

Calendar Design Core Principles

1. In order to be responsive to student and instructional issues, the county, city and parochial schools seek and require a “common” core of student school days, preferably 182 common days per year but no less than 180 days.
2. There is recognition that many districts are redesigning their use of time in school. As a result, some will be lengthening the student and faculty work year, creating more staff development opportunities and using traditionally non-school periods, such as summer, in their calendars. It is recognized that these changes will evolve at different paces, may require negotiations and stakeholder involvement, and are unlikely to happen everywhere at the same time. The school calendar building process should not serve as a barrier to these local options. Therefore, communication of differences and commitment to the common core of the calendar must take place annually.
3. The third full week of April will be designated as Spring Recess.
4. Two conference days will be recommended each year as follows:
 - Fall Conference Day: Friday before Columbus Day
 - Spring Conference Day: Typically third Friday of March
5. Districts choosing to vary from the common core calendar cannot expect other districts to provide services on days that are not part of the core calendar.

Revised December 17, 2007