

the latter two years, 2005-06 and 2006-07, the timing of the winter holidays is such that if a full two-week break is given, the number of instructional days in January is reduced.

The three calendar options were presented and discussed with various district stakeholders - Administrators, the Federation of Teachers, and parents/families. The Parents/families were strongly encouraged to participate in the feedback sessions through the NEAT leadership's e-mail list, the Volunteers Coordinators Network, and on three occasions communicated to the Partnership Schools Network Key Contacts. District administration also received and reviewed parent information by phone and e-mail. All three groups opposed Option C.

After meeting with stakeholders, the Calendar Committee's recommendation to the Superintendent was a combination of Options A and B as follows:

The recommendation for 2004-05 is to use a roll-over calendar that is similar to the 2003-04 school-year calendar (Option A), and; the recommendation for 2005-06-07 is a calendar that shortens the two-week break at winter, increases instructional days in January, and allows school to end by the first or second Friday in June (Option B).

Discussion followed. A parent, Mike Schumann, discussed his concerns that this year's calendar process in particular, parental input fell short. Dr. Harvey and Ms. Pekel reiterated the importance of parental involvement in this process.

Committee members discussed the three calendar options and the following motion was made:

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Brodrick and seconded by Mr. Conlon that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education approve: 1). Adoption of Option A School Calendar for school year 2004-05, and; 2). Gain additional information from administrative staff in the form of a narrative explanation on school year 2005-06 and school year 2006-07 for approval by the end of the school year.

Motion Passed 6 to 1

Ms. Carroll voted against the motion.

2. Policy Governance

Ms. Carroll presented an update on the Policy Development Subcommittee's meeting and talked about the Charge to develop a draft Vision Statement. A request was made to make this an agenda item for the April 13th Committee of the Board Meeting.

Ms. Street-Stewart stated the Monitoring Committee has scheduled two future meetings, and after these meeting she will provide an update at a Committee of the Board meeting.

Ms. Carter reminded committee members of the April 6th Board Retreat to complete the agenda started at the last retreat regarding scenarios under Policy Governance. Ms. Carter and Ms. Street-Stewart will talk to Michael Patton on April 29th or 30th to add the following items to the agenda: 1). Inter-Board Communications, and; 2). Board Staff Communications.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. by Ms. Street-Stewart, Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted by
Diana J. Sanders
Recorder
Saint Paul Board of Education