

Calendar Survey: Video Transcript

Options

Before you review the calendar options, I want to explain the motivation behind this potential change.

Since Elk Island Public Schools' top priority is promoting growth and success for all students, and ...given the compelling research...the Board of Trustees requested administration explore potential alternative calendar options that embed dedicated time for staff collaboration.

They also requested we survey both staff and caregivers before making a recommendation to the Board.

A status quo calendar is still on the table, but the Board wants your feedback on alternative options before making a decision in December.

So now, we need your input. Using the 2025-26 school year as a starting point, we're seeking your feedback on two alternative calendar options, each including scheduled collaborative time.

Importantly, both options maintain the same total instructional hours for students and teachers throughout the year.

The only difference is the minutes have been distributed differently throughout the week to allow for early-out dismissal days to be used for focused collaboration throughout the year.

Option 1 proposes a one-hour early dismissal every Wednesday, which aligns with a few of our current high school schedules but would be a new practice for elementary and junior high schools.

Option 2 suggests a two-hour early dismissal every second Friday, which would be a new approach for all schools.

What do these proposed alternative calendar options mean? After students are dismissed on these early-out days, staff will engage in focused, structured

collaborative time with colleagues—either for one hour or two hours, depending on the calendar option. If approved, how this collaboration would take place would be outlined in a new administrative procedure.

Before providing your feedback, please take a moment to review both calendars in detail by clicking the links below.

Following the links is some additional information about Option 1 and an opportunity to provide feedback. On the next page is additional information about Option 2 and the same feedback questions. We want to hear what you like about each option, any challenges you see for each and any possible solutions you can propose to address those challenges.

I want to thank you in advance for taking the time to share your feedback. By working together in partnership, we can ensure the best possible outcomes for Elk Island Public Schools students.