Arlington Public Schools

EVERY STUDENT COUNTS
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

APS Strategic Plan
2024-30



Proposed Revisions to the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

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March 26, 2026

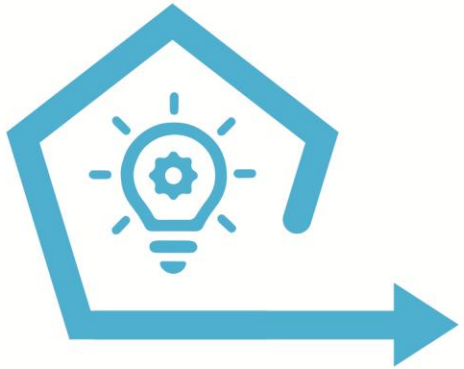
Proposed Revisions to the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

Proposed Calendar Revision:

Adjustment to the 2025–2026 School Calendar to reassign a Professional Learning Day in response to the statewide Constitutional Amendment special election scheduled for April 21, 2026.



Proposed Revisions to the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar



Operational Excellence

Background/Rationale for why Revision is Being Proposed:

- A statewide Constitutional Amendment special election will take place on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, with high voter turnout anticipated across the Commonwealth.
- A significant number of APS schools will serve as polling locations, requiring public access to school facilities during the instructional day.
- This level of access would disrupt normal school operations and limit APS's ability to maintain a secure learning environment for students and staff.
- Reassigning this day supports:
  - Maintaining safety and security for students and staff
  - Avoiding operational disruptions (e.g., restricted access to cafeterias, gyms, parking areas)
  - Ensuring facilities are fully accessible and prepared for voters
- This adjustment ensures operational continuity while maintaining compliance with all instructional requirements.

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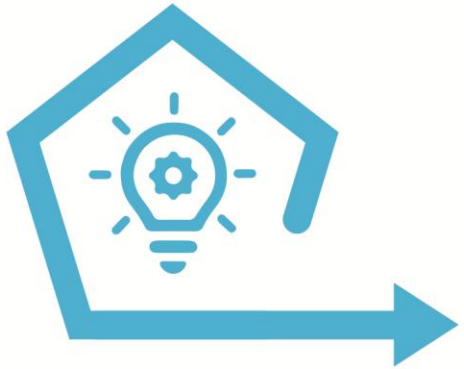

Operational Excellence

- Instructional Staff (T, P, and A-Scale, Including Hourly SPED Assistants) will complete Special Education compliance training required by HB1089/SB220.
  - VDOE requirement to strengthen understanding of special education responsibilities, inclusive practices, and legal expectations.
  - Allowing partial completion of the training to be completed by SY 2027-28
  - Staff will engage in full-day online and on-demand compliance training.
    - 3-part module series focused on specially designed instruction.
    - 8-part module series focused on referral, evaluation, revaluation and eligibility as well as VDOE guidance for special education teachers.

- The Office of Professional Learning will coordinate next steps, including:
  - Communicating expectations and timelines to staff and principals
  - Providing access to required VDOE training through Frontline
  - Establishing systems to track completion and compliance records
  - Communicating additional professional learning opportunities for other scales

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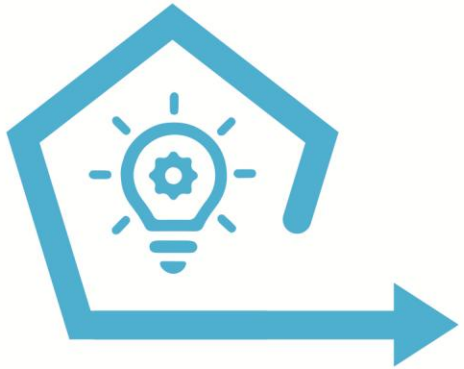

Operational Excellence

	Current Calendar Date	Proposed Revisions
April 21, 2026	Regular School Day	Non School Day for Students Staff Professional Learning Day

Even with this adjustment and the use of inclement weather days, APS remains in compliance with and exceeds VDOE minimum instructional hour requirements by 27.9 hours (4.6 days).

Total number of instructional days given proposed revisions:

- Elementary Instructional Days: 178
- Middle School Instructional Days: 178
- High School Instructional Days: 179

Proposed Revisions to the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

Operational Excellence

April-2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 Spring Break	2 Spring Break	3 Spring Break	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 GP	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 (PL)	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Apr. 1-3 - Spring Break

Apr. 13 - GP - No School

Apr. 21 - Professional Learning Day - No School for Students

Apr. 22 - Full Instructional day ES/MS - Early Release for HS

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QUESTIONS