



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

CALENDAR ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, November 13, 2014
T. C. Passios Building- 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Calendar Advisory Committee

Colleen Shapiro – School Committee
Ronald Hyatt – SAC LHS
Ashley Wheeler-SAC LHS- absent
Gary Asher – Former Lunenburg Family Practice, Health Advisory Committee-absent
Brandon Kibbe – SAC LPS
Amanda Waltz – Parent
Lou Bettencourt – Parent
Heather Sroka – School Committee
Ami Powers – SAC THMS
Katie McGuire- SAC LHS-

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

* Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:25pm.

* Review and Approve Minutes: Colleen Shapiro made motion to approve minutes from 10/30 and 10/23 meetings. Brandon Kibbe moved the motion, **Vote: Unanimous.**

* Review of Survey Results: Results from survey monkey - downloaded into Excel for easy reading. High school students took survey on paper, need to get those results.

Question 1 - Which of the following respondent groups apply to you?
Teacher/Faculty/Administration/Staff in Lunenburg School District 25.9%
Parent/Guardian of Student enrolled in Lunenburg School District 71.4%
Student in Lunenburg School District 3.9%
Other Lunenburg Community Member 2.1%

Question 2 - Would you prefer a student start date before or after the Labor Day Holiday?
Before Labor Day 55.8%
After Labor Day 44.2%

Question 3 - Do you prefer an extended December Holiday Break?
Yes 52.4%
No 47.6%

Question 4 - Which break option do you prefer?
A single semester vacation 48.9%
The current February and April vacation format 51.1%

Outstanding issues to still discuss - issues about 1/2 days, professional development days. Loxi to run attendance to see how the PD day in conjunction with holiday.

Most survey results were so close, about even - could be used for whatever position we take.

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When Results are posted we should mention that we appreciate all the comments mattered and we appreciated so many who took the survey. We will wait for High School results, then release with summary of comments.

Still need to look at demographic data to tell who compiled the surveys.

Loxi brought back feedback from staff on some issues - Staff does not feel 1/2 days are wasted days. When movies are shown on half days, they are context related and try to bring the balance of fun back into school. Teachers work hard to make those days count.

Discussed that we still need to look at half days and communicate to public about them - why they count.

* Update Regarding Meeting with School Calendar Committee: Loxi brought our proposed calendar to Internal Calendar Committee:

Internal Calendar Committee was not at all interested in having day off before Thanksgiving, they want to keep to the tradition of 1/2 day.

Internal Calendar Committee would agree to starting Aug 28/29th just this year, does not want to go 5 days first week.

Internal Calendar Committee was not supportive of shortened Feb break.

Internal Calendar Committee was in favor of rolling out both calendars at same time. 2015/2016 and 2016/2017

Teachers contracts has language around start date of school year, but not around vacation weeks.

Also found out that building orientations could occur before school got out in 2016 school year.

Internal Calendar Committee presents calendar to school committee in January. School committee decides the calendar based on the best interest for the students education.

Higher grades were in favor of full vacation weeks

Lower grades would be willing to modify vacation weeks.

It was suggested that we come up with guidelines to be consistent on the calendars going forward. would be easier to do calendar with guidelines to adhere by. Brandon Kibbe nominated Louis Bettencourt to come up with a standard set of guidelines.

* Begin Draft of Final Report: Group decided to present calendar as we had set it on 10/30 meeting to school committee as originally discussed. Also discussed that we should be able to talk to and defend each change, based upon our established guidelines.

* Adjournment: Next Meetings to occur on November 20 and the 24th. Agenda for next week to include: Look at guidelines, information from town clerk, 2016/2017 calendar and firm up calendar and how to present. Heather Sroka made motion to adjourn, Louis Bettencourt second the motion, Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ami Powers