

February 12, 2026

Calendar Feedback

January 2026 Feedback – 77 Responses

94% prefer Version 2 – Two Week Spring Break
6% prefer Version 1 – One Week Spring Break

Version 1		Version 2	
Family	4	Family	39
Staff	1	Staff	26
		LNIB	1
		Students	2
		Community	4

November 2025 Feedback – 241 Responses

169/241 or 70% felt that a three-year calendar would be helpful.

Families:

- Yes 113
- No 47

Staff:

- Yes 56
- No 25

Important Considerations:

- LNIB wrote a strong letter opposing additional embedded PD days due to the negative impact on literacy, numeracy, and relationships (see attached letter).
- The Indigenous Education Council, as a whole, is in support of LNIB's position (topic of discussion at IEC meeting)
- Teachers want embedded PD and a two-week Spring Break, but if they have to pick, it is Summer Institute and retaining the 2-week Spring Break is their choice.
- 2027-2028 calendar is causing issues for boards with embedded PD and a two-week Spring Break. As most Collective Agreements give specific start and end dates to the year, they are struggling to fit in the instructional hours. While some can simply add minutes, others have provisions about the number of hours of instruction per week.
- Our Administrators have raised concerns about having no say in the PD completed during the school year.
- While Self-Directed PD may have started with good intentions, the result is concerning. The plans sometimes have a tenuous connection to instructional practice.

- Parents responses are varied.
- Some parents with young children preferred one week as it is difficult to get childcare for two weeks. Made a point of saying “parents not employed by school district.”
- Most wanted a two-week Spring Break.
- Some were worried about travel clubs (Europe for PSS; Costa Rica for MSS) - additional TTOC days add to the overall cost.
- More embedded days means more days parents need to find childcare.
- Recruitment and Retention – we are not interested in teachers who decide to teach in a District based on how many days off they get.
- We are looking at losing teaching positions as the number of students decline. This is our reality for the foreseeable future.
- The comparison to other Districts cannot be used when convenient. There was significant push back on evening Christmas Concerts, even though 58 other Districts have an evening concert.
- We have not been presented with any empirical evidence that adding minutes to the day improves learning outcomes for students.
- Collective Agreement – F. 20.9 “To be eligible for financial assistance, prior approval of a teachers’ attendance at a workshop must be given by the principal concerned, the Professional Development Committee, the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer. Claims for professional development travel must be accompanied by receipts. Recommendations for changes to this [process require the approval of the Board and Union before they may be implemented.”
- This clause will allow teachers more flexibility to access PD throughout the year. I attended the last Joint Professional Development Committee Meeting. The barrier in the past was the cost of TTOCs. I have a solution of using our itinerant teachers for coverage.
- The quality teaching rounds model that the PD Joint Committee Chair pitched can already happen within our current calendar structure.
- I’m working with the Union on the format for Summer Institute.

Overall, status quo was the preference for the two options we presented. We have other options for supporting teachers doing Professional Development throughout the year.