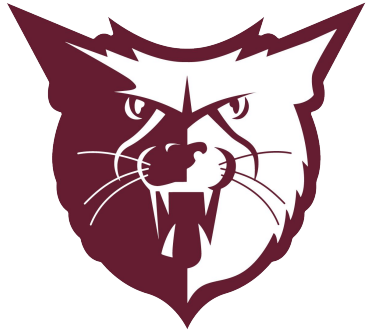




SHERMAN

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

District-Level Planning Committee Meeting #3

**Amy Pesina, Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum and Instruction**

January 8, 2026

Housekeeping

Minutes from November 6, 2025

Timekeeper: Torie Washington

Notetaker: Victoria Mathews



Calendar option Highlights

Summary of Key Differences

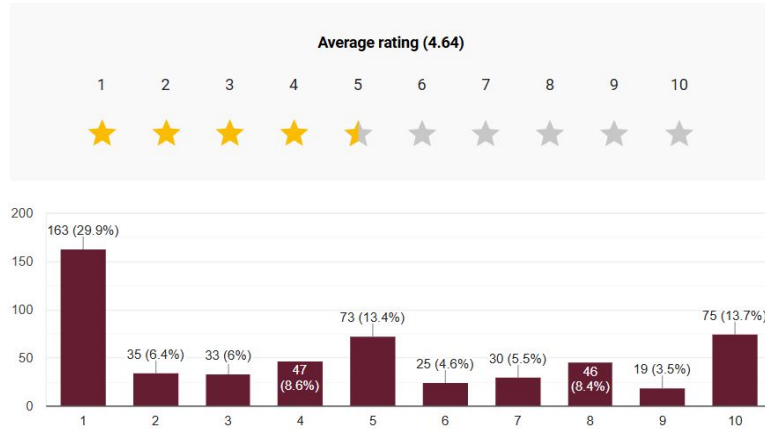
Feature	Calendar 1	Calendar 2
Instructional Days	170	165
Daily Minutes	10 minutes shorter at all levels	Current school day remains unchanged
Annual Minutes	Meets TEA with a small surplus through additional instructional days	Meets TEA through existing daily minutes and calendar design
School Hours	Early Childhood: 7:30–2:55 Elementary: 7:40–3:05 Secondary: 8:30–4:05 Jefferson LC: 8:00–3:50	Early Childhood: 7:30–3:05 Elementary: 7:40–3:15 Secondary: 8:30–4:15 Jefferson LC: 8:00–4:00
First Day of School	August 11	August 12
Student Last Day	May 20	May 14
Graduation	May 21	May 14
End-of-Semester Student Schedule	Early release on December 17–18 for secondary campuses only; Early Childhood and Elementary dismiss at the regular time	Early release on December 17–18 for secondary campuses only; Early Childhood and Elementary dismiss at the regular time
End-of-Year Student Schedule	Standard instruction through the final week with early release on May 19–20 for secondary campuses only	Early release on May 13–14 for secondary only; students conclude earlier with no instruction after May 14
Staff End-of-Year Planning	Standard teacher close-out workdays only	Dedicated K–12 curriculum writing and resource revision days on May 17–18, Assessment/Test Creation on May 19, and Teacher Closeout Workdays on May 20–21
Bad Weather Coverage	Instructional minutes plus designated makeup days (April 30 and May 21)	Instructional minutes plus designated makeup days (April 30, May 17, and May 18), providing additional flexibility due to the reduced number of instructional days



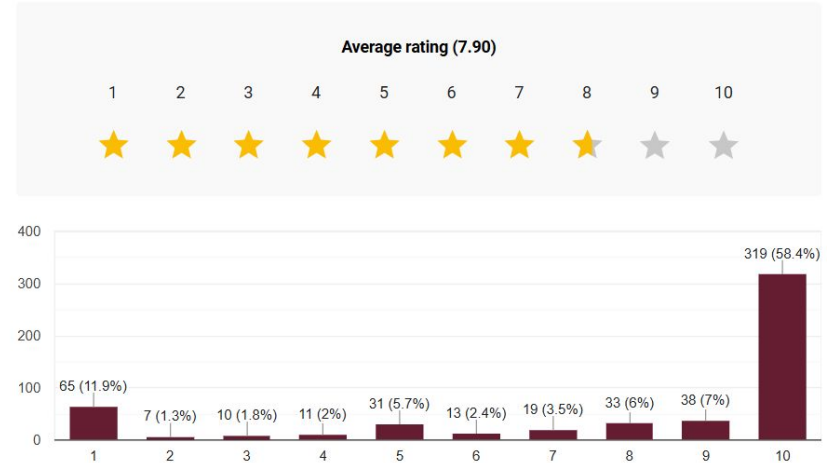
Calendar option Highlights

546 responses total with 51% staff, 39% parents, 9% students, and 8% community.

Calendar 1:



Calendar 2:



Preferred Calendar



2026-27 Student Calendar 2

July 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	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 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
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					

September 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	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		

October 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	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

November 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	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					

December 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	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		

January 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	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						

February 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	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						

March 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	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			

April 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	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	

May 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
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					

June 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	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			

Important Dates

First Day of School	Aug. 12
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 23-27
Winter Break	Dec. 21-Jan. 4
Spring Break	March 15-19
Last Day of School	May 14
Graduation	May 14

Instructional minutes cover two bad weather days; April 30, May 17, & May 18 will serve as additional days if needed.

Reporting Periods

1st Nine Weeks	36
Aug. 12-Oct. 2	
2nd Nine Weeks	44
Oct. 12-Dec. 18	
3rd Nine Weeks	47
Jan. 5-March 12	
4th Nine Weeks	38
March 22-May 14	

Calendar Key

■ No School
■ Early Release (Secondary Only)
[] Beginning/End of Nine Weeks
School Hours
Early Childhood: 7:30 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.
Elementary Schools: 7:40 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Pine, SMS and SHS: 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Jefferson Learning Center: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Calendar Survey Snapshot

Overall, **Option 2** received the highest support

- Prioritizes **consistent daily schedule**
- Provides an **earlier end to the school year in May**
- Includes **dedicated curriculum planning/collaboration time for teachers**

Strong appreciation across respondents for:

- **Meaningful teacher planning time**
- **Balanced school-year structure**
- **Alignment of student and staff holidays**



Community Priorities (Trends)

Consistency is the most repeated value

- Stakeholders want a calendar that remains predictable year to year
- Families and community members specifically noted that stability reduces confusion-daily schedules

Preference for a shorter overall school year, without altering required instructional minutes

- Respondents emphasized that an earlier end date in May is favorable
- Multiple community and parent responses described the earlier May exit as the most meaningful benefit, not small daily minute changes

High value on protected planning and curriculum time for teachers

- The May planning week is one of the most positively referenced components
- Staff and community members described this week as vital and appreciated, especially when not overloaded

High value on fall break inclusion, especially when purposefully structured

- The fall break is one of the positively referenced calendar components
- Respondents emphasized support when the break is positioned intentionally within the school year

Feedback from a small portion of stakeholders included improvement ideas such as:

- shifting fall break to the week of Columbus Day to improve calendar flow and predictability
- reviewing whether alternative break structures could enhance balance, including the option to place unused non-instructional days in the spring semester if the full 5-day block is adjusted

Table Group Steps-Final Calendar Review

1. Review the preferred 2026-27 calendar together at your table (5 minutes)

Focus on overall structure, sequencing, and layout.

2. As a table, generate 3–6 suggestions maximum that improve calendar clarity, balance, or flow (15 minutes)

Consider ideas such as:

- shifting fall break to the week of Columbus Day for smoother calendar pacing
- Exploring fall break structure options that improve calendar flow, including placing unused non-instructional days on a spring Friday or Monday.

3. Table agreement check – fast, not debated (5 minutes)

- Most of the table agrees → keep the suggestion
- Not enough agreement → adjust wording or move on

4. Recorder finalizes your table's 1-page list (2 minutes)

Include:

- 3–6 suggestions total
- clear, neutral wording

5. Table Presenter (20 seconds)

- The table presenter will deliver a 15–20 second overview to the room, including the #1 proposed calendar change



Questions?