NAYRE

Sam Pepper
Past Executive Director

National Association for Year-Round Education
Terminology
Calendar Reform Terms

- Balanced calendar
- Modified school calendar
- Alternative school calendar
- Continuous education schedule
- Four-vacation plan
- Custom calendar
- Community school schedule
- Year-Round Calendar
Three strands of YR Calendars:

- Single-track
- Multiple-track (multi-track)
- Extended year
Educational Values Of Balancing the Calendar

- Continuous Instruction and Learning
- Less Learning Loss
- Quicker Intervention
- Higher Attendance Rates for Students
- Fewer Teacher Substitute Days
- Lower Drop-Out Rates
- Reduced Vandalism
The Effects of Summer Vacation on Achievement Test Scores: A Narrative and Meta-Analytic Review

Harris Cooper, Barbara Nye, Kelly Charlton, James Lindsay, Scott Greathouse

Fall 1996
Study Findings

◆ At Best: Students show little or no academic growth over summer. At worst: Students lose one to three months of learning
◆ Summer Loss: Greater in Math than Reading
◆ Summer Loss: Greatest in Math computation and spelling
◆ Summer vacation increases disparities between advantaged and disadvantaged students reading scores
◆ The detrimental effect of summer vacation increases as grade level increases
◆ No particular differences because of gender or race
Study Conclusions

Options for policymakers:

◆ We can accept the detrimental effects of summer vacation
◆ We can increase the summer school opportunities and direct these efforts in the most beneficial manner
◆ **We can examine alternative school calendars**
Summer Learning Loss

The Effects of Modified School Calendars on Student Achievement and on School and Community Attitudes

Harris Cooper, Jeffrey Valentine, Kelly Charlton and April Melson

Spring 2003
“On average, children’s achievement test scores were at least one-month lower when they returned to school in fall than they had been when the children left school in spring.”

Harris Cooper et al
Review of Educational Research
Spring, 2003
“Modified calendars were associated with higher achievement for economically disadvantaged students”

Harris Cooper et al
Review of Educational Research
Spring, 2003
“Students, parents and staff who participated in modified calendar programs were positive about their experiences.”

Harris Cooper et al
Review of Educational Research
Spring, 2003
Getting Smarter, Becoming Fairer
A Progressive Education Agenda for a Stronger Nation

Renewing Our Schools, Securing Our Future
A National Task Force on Public Education

A Joint Initiative of the Center for American Progress and the Institute for America’s Future

August 2005

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“The convention of requiring students to attend (school) for 9 or 10 months and then take a long vacation is counterproductive to long-term learning.”
Getting Smarter, Becoming Fairer

“The summer learning loss is greatest among low-income children, who often lack the enriching out-of-school opportunities available to their more affluent peers.”
“If students in continually low-performing school districts are to have a chance at catching up and meeting standards, they will need much more time engaged in learning activities.”
“Today’s publicly supported learning time was designed to respond to the needs of students and their families – the students and families of the 19th century.”
Prisoners of Time

Too Much to Teach
Not Enough Time to Teach It

Original Report by
The National Education Commission on Time and Learning

Expanded and updated for 2006 by Crystal Springs Books and Staff Development for Educators

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“Our usage of time virtually assures the failure of many students.”
“Unyielding and relentless, the time available in a uniform six-hour day and a 180-day year is the unacknowledged design flaw in American Education.”
“(There) is the pretense that because yesterday’s calendar was good enough for us, it should be good enough for our children – despite major changes in the larger society.”
“The idea, still having two months off, is ridiculous in this country. If you’re going to compete with India and China, they’re going to school six days a week and they don’t take the summer off.”
Calendars
45-15 Balanced Calendar

- 45 Days Quarter 1
- 45 Days Quarter 2
- 45 Days Quarter 3
- 45 Days Quarter 4
- 15 Days Intersession
- 15 Days Intersession
- 15 Days Holiday Break
- 30 Days Summer Break
60-20 Balanced Calendar
60-15 Balanced Calendar

- 30 Days Summer Break
- 60 Days Trimester 1
- 15 Days Intersession
- 30 Days Trimester 2 (continued)
- 30 Days Trimester 2
- 15 Days Intersession
- 10 Days Holiday Break
- 60 Days Trimester 3

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Costs of Calendar Reform

- **Single Track**: Comparable to traditional calendar
- **Multi-Track**: Operational and capital savings
- **Extended Year**: More expensive
Options for Overcrowding

- Bond Issues
- Double Sessions
- Extended Day
- Redrawing boundaries
- Portables
- Multi-Track YRE
Multi-Track Advantages

- Increases capacity 33% immediately (4-Tracks)
- Provides both capital and operating savings
- Allows day-time instructional hours to be maintained
- High attendance rates for students
- Does not strain school’s core facilities
- Fewer teacher substitute days
- Maximum use of facility for 12 months
Savings

- Capital outlay
- Operating costs for administrative and support staff (full-year contract vs. hiring additional staff)
- Utility Costs – adding two months vs. nine months year at a new school.
- Economies of scale
- Reduced absenteeism -- staff and students
- Salaried administrators in charge of summer school
- Reductions in numbers of textbooks and desks
- Reduced lease costs -- portables