

Calendar Clarification

As outlined in Administrative Procedure 130, the Good Spirit School Division partners with Christ the Teacher Separate School Division to develop a joint school year calendar. It has also been our practice to seek feedback on calendar options from our staff and communities prior to seeking Board and Ministry of Education approval.

Frequently Asked Calendar Questions:

- Why is Orange Shirt Day Not a School Holiday on the 2020-21 Calendar?
 - In anticipation that the Federal government would declare September 30 as a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30, 2019 was set as a holiday on the 2019-20 calendar. The Bill did not come into effect therefore, this was not included on the 2020-21 calendar. Orange Shirt Day (September 30) will continue to be recognized across the division.
- Why is September 25 a student holiday?
 - September 25, 2020 has been designated as a non-student day as all GSSD buses will be used to transport conference delegates and advisors from the Canadian Student Leadership Conference being held at the Yorkton Regional High School.
- Why are students not starting school after Labor Day?
 - The Education Act (section 163) states: For any school year in which Labor Day occurs on or after September 5, the Minister may, by order, set a date in September that is earlier than Labor Day as the first instructional day for the school year. On Jan. 20, 2019, the Ministry of Education notified school divisions that the first instructional day for the upcoming 2020 would be on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020.
- Why are we being asked to vote on another calendar?
 - On Jan. 31, 2020 Directors of Education were informed that there had been a change to the information previously communicated regarding the start of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - For 2020-21 only, school divisions will have the flexibility to begin the instructional school year calendar no earlier than September 1, 2020. Thus, the dates of September 1, September 2 or September 3 may be considered when drafting a 2020-21 school year calendar.