



Larry B. Hammond, Superintendent
Board Report
November 19, 2019

NTI days have been a point of consideration and discussion within the District for at least 3 years and are worthy of further dialogue. Their origin dates back to the 2014 Regular Session of the General Assembly when the previous pilot program was made available to all requesting districts that qualified and were approved by KDE. From the beginning of the program, I have felt strongly their usage should be minimized. I also believe we would all agree the instruction that takes place on these days are far lacking in comparison to the days in a classroom with a teacher. However, many variables should be considered before discarding the NTI option as an insurance policy in the event a school year has an enormous amount of days where student attendance would be deemed unsafe.

Many times the days are linked directly to the calendar but their consideration and approval or disapproval actually occurs later in the school year (spring). With that said, we must thoroughly examine relevant issues when developing the school calendar. The 11 member calendar committee that is prescribed by KRS 158.070 and most often led by the Director of Pupil Personnel considers the days missed in recent years, the starting date for the CCATC, temperatures in August and June, research on student attendance and the impact on learning, timing of breaks for both students and families, local events, coordination issues between district schools, athletics, attendance rates at various times throughout the year, professional development plans and opportunities, staffing/filling vacancies, Holidays, whether to go 175 days or consider the variable student instructional year, input from the CIA Officer with the ultimate goal of producing the BEST opportunities and results for students. The attempt is to allow input from all stakeholders while emphasizing the final decision lies with the BOE. Although the calendar belongs to the BOE we profit from full transparency with staff and community. As we proceed with both the calendar and NTI days, our willingness to evaluate every issue possible will result in a calendar and NTI plans that best meet the needs of our students with results in mind.