



Board of Education Informational Report

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 14, 2018

To: Board of Directors

From: Antonio Lopez, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Year-Round School for Rosa Parks

Background:

In the 2014-15 school year, Rosa Parks began a pilot using a year-round calendar. The pilot was intended to examine the outcomes of a year-round calendar on student achievement. The year-round calendar implemented was a 45-15 calendar that starts in mid-to-late July with 9 weeks on and 3 weeks off and concludes in June with the rest of the district calendar. The school provides an intervention week for one of the three weeks of the three intercessions, which occur three times per year.

Engagement and Evaluation

The System Planning and Performance Department conducted an Evaluation of the calendar, using both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. This Evaluation occurred during 2015-16 and the 2016-17 school years. Evaluators collected feedback from teachers, families, students and community partners. Additionally, evaluators reviewed student outcomes such as attendance and test scores and conducted cohort analyses using the available data. While Rosa Parks has shown some improvements in student achievement, it is inconclusive whether those gains are due to the year-round calendar, or due to the lack of comparable baseline data. The results of the qualitative and quantitative analyses are attached.

During December and January of the current school year, follow-up meetings were held with staff, families and stakeholders to provide another opportunity to share their perspectives about the outcomes of the year-round calendar. Many staff and parents advocated for keeping the year-round calendar. An often-cited reason was the belief that the continuous school-year supported students' learning better than the traditional calendar. Limited childcare resources was brought up as a consistent challenge from parent groups, and staff noted that they felt the district was not responsive to the unique needs of a year-round calendar school.

Recommendation:

It is our recommendation to allow Rosa Parks Elementary School to continue with the year-round calendar for the 2018-2019 school year providing more time to prepare parents, teachers and stakeholders to make a smooth transition to a traditional calendar for the 2019-2020 school-year. Office of School Performance will work with the building principal to develop

a plan and timeline to share with the Board in the Fall of 2018-2019 school year for this transition to take place for the school year 2019-2020.