

Proposed Instructional Calendar for 2022-2023

Los Angeles Unified is pleased to announce that we have released the <u>school calendar</u> for the next school year. It will be voted on by the Board of Education on Tuesday, April 26.

This calendar will have significant positive impact. Our school community is still feeling the effects of the pandemic, and some of our students have lost important ground in terms of their academic performance. Doing nothing about it is unacceptable. It is neither acceptable to the Superintendent nor the Board of Education. It is not acceptable to any of us. We must leverage resources that we know will help address these impacts and answer our community's call for help.

For our students, we have added four additional days for optional, but targeted, accelerated academic opportunities, spread out throughout the year, which will provide ways for them to engage in programming and opportunities to catch up. These optional student acceleration days will occur on the following Wednesdays: October 19, December 7, 2022, March 15 and April 19, 2023.

For our employees, we have added three days of professional development for C-basis certificated and classified staff. These optional days will occur on August 9, 10, 11, 2022.

In light of the dramatic conditions we've all lived through, now is the appropriate time for this investment, which supports and uplifts our students toward their full academic potential.

<u>Frequently Asked Questions & Answers on Proposed Instructional Calendar for</u> 2022-2023

What are the benefits of an extended school calendar?

Studies show that an extended school year, coupled with focused, targeted, innovative and engaging instruction as well as emotional support, yield greater student academic results.

Does an extended school calendar require students to be in school for more calendar days? Under California state law, students are required to attend 180 days of school – just as in prior school years. The four optional student acceleration days are being offered to supplement the required days and provide additional learning opportunities for students at important points in the year.

Are all students eligible for the optional student acceleration days?

Yes, the four optional student acceleration days are available to all students across Los Angeles Unified.



What does "optional student acceleration days" mean?

While this support is available to all students, this additional dose of instruction will also help students who may need extra support to meet grade-level standards and/or the C-or-better goal. These days are part of our efforts to close achievement and learning gaps. Beyond the Bell programs will also be available in all elementary and middle schools to provide academic support, recreational activities, and enrichment until 6 p.m. on these optional student acceleration days.

With a teacher shortage, how can I be assured that my child will have a teacher during the optional student acceleration days?

The opportunity to provide supplemental instruction will be available to all classroom teachers, substitute teachers and out-of-classroom certificated personnel.

Will meals be served to students during the optional student acceleration days? Yes, meals will be provided – breakfast, lunch and supper.

As a parent, who can I speak to about the four optional student acceleration days? Next school year, your child's teacher and the school principal would be the first line of communication.

What is a Pupil-Free Day?

As in years past, there are two pupil-free days in the 2022-23 proposed calendar, for educators only, one in each semester.

What options will my child have?

While available to all students upon request by the parent/legal guardian/educational rights holder (parent), the invitation to participate in the instructional programs on the optional student acceleration days will be on an as-needed basis. Students who need additional assistance in order to meet grade-level standards (elementary) or course requirements with a "C" or better or a passing grade (secondary) will be invited to participate. Participation in a student acceleration day will vary by the need demonstrated by student grades, district and state test scores, teacher input, and other factors.

Will Beyond the Bell be open?

Yes. Beyond the Bell and our Partner Providers will be providing expanded learning enrichment opportunities from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the optional student acceleration days. Students attending additional learning opportunities during a student acceleration day may attend an after school program for the rest of the day.

What does the extended school calendar mean for teachers?

Teachers will continue to have 182 required work days, as in prior years (180 instructional days + 2 pupil free days). The three optional professional development days and the four optional acceleration



days will provide teachers and other C-basis staff with the opportunity to receive additional compensation (at their hourly rates) to participate in professional learning and to provide additional services to students in need of assistance.

What is a Professional Development Day?

New to this proposed calendar, there are three optional professional development (PD) days on August 9, 10, and 11. In prior years, these additional professional development days may have been funded and provided by individual schools. For 2022-2023, Los Angeles Unified is providing funding so that all C-basis employees (e.g. teachers, instructional support providers, counselors) at all schools have the opportunity to engage in these professional learning opportunities.

The following are sample activities that could be offered at an elementary school during a student acceleration day:

- Intensive support with literacy and math skills.
- Small-group instruction and individualized support.
- Parent-teacher meetings to support student success.
- Family events that offer support to families for at-home activities to support learning.

The following are sample activities that could be offered at a middle school or high school during a Student Acceleration Day:

- Families and students are invited to meet with counselors to understand what work needs to be made up or resubmitted in order to demonstrate mastery, increase proficiency and improve academic marks.
- Students can work on making up missing assignments.
- Students can sign up for tutoring for the next 4-6 week cycle and learn how to use some of the digital tools in a mini-course.
- Mini-lessons taught in classes for specific concepts.
- Students take a mini-course on AVID-type study skills.