

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Why doesn't school end before Memorial Day?

Weber School District graduates the week before Memorial Day and because of their tax base they have priority for the Dee Events Center. Since there is no other venue large enough for graduation, we end school the following week or later.

Why doesn't school start after Labor Day or at least a week later than it does?

We could do this by shortening the Winter or Spring Breaks, or by going an additional week or two in June. Proposed calendars with these options have been overwhelmingly rejected by the public.

Additionally, the Advanced Placement test is at the same time each year. Starting later gives our students fewer instructional days before the test which puts them at a disadvantage.

Why doesn't Spring Break coincide with Easter?

In the past, many patrons have asked that we have a consistent week for Spring Break — the first week in April — so they can plan extended vacations. Sometimes Easter is the middle of March and sometimes it is the middle of April. In the past, we moved the break earlier when Easter was earlier but many patrons did not like having the break early when the weather was often poor. Moving it later, puts it very close to Advanced Placement testing, which we have been asked to avoid.

Could Fall Break be a full week? Could Fall Break be November 1-2? Could we remove Fall Break?

The annual state teacher convention is scheduled for two days in October. For our teachers to be able to attend, we schedule fall break at this time. Because so many other breaks occur in the first semester we have not considered making it longer.

Why don't we start early in August, have several week-long breaks during the year and go into June? Why don't we start later, end earlier, and shorten or eliminate the breaks during the school year? Why don't we start in September and go through the middle of June?

We receive many such questions that have competing requests. Over the last several years patrons have expressed a continued desire for a week-long Spring Break and up to a two-week Winter Break. The committee begins by deciding when these two breaks will be and how long and then works backwards to meet the required number of school days.

Many would like school to start the second week of August because high school activities statewide begin then and there would be more school days before Advanced Placement tests. Many others would prefer to start in September when it is cooler and go a couple of weeks into June. The committee weighs these competing interests as they make a recommendation.

Could professional days be planned for November 1, because of Halloween, and other professional days be tied to holidays to make four-day weekends?

The committee looked carefully at these suggestions. Professional days are needed at the end of a term. If moved to the suggested days, the terms and semesters would be out of balance.