



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Esther Evikana, President  
Members of the Board

**THROUGH:** David Vadiveloo, Superintendent *DSVadiveloo*

**FROM:** Dr. Robert Bolen, Assistant Superintendent *RB*

**DATE:** April 9, 2026

**SUBJECT:** 2026-2027 School Calendars

**Memo No. SB26-131**  
(Action Item)

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**NSBSD Policy Manual:**

BP 6111, School Calendar: The site administrator shall work with the School Advisory Council to prepare the calendar for each site. The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the School Board school calendars for each site that will meet the requirements of the law as well as the needs of each community its students and the work year as negotiated with district personnel.

Each school site calendar shall show the beginning and ending school dates, legal and local holidays, orientation and teacher in-service days, number of teaching days, vacation periods and other pertinent dates. Each school site calendar shall include 191 days, designated as follows:

- 182 Student/teacher days, including up to 9 Inservice days
  - 6 Holidays:
    - Labor Day;
    - Inuit Day;
    - Thanksgiving - 2 days;
    - Christmas Day;
    - New Year's Day;
  - 3 Workdays
- Inservice days beyond five days must be approved by the Superintendent.

**NSBSD Strategic Plan Summary:**

Family & Community Collaboration

Goal 1: Prioritize and implement intentional and purposeful partnerships.

Financial & Operational Stewardship

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations

**Issue Summary:**

In accordance with BP 6111, Principals presented the district-defined parameters for the 2026-2027 calendar to their Community School Advisory Councils (CSACs) to collaborate and prepare school calendar options for a community survey. Consistent with the Board directed focus on continuing to improve student outcomes, and the clear data connecting student attendance and achievement, there were fewer options for variation. After review of the surveys and recommendation by the CSACs, Administration presents the SY26-27 recommended calendars to the Board:





School	1st Day for Teachers	1st Day for Students	Winter Break for Students	Spring Break for Students	Graduation Date	Last Day for Students	Last Day for Teachers
Alak	8/6	8/13	12/21 – 1/8	3/8 – 3/12	5/14	5/20	5/21
Kali			12/21 – 1/8	3/12	5/11	5/13	5/14
Kaveolook			12/21 - 1/8	3/8 - 3/12	5/14	5/20	5/21
Meade River			12/21 – 1/8	3/8 - 3/12	5/14	5/20	5/21
Nunamiut			12/14 – 1/01	3/8 - 3/12	5/14	5/20	5/21
Tikiqaq			12/21 – 1/8	3/8 – 3/12	5/14	5/25	5/26
Trapper			12/21 – 1/8	3/8 – 3/12	5/14	5/20	5/21
Utqiagvik			12/21 – 1/8	3/15 – 3/19	BHS: 5/15 KLC: 5/13 HMS: 5/18 IPK: 5/17	5/21	5/22

School	Q1	Q2	S1	Q3	Q4	S2	Student Days Total
Alak	42	44	86	43	44	87	173
Barrow High	45	41	86	42	45	87	
Hopson	45	41	86	42	45	87	
Ipalook	40	46	86	42	45	87	
Kali	45	41	86	43	44	87	
Kaveolook	45	41	86	44	43	87	
Kiita	45	41	86	42	45	87	
Meade River	43	43	86	43	44	87	
Nunamiut	40	41	81	46	46	92	
Tikiqaq	45	41	86	35	52	87	
Trapper	42	44	86	43	44	87	





## **Background:**

Designing a school calendar that incorporates feedback from the community and prioritizes optimal learning time is essential for student success. By considering the unique needs of families, ensuring equitable access to educational opportunities, and minimizing learning loss, schools can create an environment that fosters continuous academic growth. Engaging stakeholders throughout this process ensures that the calendar is both practical and supportive of high-quality learning experiences for all students.

Below is the timeline in the development of the school site calendar:

**August 2025 - January 2026:** Members of the Board of Education and the Superintendent engaged communities in Townhall meetings to discuss current attendance issues, actual and required growth in grades and possibilities for a more culturally relevant calendar.

**October - November 2025:** The site administrator began working with the Community School Advisory Council (CSAC) to develop a survey for use in assessing the community's desires for the next year's school calendar. The survey will address such issues as vacations, ending dates, standardized testing dates, cultural needs, and other district parameters.

**November 2025 - January 2026:** CSAC approves calendar options for survey.

**February - March 2026:** CSAC and the site administrator reviewed survey results and the CSAC makes a recommendation on the school calendar at a public meeting.

**March - April 2026:** Signed calendars are sent to the Superintendent or designee at least two weeks prior to the April School Board meeting.

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For the calendar process, the following parameters were set:

### 2026-2027 Holidays (**H**)

- Labor Day – Monday, September 7, 2026
- Inuit Day – Friday, November 6, 2026
- Thanksgiving – Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, 2026
- Christmas – Friday, December 25, 2026
- New Year's Day – Friday, January 1, 2027

Administration set the following dates:

- School opening (**O**) school date to be on Thursday, August 13, 2026.
- District Inservice Dates:
  - New Teacher Inservice- (**NI**) – Monday-Wednesday August 3-5, 2026 held in Utqiagvik.
  - District Inservice (**DI**)– Thursday-Friday, August 6-7, 2026 for the start of the school year will be held at each school site. This was previously scheduled for Utqiagvik, however, due to budget constraints, a centralized all hire in-service is not feasible.
  - Other District Inservice (**DI**)
    - September 16 (W), 2026
    - October 23 (F), 2026
    - January 18 (M), 2027





The following parameters would be discussed by Site Administration in collaboration with each Community School Advisory Council (CSAC) for community input:

- Three End of Quarter (**E**), and one School Close (**C**) date that is the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- Schedule two Cultural In-service (**CI**) days with approval from the Director of Iñupiaq Education.
- Schedule two site in-service (**I**) dates.
- Schedule three teacher workdays (**W**).
- Winter break (**V**) date options:
  - Option 1**-Break: Dec. 14 (M) – Jan. 1 (F) Opening- Jan. 4 (M) **or**
  - Option 2**- Break: Dec. 21 (M) – Jan. 8 (F) Opening: Jan. 11 (M)
- Spring Break (**V**) date options in March for one week:
  - March (1A and 2A)** for village sites: Mar. 8 (M) – Mar. 12 (F); and,
  - March (3A)** in Utqiagvik: Mar. 15 (M) – Mar. 19 (F)
  - These are the only dates available unless approved through the administration.
- Select the parent-teacher conference (**M**) dates for fall and spring.
- Identify the graduation (**G**). Graduation ceremonies shall take place no more than 7 calendar days prior to the last day of school (BP 5127). To support School Board participation, Administration requested sites to stagger graduation dates.
- K3, K4 and K may start one week after the first day of school and will end on the same day as the other grades at the site. Sites were requested to note on the calendar if they would take this option.

**Proposed Motion:**

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the calendars as presented in memo no. SB26-131.”

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisory Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: *DS Vadiveloo*

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Bobby Bolen*  
Bobby Bolen (Apr 13, 2026 16:11:41 AKDT)

Email: Bobby.Bolen@nsbsd.org

