



## **ACSC to Continue with a Balanced Calendar**

The Avon Community School Corporation Board recently adopted the Balanced Calendar for 2014-15. This continues a schedule that has been well received by parents, staff and the community.

ACSC recently evaluated the first year of this calendar. More than 1,700 people participated in a survey which revealed that 79% of the respondents indicated they would like to continue operating on a balanced calendar. Eighty-eight percent of teachers/staff also agreed that the balanced calendar should remain in place.

Since the Balanced Calendar has been implemented, it is clear that extended vacations at key times of the year have contributed to better attendance for staff and with fewer prearranged absences for students.

In addition, teaching faculty decreased the number of leave days used by 12%, or approximately 318 days, through the first 135 days of the 2012-13 school year. This is a \$25,000 savings in sub costs as it decreased the amount of time that substitute teachers were needed, thus increasing consistent student interaction with the regular teacher.

In March, ACSC offered an enrichment camp during spring break. It was remarkably successful with more than 200 campers participating. This competitively priced program gave students the chance to explore science, art, music and technology with teachers who are passionate about the topics. We anticipate offering another camp during the fall and spring breaks in the 2013-14 school year. With more time to plan we can provide more opportunities for students and notice for parents.

The Balanced Calendar provides a restful break after a rigorous nine weeks of class for both students and staff. We will continue to monitor the effects of the calendar and seek input from our students, parents, staff and the community we serve.

As always, feel free to email me at [mehoernemann@avon-schools.org](mailto:mehoernemann@avon-schools.org).

Sincerely,

Margaret Hoernemann  
Superintendent