



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23
(CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

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"Together We Learn"

December 19, 2012

Dear Parents:

In November, the Ministry of Education passed Bill 36, the School Amendment Act, which eliminated the Standard School Calendar (overview attached). As a result, School Districts are now required to establish their own school calendars beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. The School Calendar Committee, comprised of the partner groups in School District No. 23 (COTA, CUPE, COPVPA, COSBO and COPAC), has met and have drafted a proposed school calendar (attached) which meets the requirements of Bill 36.

We are now inviting parents to review the proposed calendar for the 2013-2014 school year and provide input. We are providing parents with the opportunity to provide their input to the proposal before it is discussed by our Board of Education at a public meeting prior to February 28, 2013.

I invite you to provide your input about this proposal by Friday, January 18, 2013. If you have questions about the proposal, please feel free to contact us via:

- email calendarsurvey@sd23.bc.ca
- your school Principal
- or call Ross Dumontet

Chair – School District No. 23 School Calendar Committee
Phone (250) 860-8888 or Fax (250) 870-5088

In addition to parent input, all partner groups have been asked to provide their opinion of this proposal.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this proposal.

Yours truly,

Ross Dumontet
Director of Instruction - Human Resources

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OVERVIEW OF

BILL 36 - SCHOOL AMENDMENT ACT (SCHOOL CALENDAR REGULATION)

Bill 36 - School Amendment Act (School Calendar Regulation) was passed on November 8, 2012. Bill 36 outlines regulations which eliminate the standard school calendar.

School Districts are required to establish their own school calendars beginning with the 2013-2014 school year to commence on July 1, 2013.

The regulation is intended to provide more flexibility for the Boards of Education to offer more creative scheduling options to better meet the needs of the students.

The regulation prescribes:

Minimum hours of instruction for:

- Kindergarten 853 hours
- Grades 1-7 878 hours
- Grades 8-12 952 hours

School Calendars must:

- Provide the number and dates of the days in session
- The number and dates of each day of instruction
- The vacation periods and the statutory holidays
- The dates of each non-instructional day
- The number of hours of instruction offered students in each grade group

Consultation must:

- Provide opportunities for parents of students enrolled to provide input
- Provide representatives of employees of the Board to provide input

School Calendars must be made public one month (on or before February 28, 2013) in advance of the date they are to be submitted to the Minister of Education. The Boards of Education are required to submit their 2013-2014 school calendar to the Minister of Education by March 31, 2013.



2013-2014 Draft School Calendar Proposal for Consideration

DESIGNATION	Proposed SD No. 23 Local Calendar 2013/2014
Days in session	191 (3 summer Pro Days Aug. 27 – Aug. 29)
Number of days of instruction	184
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open	September 3
Administrative Implementation Day	October 11
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	October 14
Teacher Professional Day	October 25
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	November 11
Schools close for Winter vacation	Friday, December 20
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	December 23 - January 3
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday, January 6
Family Day	February 10
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	February 21
Schools close for Spring vacation	Friday, March 7
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	March 10 - March 21
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday, March 24
Good Friday (schools closed)	April 18
Easter Monday (schools closed)	April 21
Victoria Day (schools closed)	May 19
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Friday, June 27
Schools close	Friday, June 27

The Proposed Draft Calendar for 2013-2014 complies with Bill 36 - School Amendment Act (School Calendar Regulation).

The minimum hours of instruction for:

- Kindergarten 853 hours (based on 4.8 hours per day x 184 = 883)
- Grades 1-7 878 hours (based on 4.8 hours per day x 184 = 883)
- Grades 8-12 952 hours (based on 5.21 hours per day x 184 = 958)

Provides the:

- Number and dates of the days in session
- The number and dates of each day of instruction
- Vacation Periods and the Statutory Holidays
- The dates of each Non-Instructional Day
- The number of hours of instruction offered students in each grade group