

Paterson Chatter



"Happiness is learning"

John Paterson School
120 Church Street
Newington, CT 06111
Michael S. Gaydos, Principal

May/June 2014

Dear Families:

In my opening letter back in September, I expressed my gratitude to the Paterson Community for the warm welcome I received as we opened. I would again like to say "thank you" for ALL of the support I received throughout the course of this year. It truly is an honor and a privilege to be a part of the Paterson Family. I would like to thank all of our parents, students, and staff for an OUTSTANDING school year. We have accomplished a great deal together this year, and I look forward to continuing our amazing work well into the future!

Over the past week we have welcomed the newest members of the Paterson Family during our annual Kindergarten Visitations & Orientation. As a continued part of our orientation, this edition will also be sent to our incoming families. Please join me in welcoming our incoming Kindergarten class (Class of 2027!) and their families to John Paterson!

As you can see by the following pages in this edition of "*The Paterson Chatter*", the end of our academic year is packed full of wonderful learning experiences for our children including various performances, field trips, grade-level events, field days, and school-wide celebrations. In addition to all of this, our staff will spend a significant amount of time reflecting on this year and begin the work of planning for next year. We will continue to analyze the performance data of our students as well as our progress towards our school goals. This information will help guide our decisions as we continue to grow and move forward as we prepare for the 2014-2015 school year.

To assist with your future planning, I would like to share with you the 2014-2015 school calendar (last page of the *Chatter*). This calendar can also be found on our School District's website – www.npsct.org - under "Calendars". Please take some time to review the calendar and make note of our new Early Dismissal time of 1:55 p.m.

Finally, I would like to share with you that Mrs. Bontempo (Grade 2), Mrs. Elston (Library Media Specialist), and Mrs. Lasker (Reading Consultant) have decided to retire at the end of this school year. Their talents, service, and dedication to our students, John Paterson, and The Newington Public Schools will truly be missed. As our year begins to come to a close, I know you will join me in celebrating their great careers and providing them well-wishes for them in retirement.

Thank you again for an outstanding school year and, as always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mike Gaydos

Paterson Staff

Mr., Michael Gaydos, Principal
Mrs. Paula Bowman, Secretary
Mrs. Gina Prange, Administrative Clerk
Mrs. Lilian Klinger, Early Childhood
Mrs. Nicole Emshwiller, Kindergarten
Mrs. Catherine Flint, Kindergarten
Mrs. Jill Hinton, Kindergarten
Mrs. Jodi Klimas, Kindergarten
Miss Alison Matwieczuk, Grade 1
Mrs. Patricia Olson, Grade 1
Mrs. Stephani Sanzo, Grade 1
Miss Lindsay Webster, Grade 1
Mrs. Marilee Bontempo, Grade 2
Mrs. Susan D' Alessandro, Grade 2
Miss Andrea Obert, Grade 2
Mrs. Christine Senatro, Grade 2
Mrs. Norine Brown, Grade 3
Ms. Julie Fischer, Grade 3
Mrs. Beth Lucas, Grade 3
Ms. Katherine Griswold, Grade 3
Mrs. Nicole Partyka, Grade 3
Mrs. Marsha Carson, Grade 4
Mr. Jason Koski, Grade 4
Mrs. Rebecca Tibball, Grade 4
Mr. John Wozniak, Grade 4
Ms. Alexandra Campagnano, Spec. Ed. Admin.
Miss Marina Jones, Special Education
Mrs. Diane Loura-Krol, Special Education
Mrs. Stacey Michaud, Special Education
Ms. Ashley Cooke, Literacy Intern
Mrs. Michelle Burba, School Psychologist
Ms. Marissa Murphy, Social Worker
Mrs. Rebecca Moran, Speech/Lang. Pathologist
Mrs. Tynne Kelly, Speech/Lang. Pathologist
Ms. Nancy Hebert, Occupational Therapist
Ms. Ann Bouchard, COTA
Mrs. Joyce Schwalenberg, Physical Therapist
Mrs. Kim Luiz, Gifted Teacher
Mrs. Marisa Stark, ELL Teacher
Mrs. Theresa Rangel, Instructional Coach
Mrs. Betty Lasker, Reading Consultant
Mrs. Karen DiFrancesca, Reading Teacher
Mrs. Denise MacDonald, Reading Teacher
Ms. Angela Carcio, Learning Tutor
Miss Julie Francolino, Learning Tutor
Mrs. Gail Pellegatto, Learning Tutor
Ms. Louise Stamat, Art
Mrs. Melissa Gajda, Art
Mr. Stephen Bennett, Wellness Education
Mr. Matthew Rossi, Wellness Education
Mr. Paul Kemp, Music
Mrs. Mary Polezoni, Music
Ms. Terri Buganski, Technology
Ms. Gail Elston, Media Specialist
Mrs. Rosemary Breen, School Nurse
Mrs. Diane Chaniewski, Spec. Ed. Learning Tutor
Mrs. Jennifer Corriveau, Spec. Ed. Learning Tutor
Ms. Nicole Gallo, ASIST Tutor
Mrs. Lisa Abrams, Tutor
Ms. Elaine Gaudette, Tutor
Miss Ashley Hyatt, Tutor
Mrs. Kathy Jeffers, Tutor
Mrs. Susan Kosnoff, Tutor
Ms. Suzi Klatt, Tutor
Ms. Kelsey Leghorn, Tutor
Mrs. Rosemary Poitras, Tutor
Mrs. Terry Sharp, Tutor
Mr. Aaron Thompson, Tutor
Mr. Mark Joseph, Lead Custodian
Mrs. Sue Dubois, Custodian
Mr. Ben Pollard, Custodian
Mr. Robert Tipton, Custodian
Mrs. June Ryan Cafeteria Aide
Mrs. Naomi Saccavino, Cafeteria Aide
Mrs. Tammy Voorhies, Cafeteria Aide
Mrs. Stefani Fairbank, Volunteer Coordinator

John Paterson Calendar of Events

Apr. 28 – May 2	Kindergarten Orientation Week	
May 2	Smilemobile Visits First Grade Classes	
May 2	John Wallace Show Choir Concert at John Paterson	2:10 pm
May 5	John Wallace Grade 4 Student Orientation at JWMS	9:00 am
May 5	John Wallace Grade 4 Parent Orientation at JWMS	7:00 pm
May 6	Mrs. Bontempo & Mrs. Senatro's Classes Visit Stew Leonard's	10:00 am – 11:00 am
May 6	PTO Meeting	7:00 pm
May 7	Teacher and Tutor Appreciation Day	
May 7	Mrs. D'Alessandro & Ms. Obert's Classes Visit Stew Leonard's	10:00 am – 11:00 am
May 7	Student Council Meeting	2:30 pm
May 8	Mrs. Partyka & Mrs. Brown's Classes to the State Capitol	8:45 am – 11:00 am
May 9	Debra Frasier Author Visit	
May 13	Grade 1 to the Lincoln Theater	9:00 am – 11:30 am
May 13	Spring Concert	1:45 pm & 7:00 pm
May 14	School Nurses' Day	9:00 am
May 14	School Family Meetings	9:00 am
May 14	Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
May 15	Mrs. Griswold's Classes to the State Capitol	8:45 am – 11:00 am
May 21	Bus Evacuation Practice	
May 21	Lucy Robbins Welles Library Nutmeg Book Talk for Third and Fourth Grade	2:30 pm – 3:10 pm
May 22	Ms. Fischer & Mrs. Lucas to the State Capitol	8:45 am – 11:00 am
May 22	Grade 4 to the Science Center	9:00 am – 2:00 pm
May 22	PTO Science Presentation – Bubblemania	6:30 pm
May 23	Crazy Hair Day	
May 26	Memorial Day – No School/Office Closed	No School/Office Closed
May 27	Professional Development	No School/Office Open
May 28	School Wide Student Council Fundraiser Kick Off Assembly	9:00 am
May 29	Celebration of Learning Awards Ceremony	9:30 am
May 29	Mrs. D'Alessandro & Ms. Obert's Classes to Roaring Brook	10:00 am – 1:00 pm
May 30	Field Day – Grade 3&4	9:00 am – 11:00 am
June 2	Field Day Rain Date – Grades 3&4	9:00 am – 11:30 am
June 3	LRWL Staff Visit Classrooms to Present Summer Reading Program	
June 3	Mrs. Bontempo & Mrs. Senatro's Classes to Roaring Brook	10:00 am – 1:00 pm
June 3	PTO Meeting	7:00 pm
June 4	Staff Meeting	8:00 am
June 4	Mrs. Carson and Mrs. Tibball's classes to Indian Rock Nature Preserve	9:00 am – 1:30 pm
June 5	Grades K, 1 & 2 Field Day	
June 5	Mr. Koski and Mr. Wozniak's Classes to Indian Rock Nature Preserve	9:00 am – 1:30 pm
June 5	Student Council Meeting	2:30 pm

June 6	Grade 4 Picnic – Mill Pond	9:00 am – 1:30 pm
June 6	Grade K, 1 & 2 Field Day – Rain Date	
June 6	PTO School Family Picnic	5:30 pm
June 10	Student Council Face Painting Day	
June 13	Flag Day Ceremony	9:10 am
June 16	School Wide Meeting with Slide Show	9:00 am
June 17	Scheduled Last Day of School	1:35 pm dismissal

Instructional Coach's Corner

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for important information about Camp Invention which will be held from July 7th – July 11th at John Paterson School.

Thank you,
Mrs. Theresa Rangel, Instructional Coach

Student Services

The Special Education teachers have implemented an incentive program involving home reading. Students are encouraged to bring home books that they have read at school or to choose their own literature. Students track their home reading minutes by using a Star Reading Chart. For every 10-20 minutes they read at home, students color in a star on the chart. After coloring in 10 stars, students can choose a reward. Reward choices include playing basketball in the gym, picking from the prize box or having a pancake party. The special education teachers have noticed an increase in the amount of time students read at home.

Ms. Jones, Mrs. Krol and Mrs. Michaud

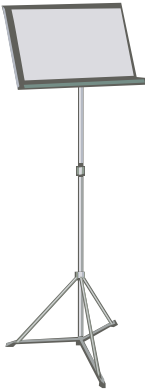
Music Notes

This has been a very exciting year for the Paterson Music Department so far, and the best is still to come! On Tuesday, May 13th, our outstanding orchestra, our incredible band, and our super chorus will perform at our spring concert. The chorus will also sing at the Relay for Life on May 30th. It will be a great time and we hope you can join us. Here is important information for the May 13th concert:

Any parent unable to attend the evening spring concert performance at 7:00 on May 13th is welcome to join us for the afternoon performance at 1:50. For the evening performance, musicians are expected to arrive at Paterson no earlier than 6:30 p.m. and no later than 6:45 p.m. Boys should wear dress pants and a dress shirt. (tie is optional.) Girls should wear a dress or a skirt. I trust parents' opinions on what is appropriate concert attire. I would like to see bright, spring colors. More information regarding the concert can be found on **PatersonMusic.net**.

As the end of the year is approaching soon, here are some of the 'musical' things we need to be thinking about:

- Parents of 3rd graders will be receiving a call from Mr. Kemp sometime in late May or early June. He will be giving his recommendations for instrument choices for next year.
- 4th graders will be returning their instruments soon after the concert.



- 3rd and 4th graders can sign up for SUMMER MUSIC! Check on **PatersonMusic.net** for information, or ask Mr. Kemp for more details! (It is a TON of fun!) You can also scan this QR Code with your smartphone to see the Summer Music webpage:



- If a student in 3rd or 4th grade needs an instrument from Mr. Kemp for the summer months, a written note should be sent to him. You are allowed to rent a Paterson instrument in summer if you are taking lessons or summer music.
- DID YOU KNOW?.....You can borrow CD's from the Lucy Robbins Welles Library. If your 3rd grader is not sure which instrument to play in 4th grade, let them listen to a variety of music with different instruments playing.
- ALL grades have something for them on the music website! The address for our Paterson Music website is: **PatersonMusic.net**. Check out **Patriotic Corner** for songs we will sing on Flag Day in June! Also, check out **Family Links** for some very cool games and activities!

Musically yours,

Mr. Kemp & Mrs. Polezonis

From the Geraldine C. Mullins Media Center

Spring has arrived at the Geraldine C. Mullins Media Center. As the days become warmer, students are busy learning more about the many different resources available at their library media center.

Kindergarteners are learning how to look for facts and gather information while learning some very interesting facts about spring!

School/Home Connection

Sharing parts of a non-fiction book is a fun way to broaden your child's knowledge of the world and their writing.

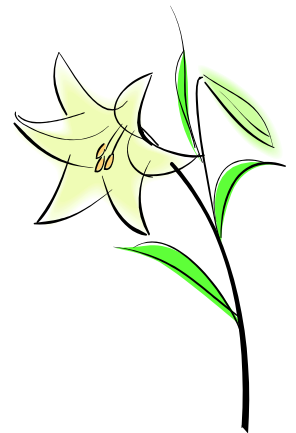
Students in second grade are busy using the online resource called *Little Explorers Picture Dictionary*. They are demonstrating their ability to use electronic menus to locate information.

Third and fourth students are exploring classroom topics and learning about the different types of fiction genre.

School/Home Connection

Next time you take your child to the library encourage them to try a different types of genre. It's a great way for them to increase vocabulary and background knowledge.

*Books
Closed Shut....*



*Secrets to hide?
Or waiting for you to say
Open wide!
From Hello School! By Dee Lillegard*

Wishing you a joyful spring season of reading!
Mrs. Elston, Media Specialist

From the Nurse's Corner

The end of school is near bringing warm weather and more outdoor activities. When selecting clothing and shoes to be worn by your child, please take recess into consideration. Children usually do a lot of running and jumping. Rubber-soled shoes or sneakers which are secured to the feet by straps or laces are usually the safest. **FLIP FLOPS** and open-toed sandals are for the beach and are not safe for playground play. Spring also brings an alarming increase in the number of children's accidents.



Please review a few key safety rules with your children.

- Always wear a helmet for bicycling riding scooters.
- Never swim alone or in areas without a lifeguard. No diving in unknown or shallow waters. Always wear a life vest when boating.
- Get away from the water if you see lightning or hear thunder---even if it seems far away.
- Use insect repellent.
- Check for ticks, especially if you were playing in tall grass areas.
- Use sunscreen.
- Stay away from stray pets and wild animals. Never touch a dead animal.

Here are some tips to help your family have a healthy and sun safe summer:

- Use SPF 30 sunscreen.
- Wear UV-protective sunglasses.
- Reduce sun exposure from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat.
- Find some nice cool shade.
- Wear lightweight long clothing.

According to the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention: “***There are over one million new cases of skin cancer diagnosed in the U. S. each year, outnumbering all other cancers combined.***” For more information visit the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention's website: www.skincancerprevention.org

All parents, whose children will be entering Grade 3 in August 2014, should have received Physical Examination letters. The completed Physical Examination Form **OR** the Statement of Preference Sheet at the bottom **MUST** be returned to me by the end of the school year. Any physical examination your child has had during the summer before 2nd grade or during 2nd grade

is acceptable for the coming year. If you have any questions, please call me @ (860) 666-4657 Ext. 1.

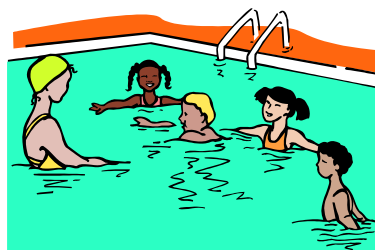
ATTENTION PARENTS OF GRADE 3 STUDENTS

Those students in grade 3 who have not handed in a physical this year **WILL NOT** be allowed to start fourth grade. These student's names will be sent to Dr. Collins office at the end of the school year.

Please remember to keep a copy of your Childs History and Physical from their physician. You may need to provide this information for camps and day care.

Don't take a vacation from safety!
Have a fantastic sun-safe summer!

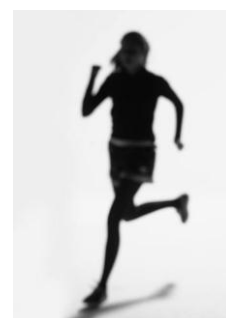
Rosemary Breen, R.N.
School Nurse
rbreen@npsct.org



Family Connections

Healthy Choices

Spring weather is a great time to get outdoors and enjoy some fresh air and activities. The best way to get kids outside, and off the couch, is to incorporate physical activity into each day. Research shows that children should get 60 minutes of physical activity daily. This can come from a variety of sources, and may look different for each child depending on interest and abilities. Playing sports, taking a class, going on a playground, free play at home, and riding bikes are all great ways to get physically active and involved socially. It is a good idea to make sure kids have a wide variety of free-time activities which can all play a vital part in helping them develop a health body and mind.



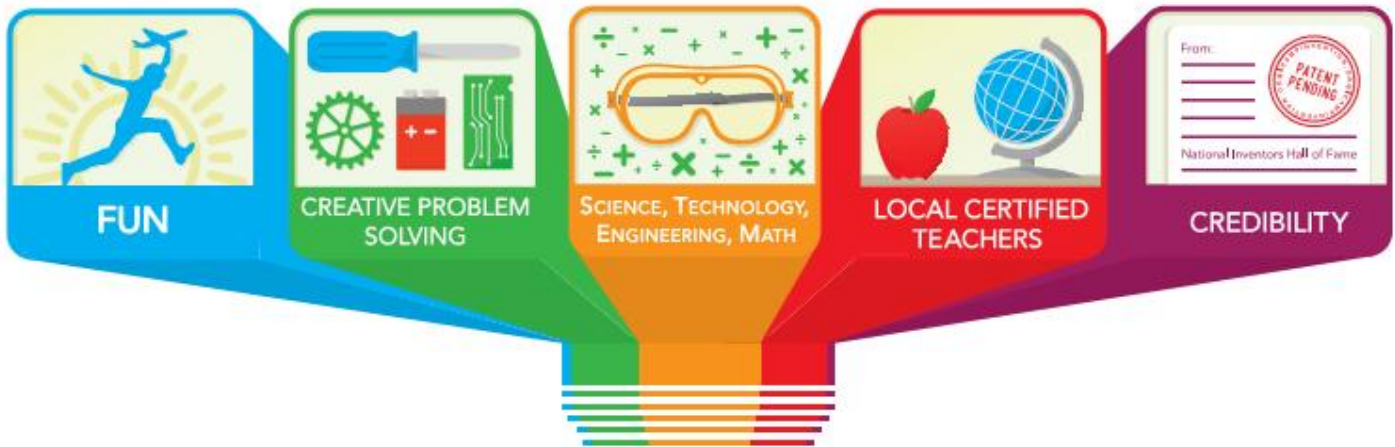
Motivating children to spend time outdoors can be a challenge, especially with the ease of access to highly entertaining electronics. Finding a good balance between enjoying the entertainment/educational benefits of electronics and physical activity is key. Did you know that kids in the US watch an average of four hours of TV per day? That doubles the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) recommendation that school-aged children watch no more than one to two hours per day of TV. The more time children spend with electronics (TV, computer, video games, iPods), the less time they have for all of those activities that promote the development of physical, social and emotional health.



Like adults, when kids enjoy an activity, they are more likely to keep doing it. Try to offer guidance, support and encouragement for effort in physical activities. And, remember, that children will model your example, so don't groan about your own exercise — make it a priority and look for chances to be physically active as a family.

Mrs. Burba, School Psychologist and Mrs. Murphy, School Social Worker

Only at  **Camp Invention®**



**Register at campinvention.org and save \$15.
Use promo code **SPRING** by 5/16/14!**

**See the new Morphed!
program in action.**

Camp Invention is coming to John Paterson Elementary
located at 120 Church Street, Newington, CT 06111
on July 7 - 11, 2014 from 9:00AM to 3:30PM
hosting the Morphed! program!

Directed by Theresa Rangel

\$230 - price reflects discount
Register your **rising 1st through 6th grade** child today
and **save at campinvention.org.**



Watch the fun at
**[campinvention.org/
revyourengines](http://campinvention.org/revyourengines)**



A Message to Parents of the Next Generation of Innovators:

Dear Parents,

Fostering innovation and competitiveness is the mission of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). That's why the USPTO has been so supportive of Camp Invention since its founding in 1990 and continues a formal partnership to this day. Creativity and innovation are necessary skills we should encourage in our children to keep the American dream alive in communities nationwide, and Camp Invention does this and more.

Camp Invention gives your son or daughter the opportunity to create and invent outside the box by exploring science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts in a hands-on, safe, and fun environment.

Camp Invention exposes children to ideas and practices that will help them succeed later in life. A recent research study from H.A. Praxis Solutions indicates that participation in Camp Invention raises children's creativity scores, and creativity is critical to college readiness and future success in the 21st century. Moreover, both the USPTO and the National Inventors Hall of Fame support Camp Invention for its great, ongoing work with children to nurture their inventive spirit and imagination.

Innovation, creativity, and STEM are an investment in your child and hold the key to solving many of the world's challenges. To face these challenges, we encourage you to be a part of something big and visit www.campinvention.org to find a location near you.

Sincerely,



Todd Elmer
Chief Communications Officer



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Office of the Chief Communications Officer



National Inventors
Hall of Fame

In partnership with



United States Patent and Trademark Office,
an Agency of the Department of Commerce



See what parents
say about our program.

Return registration form (one for each attending child) and payment in full to: Camp Invention, 3701 Highland Park NW, North Canton, OH 44720
Register online at campinvention.org or via telephone at 800.968.4332 or fax your registration form to 330.849.8528

2014 CAMP INVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Promo Code: **SPRING**

**THE EASIEST WAY TO REGISTER IS
ONLINE AT CAMPINVENTION.ORG.**

Parent's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Alumnus? Yes No | Gender M F | Fall 2014 Grade Level _____

School Child Attends _____

Special Needs _____

Does your child require an epinephrine syringe? Yes No

Each registrant will receive a free Camp Invention T-shirt.

Refunds are available up to three weeks prior to the start date of the program, and \$50 is non-refundable. Promotional Registration discounts are valid only for registrations received by the applicable date and cannot be used with any other discount.

Check # _____
(payable to Camp Invention; please do not send cash)

Credit Card Number _____

Visa Mastercard Discover

Expiration Date _____ Cardholder's Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Newington Public Schools

2014-2015 School Calendar

Adopted June 5, 2013
Amended April 23, 2014



August/September 2014 (24 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
24	PD	PD	27	28	29	30
31	H	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	ES MS	ES MS	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2014 (17 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	ES	ES*	ES	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	V	H	V	27
28	V	V	V			

March 2015 (22 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	ES MS HS*	ES* MS* HS	ES	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2015 (8 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	PD	12*	13
14	15*	16*	17*	18*	19*	20
21	22*	23*	24*	25*	26*	27
28	29*	30*				

TOTAL 181 DAYS

Early Release Days as Follows:

(* = Evening Conferences)

Elementary Schools (Dismissal 1:55 p.m.)

Select Tuesdays September through June
September 23, & 24, 2014 • Elementary Conferences
November 26, 2014 – Thanksgiving Break
December 2, 3rd & 4, 2014 • Elementary School Conferences
March 24, 25th & 26, 2015 • Elementary School Conferences
June 10, 2015 • All Students

Middle Schools (Dismissal 1:20 p.m.)

Select Tuesdays September through June
September 23, & 24, 2014 • Middle School Conferences
November 5, 6th & 7, 2014 – Middle School Conferences
November 26, 2014 – Thanksgiving Break
March 24 & 25th, 2015 • Middle School Conferences
June 10, 2015 • All Students

October 2014 (22 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	H	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2015 (19 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				H	V	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	H	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2015 (16 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	H	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	V	V	V	V	V	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

LEGEND

	First Day of School (Full Day)
	School Conferences/ Other Early Release Days- Follow level schedule below
	Early Release Day- Professional Learning
	Schools & Offices Closed
	School Closed /Offices Open
	Professional Development Day (No school for students)

PD on: 8/25/14, 8/26/14, 11/4/14 & 6/11/15

November 2014 (16 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
2	3	PD	MS HS*	MS* HS	MS	8
9	10	H	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	H	H	29
30						

February 2015 (17 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	V	14
15	H	V	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

May 2015 (20 Days)

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	H	26	27	28	29	30
31						

School Hours

	Regular Hours	Early Release
High School	7:34 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.	7:34 a.m. - 1:24 p.m.
Middle Schools	8:05 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.	8:05 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.
Elementary Schools	8:40 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.	8:40 a.m. - 1:55 p.m.

High School (Dismissal 12:45 p.m.)

Select Tuesdays September through June
November 5th & 6, 2014 –NHS School Conferences
November 26, 2014 – Thanksgiving Break
March 24th & 25, 2015 – NHS School Conferences
June 10, 2015 • All Students

H = Holiday

Labor Day	09/01/14	New Year's Day -	01/01/15
Columbus Day	10/13/14	Martin Luther King Day	01/19/15
Veterans' Day	11/11/14	Presidents' Day	02/16/15
Thanksgiving	11/27/14	Fasting & Prayer	04/03/15
Thanksgiving Break	11/28/14	Memorial Day	05/25/15
Christmas Day	12/25/14		

* Snow Makeup Days.

Additional days are needed, April vacation may be used or other available days as necessary.

V = Vacation Day