

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
2019-2020 Instructional Calendar Parameters

Factors	Considerations
Top Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructional calendar is based on what is instructionally best for students. The instructional calendar contains elements that best support instruction and academic achievement, and then takes into account parent and staff considerations and preferences. The instructional calendar minimizes the number of partial weeks (weeks with less than 5 instructional days) to ensure instructional continuity and to maximize attendance.
State Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start Date: State law does not allow a school district to begin before the fourth Monday in August. No waiver provisions exist. Number of School Days: State law requires 75,600 minutes; however, districts may not waive more than 4,200 minutes for the purpose of professional development. Number of Teacher Days: State law requires 187 days for teachers. Inclement Weather Days: State law requires the inclusion of two inclement weather days in the calendar. (CFISD administration recommended 2 such days designated on the calendar.)
Semesters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balancing of Semesters: The number of days in each semester should be as close in number to each other as possible. This consideration is important for single semester courses. However, the second semester may be longer as all major tests, STAAR/EOC, Advanced Placement, etc., are administered in the spring. First Semester Exams: The timing of exams (before or after winter break) impacts one semester courses, dual credit courses, graduation and college start for December graduates, and grade reporting and transcripts submission for college applications. University Summer School: The start of University summer school sessions is a factor for graduating seniors and teachers who wish to take summer courses. College course work typically begins the first Monday in June.
Professional Development Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timing of Professional Development and Work Days: Professional development days were strategically placed in order to maximize positive impact on instruction, align with the state testing schedule, and spread throughout the school year. Time Equivalent (TE) Days: Teachers may earn time equivalency for certain professional development days by attending training during the summer months or on Saturdays during the school year. Campus TE days are monitored by campus leaders; district TE days are monitored by district curriculum coordinators.
Testing Schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testing Days: The calendar design takes into account state STAAR/EOC test days and any others (Advanced Placement test days). Student holidays are not scheduled during testing weeks.
Holidays - Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holidays: The calendar design takes into account national holidays. The calendar design also takes into consideration winter, spring and summer breaks from surrounding school districts.
Surrounding District Calendars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination of Surrounding District Calendars: Other surrounding school districts' calendars were reviewed for information, examples, and new or different options. CFISD participates in the multi-district school calendar meetings hosted by Region IV.
Student Attendance Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination of Student Attendance Data: Student data was examined to establish patterns that may impact the calendar. Attendance near holidays is closely monitored. The number of partial weeks is minimized in an effort to maximize attendance.
Summer Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Programs: Consideration was given to the timing of summer programs.