



HISD 26-27 Academic Calendar Feedback and Input Process

Round 1 Feedback

In December 2025, key HISD stakeholders including Central Office and Division Leadership at the director level and above, principals, and members of the District and Teacher Advisory committees were provided with the opportunity to give feedback on two versions of the 26-27 HISD Academic Calendar.

170 individuals provided feedback via a common survey. Of all respondents, **62% favored version B and 38% favored version A**. 87 of the 170 respondents identified themselves as a teacher or a principal, and of this group, 63% preferred version B.

Round 1 qualitative feedback trends included the following:

- Beginning on a Monday and ending on a Friday was viewed positively (version B)
- Respondents supported having students finish school before Memorial Day (version B)
- More days off throughout the year were appreciated (version A)
- Recommendation to move the observed holiday for Independence Day from July 2, 2027 to July 5, 2027 (implemented change for round 2)

Round 2 Feedback

In mid-January, HISD shared two calendar versions with the community through the website and ParentSquare to invite feedback via a common survey. Over the 7-day survey window, more than 6,000 families, staff, and community members made their voices heard. **Overall, 55% favored version B and 45% favored version A**.

The survey also contained open-ended comments that were analyzed by the Data & Impact Team. Staff examined 671 randomly selected open-ended responses and tagged responses with common codes to generate statistically significant insight. A summary of those findings can be found below.

Version A

While version B had most of its commenters coalesce around a single reason for their preference, rationale for version A was more mixed. Commenters who preferred this calendar did so because it offered **more breaks throughout the year** (26% of respondents who preferred version A). 14% of respondents also mentioned that they particularly liked the **day of the week that the calendar starts and/or ends on**. Another common theme was **teachers needing breaks for PD/Recess**, mentioned by 13% of commenters. Some linked this to student and teacher performance.

Version B

Version B had a significant consensus in rationale for why respondents preferred this calendar. 71% of all respondents preferring version B cited **school ending earlier** as their primary reason for supporting version B. They also frequently referred to liking the **start and end days**.