
TIPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of School Trustees

FROM: Kevin Emsweller, Superintendent

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 2019

RE: Calendar for 2020-2021

The 2020-2021 calendar has been discussed with the administrators, Business Affairs Committee, and TEA. In recent years, we have a format that seems to work well with most people. The different options discussed was focused on the format we have used. Two basic tenets have been to 1) finish the semester before the winter break, and 2) try to have close to the same number of days per semester. We are required, of course, to have 180 days of instruction.

Most people would like to have as late as start as possible. While Option 1 is the most ideal for this it has the biggest difference in the days/semester. The other three options are viable and have both positive and negative issues. In talking with TEA, they did not like Option 3 from the standpoint that they feel it would be difficult for students, especially the younger one, to acclimate to the school day when they attend a full week; a short first week would be better.

With that in mind, I would recommend going with Option 4 that has a familiar student first day on Friday, August 7 and provides for a balanced semester of 89 and 91 days per semester.

- Option 1 provides corresponding dates with the 2019-2020 calendar with a starting date the second week of August. This would have students reporting on Friday, August 14. An issue with this option is that the semesters are not well balanced – 84 days and 96 days. In the past, trying to keep the end of the 1st semester before the winter break is a goal while also trying to keep the number of days in each semester close to one another. This would not happen with this option.
- Option 2 provides an earlier start but would be a mid-week start. This is in line with the starting dates of calendars already established by two KASEC schools (Western and Taylor). It moves away from a Friday start for students and moves the start to a Wednesday. The semesters are more balanced at 86 and 94
- Option 3 moves the start date up even earlier with students reporting on Monday, August 10 for a full week. This earlier start would give an even more balance to the semester at 88 and 92 days.
- Option 4 goes back to a Friday start but a week earlier – August 7. The semesters would be even more balanced at 89 and 91 days, only gaining one day in the first semester.