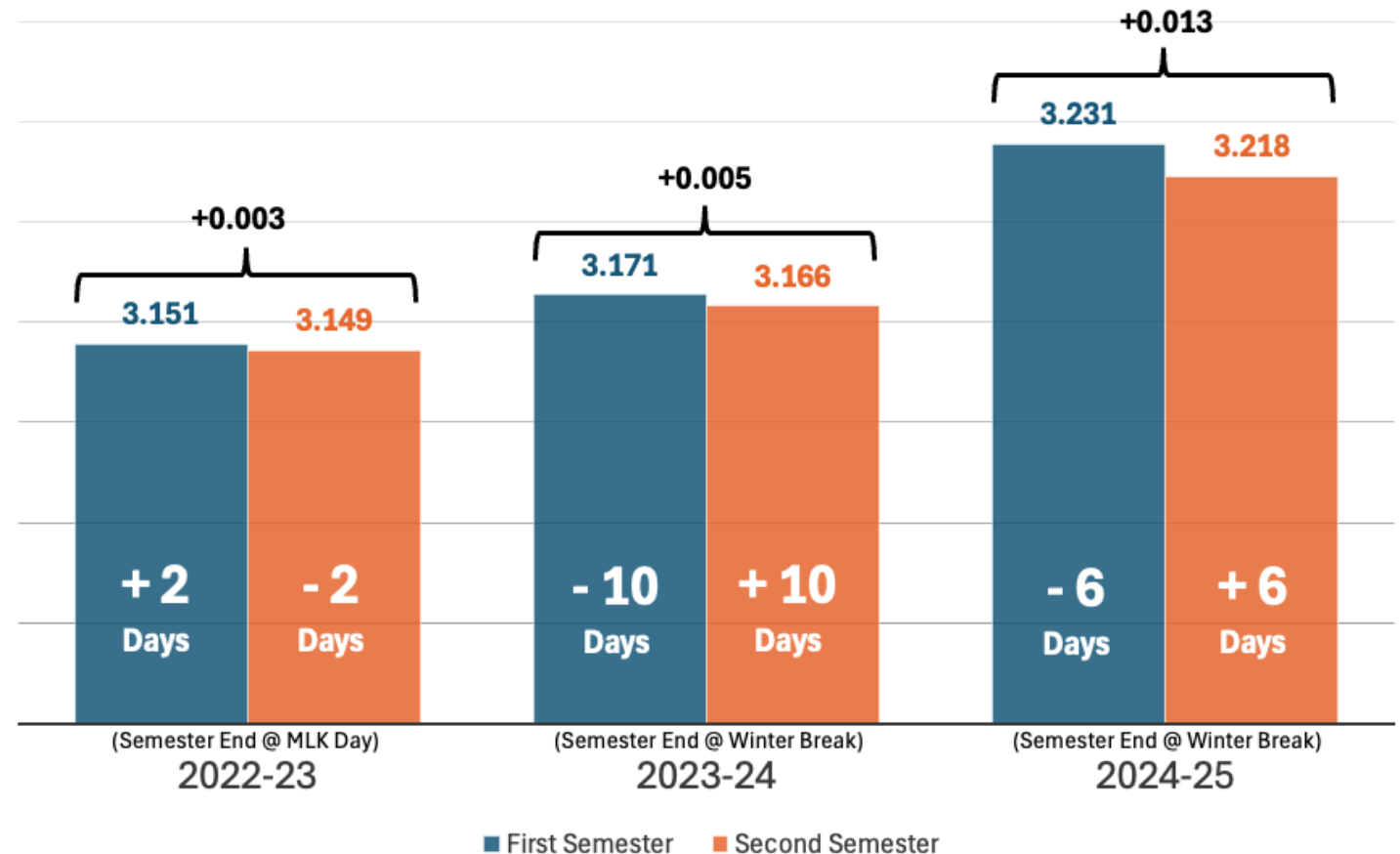
- Other Districts Comparison
 - Semester break in January (Not all @ MLK Day)
 - Canyons, Jordan, Logan, Murray, Ogden, Salt Lake, Weber
 - Semester break @ Winter Break
 - Alpine, Davis, Nebo, Granite
 - Trimesters
 - Box Elder, Cache, Morgan

Semester Break & Balanced Semesters

- Last Year's Analysis

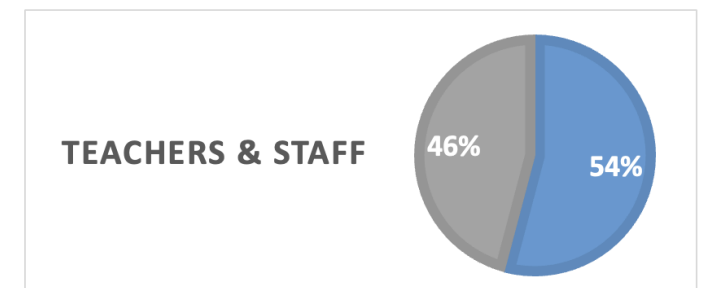
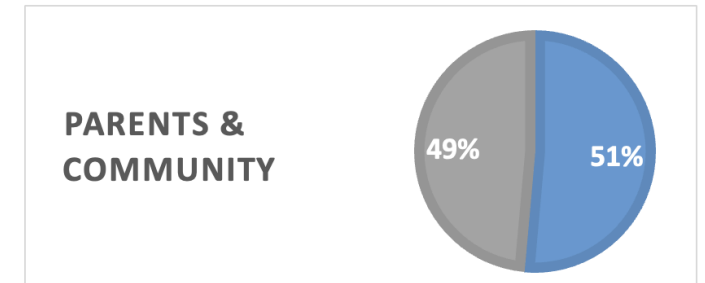
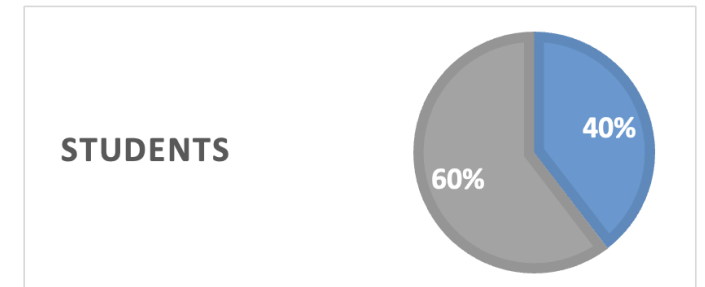
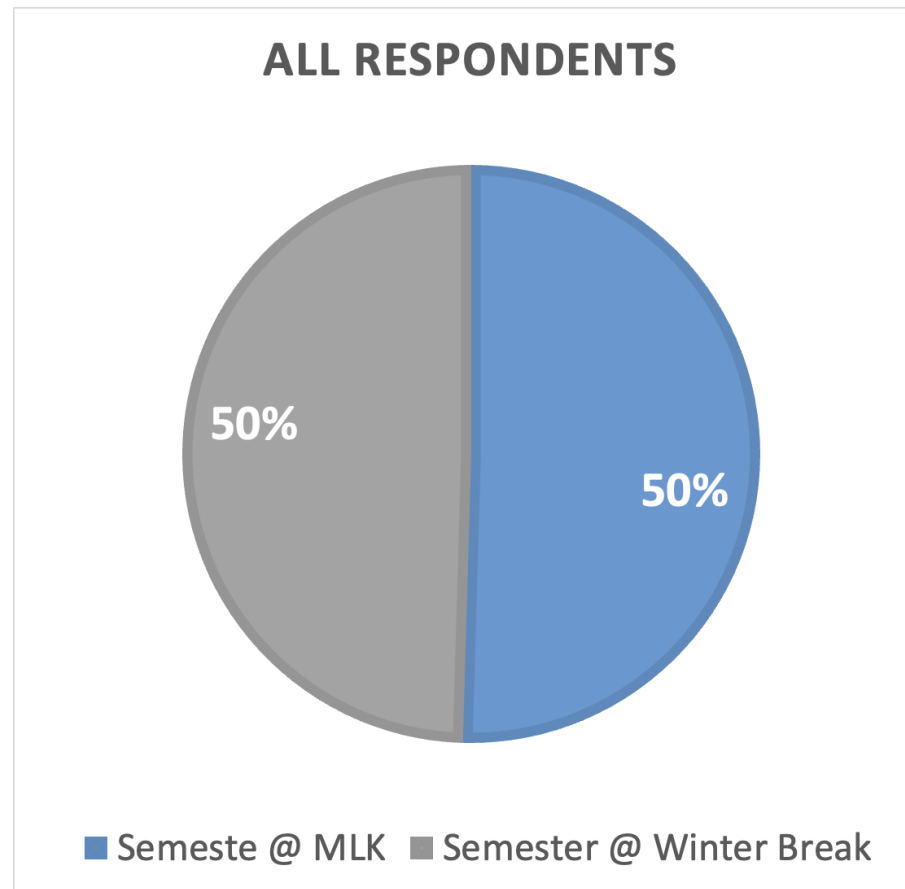
Semester GPA vs. Semester Length

(All Semester-Based Classes)



Semester Break & Balanced Semesters

- Last Year's Analysis



Extended Breaks & Holidays

- Typical Pattern
 - Fall Break: Mid-October
 - Thanksgiving Break: Wednesday-Friday
 - Winter Break: 2 Weeks
 - Spring Break: 1 Week (varied placement)
 - Single Day Holidays: Labor Day, MLK Day, President's Day

Professional Days

- Schedule & Usage Determinations
 - 8 professional days
 - During school year (calendar)
 - Prior to school year (negotiations)
 - 2 contract days (calendar)
 - 1 contract day (negotiations)

Competing Priorities

- All calendar decisions compete/interfere with each other
- A few examples:
 - Start date & end date
 - Semester break & balanced semesters
 - Fall, spring, and winter break
 - Normal calendar flows

Calendar Perspectives

- External
 - Gregorian calendar
 - Legal/policy requirements
 - Research on what works
- Internal
 - Historical perspective
 - Current perspective (people tend to care most about 'now')
 - Committee perspective
 - Parent/staff/student perspective

Process

- Former process
 - Stand alone year-by-year
 - Multiple drafts to committee (and sometimes board)
 - Committee perspectives applied to drafts to recommend the best option
 - Board approval
- Future process
 - Establish priorities
 - A calendar draft based on priorities
 - Board approval of multiple-year calendars

Timeline for Calendar Approval

- September
 - Broad survey (staff, parent, student)
- October
 - Establish priorities
 - Draft calendar (3-years of each
- November-December
 - Approval of calendars