



From the Cabinet

By FPS Associate Superintendent Dr. Robert Grosz

2024-25 Calendar Committee Will Reconvene to Update School Calendar

The Calendar Committee will be reconvening to update the Fargo Public Schools 2024-25 school calendar. This decision is a direct response to the recent action taken by the Fargo Board of Education during its meeting on July 11, 2023. As part of the Fargo Board of Education [Memo #12](#), administration recommended that the school board add an addition to [Executive Limitations 14: District Calendar](#), requiring the Fargo Public Schools be closed on all federal holidays beginning June 1, 2024.

The memo states the following benefits of observing federal holidays in school districts:

1. **Cultural Unity and National Identity:** Federal holidays hold significant cultural and historical value for the entire nation. Observing these holidays in school districts helps foster a sense of unity and shared national identity among students, staff, and the broader community. It reinforces the importance of common heritage and traditions.
2. **Community Engagement and Inclusivity:** Recognizing federal holidays allows school districts to actively engage with the community and promote inclusivity. It enables families from diverse backgrounds to participate in and celebrate national events together, creating a sense of belonging and shared experiences.
3. **Educational Opportunities:** Federal holidays provide valuable opportunities for educational activities and learning experiences. Schools can design lessons and curricula that explore the historical events, cultural significance, and values associated with each holiday. This helps students develop a deeper understanding of their country's history and promotes civic education.
4. **Consistency and Predictability:** Observing federal holidays ensures consistency in academic calendars across school districts. It allows families, students, and staff members to plan their schedules with a clear understanding of when holidays will occur.

The Teaching and Learning Department will be reaching out to the members of the 2024-25 Calendar Committee in the upcoming weeks to gauge their willingness to reconvene and engage in discussions regarding the necessary calendar adjustments. The collaborative effort of this committee will play an integral role in ensuring that the updated calendar effectively aligns with the provisions in EL-14, including the newly added language around the district being closed on all federal holidays. Once the Calendar Committee completes its work to develop a new draft



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2024-25 School Calendar, it will be presented to the Board of Education for their review and approval.

The Fargo Public Schools commitment to inclusivity, unity, and educational excellence is reflected in the decision to observe federal holidays in our district. This change presents a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn about the significance of these holidays while fostering a sense of community among families and staff. We look forward to the positive impact this will have on our educational environment.

