

April 11, 2017

Dear Parents,

School Year Calendar 2017-18

The Board recently approved a minor amendment to School Year Calendar 2017-18. The October Professional Development days changed from Friday 20th and Monday 23rd, to Friday 27th and Monday 30th, just one week later in order to accommodate our staff's participation in the Biennial Conference of the Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools. Regrettably, the date selected by the host school is one week later than we had anticipated. The amended calendar is posted on the school's website at http://calgarygirlsschool.com/upload_docs/calendars/2017-2018-school-calendar.pdf

This is a good opportunity to summarize some key points regarding School Year Calendar 2017-18:

- CGS winter break is December 23 – January 7 inclusive. The last day of classes for students and staff is December 22 with return on January 8.
- CGS spring break is always the last week of March which is the midpoint of the second semester. The break is from March 24 (staff and students) - April 3 inclusive (for students). The last day for staff and students is March 23. Staff return April 2 whereas students return April 3.

For comparison purposes:

- CBE's winter break is December 22 – January 7 inclusive. The last day of classes for students is December 21 (staff attend Dec. 22) with classes resuming January 8.
- CBE's spring break is March 23 to April 3. Last day of classes is March 22 for students and March 23 for staff. Both staff and students return April 3. Find the Calgary Board of Education calendar 2017-18 at: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/calendars/Documents/2017-2018-Traditional-Calendar.pdf>
- CCSD's winter break from December 22 – January 8.
- CCSD's Easter break is March 30 – April 8 inclusive. As a faith-based system their break configures around the religious holiday. Find the Calgary Catholic School District's School Year 2017-18 at: <https://www.cssd.ab.ca/Calendars/Documents/Future Traditional.pdf>

We realize that our families with children in other school jurisdictions desire aligned calendars. We make every effort to do so. You will note that CBE, CCSD and CGS have closely aligned winter breaks. The spring breaks for CBE and CGS also closely align, but CCSD prefers its break at Easter rather than the end of March. Obviously, when the two largest boards don't align calendars, CGS must choose between them.

I also want you to be aware that School Year Calendar 2018-19 (DRAFT) will soon be presented at School Council and posted to the CGS website for parental feedback.

Thank you for your attention to the calendar change for 2017-18 and please watch for the feedback opportunities on the upcoming School Year Calendar 2018-19.

Regards,



Dianne McBeth
Superintendent