

SCHOOL DISTRICT 63 (SAANICH)

EDUCATION DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE

Agenda

Committee Members: Trustee Silzer, Chair
Trustee Vandall
Trustee VanWell

Staff Support: Helena Takhar, Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovation
Mel Paas, Assistant Superintendent

Partner Representatives: Leila Sinclair-Wise, SAA – Elementary
Kelly deKlerk, SAA – Secondary
Shannon Toronitz – STA
CUPE
COPACS

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026
3:00 pm**

A. PRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

Student Voice: Indigenous Student Success

B. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No Items.

C. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION

1. 2028/29 Proposed School Calendar

Staff Recommendation:

As per Board Policy 17 (Public Consultation), that the Board forward the 2028/29 Draft School Calendar for public consultation for the period of April 23, 2026 to May 21, 2026.

D. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

No Items.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Data sharing around Strategic Plan goals – ongoing
- Student Voice Feedback – ongoing
- Benefits of International Students Program

To: Education Directions Committee

Prepared By: Melanie Paas
Assistant Superintendent

Subject: School Calendar 2028-2029

Date: March 11, 2026

Background / Rationale

As part of our ongoing collaboration with School Districts 61 and 62, we continue to project and review school calendars on a three-year cycle to support long-term planning for families, staff, and the broader community.

Representatives from School Districts 61, 62, and 63 met to explore alignment for the 2028–2029 school year, focusing on statutory holidays, winter and spring break, non-instructional days, and district closure periods. The draft calendar was shared with partner groups (STA, CUPE, SAA) for feedback and recommended adjustments.

The attached Draft 2028–2029 School Calendar is now prepared for review by the Education Directions Committee.

Context

Under the School Calendar Regulation (*last amended September 5, 2025 by B.C. Reg. 146/2025P*), boards must submit the school calendar for the coming school year to the Ministry of Education no later than March 31 for the subsequent school year. Boards must also make proposed calendars publicly available one month before submission to the Minister. Since we are on a 3-year planning cycle, we have exceeded these timelines.

The 2028–2029 Draft Calendar is proposed to be released for public consultation from April 23, 2026 to May 21, 2026. This consultation window provides sufficient time for families and employees to offer feedback prior to the calendar returning to the Board for potential adjustments and formal adoption at the June 2026 Board meeting.

The proposed calendar meets the established expectations and obligations of the district, including:

- Alignment with the Saanich Teachers' Association Collective Agreement, which stipulates:
 - Spring Break begins on the third Monday in March (D.14.2.c) and Winter Break begins on the Monday previous to December 26th (D.14.2.b).
- Continuation of the district's one-week spring break plus one-week closure model originally adopted in 2013–14.
- Coordination with School Districts 61 and 62 to align key dates, particularly winter break, spring break, and closure periods.
- Ensuring a balanced distribution of non-instructional (professional development) days between semesters.

The attached draft calendar outlines proposed instructional days, vacation periods, statutory holidays, and district closure dates for the 2028–2029 school year.

Recommendation

As per Board Policy 17, that the Board forward the 2028/2029 Draft School Calendar for public consultation for the period of April 23, 2026 to May 21, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie Paas
Assistant Superintendent

MP/skd

SAANICH SCHOOL DISTRICT (63)

DRAFT 2028/2029 CALENDAR

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST						
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SEPTEMBER						
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OCTOBER						
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29	30	31				

NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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31						

JANUARY						
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28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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29	30					

MAY						
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27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Instructional
 Vacation Period
 Statutory Holiday
 Non-Instructional
 Closure

Saanich School District (63) School Calendar 2028-29

September 5, 2028	Schools Open
September 22, 2028	Non-Instructional Day
October 2, 2028 (for September 30)	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October 9, 2028	Thanksgiving
October 20, 2028	Non-Instructional Day
November 13, 2028 (for November 11)	Remembrance Day
November 20, 2028	Non-Instructional Day
December 25, 2028 – January 5, 2029	Winter break
January 8, 2029	Schools reopen after winter break
February 16, 2029	Non-Instructional Day
February 19, 2029	Family Day
March 19-23, 2029	Spring break
March 26-29, 2029 and April 3, 2029	School closure
March 30, 2029	Good Friday
April 2, 2029	Easter Monday
April 23, 2029	Non-Instructional Day
May 18, 2029	Non-Instructional Day
May 21, 2029	Victoria Day
June 28, 2029	Last day of instruction
June 29, 2029	Administrative Day