

Special Called Meeting

January 29, 2018

Board Members in attendance (in person or by phone): Coats, Collins, Darby, Garrett, Hollinshead, Jeffery, and Miller (Mack and Staubes were absent)

Revised 2018-2019 Academic Calendar

The Charleston County School District (CCSD) Board of Trustees (BOT) approved the recommended changes to the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar by a 7-0 vote.

The changes are as follows:

- The 2018-2019 school year will now start on August 20, 2018 (instead of August 21, 2018)
- The Early Release Day in October will now be October 25, 2018 (instead of October 24, 2018)
- The Family Data Conference Day will now be October 26, 2018 (instead of November 6, 2018 - Election Day)
- There will be no school for students AND teachers on Election Day (instead of just no school for students)

BACKGROUND: Two days after the CCSD BOT voted to approve Option 2 for the 2018-19 Academic Calendar, the District received a memo from the State Department of Education regarding a state statute requiring schools to be closed on general election dates. The statute prohibits that day from being considered a "regular school day." (S.C. Code § 59-1- 370) An Attorney General's opinion also prohibits using Election Day for a staff professional development day.

The District contacted the State Attorney General's Office and confirmed that the Attorney General's opinion from 1984 prohibits teachers from conducting Family Data Conferences on this day (as originally planned). So, the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar has been amended to separate the Family Data Conference Day and Election Day.

The District Teachers of the Year Roundtable Leadership Group supported the changes made to the approved 2018-2019 Academic Calendar.