

To: Board of Education

From: Dr. Williamson

Re: Proposed School Calendar for 2015-2016

Date: April 1, 2014

Following a lengthy process to solicit input from the staff, administration, GEA and local feeder districts, I am submitting the attached 2015-2016 school calendar for consideration by the Board of Education. The proposed calendar has the following highlights.

1. Start of School - Teachers will report to work on Thursday, August 20, while students will report for their first day on Monday, August 24.
2. Rosh Hashanah is on Monday, September 14 and Yom Kippur is on Wednesday, September 23.
3. Columbus Day will be reinstated as a legal holiday on Monday, October 12. The staff was in strong support of this action while having no desire to go back to having a student attendance day on Wednesday, November 25, which is the day before Thanksgiving.
4. The winter break begins at the close of school on Friday, December 18 with school reopening on Monday, January 4.
5. Two emergency days have been placed within the school calendar on Friday, January 15 and Monday, April 4.
6. Good Friday is on Friday, March 25 and is the beginning of spring break. School will be back in session on Tuesday, April 5.
7. Graduation day is Sunday, June 5.
8. The last day of school for students is Thursday, June 9 and the last day for teachers is Friday, June 10.



# School Calendar Preparation

For planning purposes and as a service to our students, staff, and school community, Glenbrook High School District 225 develops its school calendar two years in advance. District 225 works collaboratively with all township feeder districts (27, 28, 30, 31, and 34) to coordinate winter and spring breaks. The beginning and ending dates for the school year, as well as holidays and professional development days, are likely to vary for each district. The following factors are considered in developing the final calendar:

- The school year provides for 178 student attendance days and 5 additional staff attendance days, for a total of 183 days.
- Ten emergency days are scheduled as part of the calendar to compensate for emergency closings. These days will be canceled if they are not needed.
- School begins near the end of August to correspond with the beginning of athletic practices and contests for high school students.
- For academic purposes, efforts are made to schedule an equal number of days for each grading period and semester.
- Three Glenbrook Days for faculty work and professional development are scheduled for the school year. Two of these are scheduled in August, immediately prior to when the students are scheduled to start school. The third Glenbrook Day occurs in June and is the last day of attendance by teachers.
- A maximum of eight granted holidays are marked with an “X” and typically they include: Day after Thanksgiving, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Christmas Eve, New Year’s Eve, and Good Friday.
- Legal holidays are marked on the calendar with a “X” if they fall during the week. They include: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King’s Birthday\*, Lincoln’s Birthday\*, Casimir Pulaski Day\*, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day\*, Veteran’s Day\*, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

\*The Board held a public hearing and took official action approving legal school holiday modifications for the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (third Monday in January), the birthday of President Abraham Lincoln (February 12), the birthday of Casimir Pulaski (first Monday in March), Columbus Day (second Monday in October), and Veterans’ Day (November 11). Although traditionally only Lincoln’s Birthday, Pulaski Day and Columbus Day are modified for use as a student attendance day or District Institute Day, approving modifications to all legal school holidays allows for greater flexibility.

- Winter break will typically include two full weeks and three weekends to accommodate travel and vacation plans for our students and families.
- Spring break will generally be one week and is consistently scheduled during the last week in March, so as not to conflict with school board elections in April.
- Graduation Day for seniors is typically scheduled to occur on the Sunday before the last week of school for non-seniors.
- All calendars are available on the district and school websites.