

Champlain Valley Superintendents Vision Calendar Committee Proposal

Talking Points VISION CALENDAR

INTRODUCTION

In 2010, the CVSA charged a task force to review the current school year calendar, to study alternative models, to recommend a calendar based on agree-upon principles, and to develop a plan of action for implementing a transformed calendar for the 2014-2015 school year.

During this two year period, the task force looked at different calendar structures, analyzed potential constraints and challenges, and considered various options – all with the goal of increasing student learning and achievement.

- Vision Calendar is based on the following **guiding principles**:
 - Supports student learning/achievement
 - Provides opportunities for student interventions during the school year
 - Provides opportunities for embedded professional development and reflection
 - Reduces regression (loss of learning)- as a result of extended vacations
 - Increases access to language-rich environments (esp. for ELL and low SES students)
 - Supports positive school climate (e.g. better student discipline data with more frequent breaks for students and staff)
 - Distributes the pace of education in reasonable chunks for student learning
 - Provides more effective instruction time – less need for review
 - Maintains/ promotes academic momentum for students

- Vision Calendar **elements**:
 - 175 student days
 - 7 week cycles/ 2 week intersessions
 - Intersessions aligned with current school holidays

Sources:

- Regional Educational Laboratory at EDC
- National Center on Time and Learning
- San Francisco Bay Area KIPP Schools: A Study of Early Implementation, First year Report 2004-2005
- Evaluation of the Expanded Learning Time Initiative: Year One Report 2006-2007
- Learning Takes Time for At-Risk Students. 2005 Education Digest
- A New Day for Kids. 2007. Educational Leadership
- Year-Round Education. 1993. ERIC Document
- The Bigger Picture: What about Year-Round Education? 2005. Eric Document
- Review of Extended-Day and After-School Programs and their Effectiveness. 1998. Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk
- What Twenty Years of Educational Studies Reveal about Year-Round Education. 1994. Eric Document
- A Five-Year Comparison between an Extended Year School and a Conventional Year School: Effects on Academic Achievement. 2008. Eric Document
- The Quality Imperative: A state Guide to Achieving the Promise of Extended Learning. 2009. Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices
- National Association for Year-Round Education
- The Perennial Reform: Fixing School Time. 2008. Phi Delta Kappan.