

ACTION REPORT**ITEM 8.2****SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2018 - 2019****PURPOSE:**

The *Education Act* requires each school Board to establish a School Year Calendar, identifying instructional days, professional activity days and holidays for each school year. The Ministry of Education establishes the number of days for the schools of the Province and in accordance with Regulation 304, each Board is required to submit a Board-approved calendar to the Ministry of Education by May 1, 2018.

BACKGROUND:

The School Year Calendar Committee takes into account several considerations:

1. School communities have generally advised that, when selecting a professional activity Day, a Friday or Monday is preferred. Some employers appear more willing to permit parents to have occasional holidays on those days (or just before statutory holidays).
2. An essential factor in the establishment of the 2018 - 2019 calendar is the integration of transportation services with our coterminous Board. Consultation, which complies with Ministry direction, has occurred with the Halton District School Board.

COMMENTS:

The 2018 - 2019 School Year Calendar Committee is comprised of a parent representative of the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC), OECTA Unit Presidents (Elementary and Secondary), CUPE 3166 and 5200 Representatives, Principal Association representatives and one (1) trustee. The Committee met on January 25, 2018 for the purpose of preparing a draft calendar.

The 2018 - 2019 School Year Calendar consists of one hundred and eighty-seven (187) instructional days, of which ten (10) days (five (5) per semester) are classified as secondary school examination days as per Regulation 304. An additional seven (7) Professional Activity Days are added on to the calendar throughout the year.

Two (2) PA days will be used for assessment and completion of report cards at the elementary level. An additional PA Day will be used for Elementary Parent/Teacher Interviews.

The three (3) mandatory Provincial Priority PA Days that will occur next year will be devoted to the criteria established by the Ministry.

At the March 6, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board, the School Year Calendar was presented as part of the Staff Report which reflected Friday, September 21, 2018 as a PA Day. Since that time, representatives from both Milton and Halton Hills have contacted both the HCDSB and HDSB to request

that date be changed to a Monday in September as our regions celebrate Fall Fairs throughout the month of September and our teaching staff have taken part in Friday school days at each of the Fairs. In response, our Board, along with our coterminous Board have accommodated this request by changing our September PA Day to Monday, September 17, 2018.

At the April 6, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board the Town Clerks delegated to the Board requesting that Monday, October 22, 2018 be set as a PA Day in order to accommodate the Municipal Election. Historically the October PA Day has traditionally taken place on the Friday before the Thanksgiving Day weekend. On this day, our staff across the entire system take part in our annual Faith Day celebration and activities. A survey was sent to Principals and School Council Members requesting their feedback on April 5th and remained open until April 12th. Overall, 50.7% of all 430 respondents chose October 5, 2018 as the preferred date for the PA Day, 30.2% chose October 22, 2018 as the preferred date, and 19.1% had no preference. The feedback received is attached as **Appendix C**.

At the time of writing this Action Report, all PA Days and exam writing days with the exception of the October PA Day are aligned with our coterminous Board. The HDSB has also surveyed their stakeholders regarding the October PA Day and will be receiving that information and deciding on their calendar at their April 18, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board.

CONCLUSION:

Trustees are invited to consider the proposed 2018-2019 School Year Calendar option “A” **Appendix A** (PA Day on Friday, October 5th) or option “B” **Appendix B** (PA Day on Monday, October 22nd). Once approved, the proposed School Year Calendar will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for final consent.

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLUTION	Moved By: Seconded By:
<i>RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the 2018-2019 School Year Calendar option “A” as presented.</i>	

RESOLUTION	Moved By: Seconded By:
<i>RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board approve the 2018-2019 School Year Calendar option “B” as presented.</i>	

REPORT PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY: C. CIPRIANO
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

REPORT APPROVED BY: P. DAWSON
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

