

Kimberly School District #414
REGULAR BOARD MEETING FY26
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025
11-1 - 2026-27 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Per the last meeting, the Board tabled discussion on the 2026–2027 school calendar. Following discussion with the leadership team, the vast majority of administrators recommend maintaining the current calendar structure—finishing the school year prior to Memorial Day, a one-week Thanksgiving break, a two-week winter break, and a one-week spring break. Next year would begin September 8 and finish the week of June 14 with the late start recommendation.

The current calendar was developed based on the Calendar Committee’s shared belief that instructional time after Memorial Day is not very effective. Ending earlier in the spring allows schools to avoid the unfocused weeks when student motivation typically dips.

Key reasons for maintaining the current schedule include:

- Instructional time after Memorial Day is less effective; ending before Memorial Day avoids the unfocused weeks late in the school year.
- Current schedule provides consistency for students, families, and staff.
- Academic outcomes are stronger when the year ends before June.
- Summer school needs to conclude prior to July 4, and students do not typically return afterward.
- Ending in May avoids conflicts with June activities, including FFA contests, sports camps, and athletic competitions.
- Alignment with surrounding districts supports athletics, registration for college courses, and IDLA participation.
- Early end of the school year supports student summer employment opportunities and family vacations.
- Provides adequate instructional time for student assessment preparation, including Fall IRI for K–3 students, and gives teachers additional weeks to support students for the PSAT, ISAT, and SAT.