



HAWK TALES

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings,

The 2019-20 school year is officially here! We have been hard at work preparing Maitland Middle School for the return of her students. Floor waxing, deep cleaning, and new gym lighting are just some of the summer improvement projects that took place. We have also been hard at work filling vacancies with highly qualified teachers. Please join me in welcoming the following individuals to Maitland Middle School:

- Ms. Elizabeth Kempe – Math Teacher
- Ms. Peggy Forman – Science Teacher
- Ms. Suzanne Mattox – Math Teacher
- Ms. Rebecca Kleiman – Spanish Teacher
- Ms. Louise Yergey – Guidance Counselor
- Mr. Brian Himschoot – Administrative Dean
- Ms. Crystal Higgs – Assistant Principal

I hope you enjoy this first edition of "Hawk Tales" and the information is clear and concise. We have included information about upcoming events, athletics, PTSA, and a calendar overview. I would encourage all of you to stay involved as much as possible while your child is attending Maitland Middle School! If you have not already done so, please be sure to join PTA or consider being a part of the School Advisory Committee (SAC). Both are excellent ways to have a voice in the learning process, volunteer, and stay current in all that is happening on this great campus.

There is quite a buzz here on campus about the 2019-20 school year. I look forward to getting our students and staff back on campus to continue our legacy of success. I hope your summer has been restful and rejuvenating thus far, and I encourage you all to enjoy your last days of summer with family and friends.

Sincerely,
Andrew Leftakis
Principal

JULY 2019 • VOLUME 25 • ISSUE 1

ADMINISTRATION

Principal

Andrew Leftakis

Assistant Principals

Crystal Higgs

Danielle Kendall

Deans

Carla Thomas

Brian Himschoot

Guidance Counselors

6th grade & 7th grade (A-L)

Randon Singer

7th grade (M-Z) & 8th grade

Louise Yergey

Phone:

407.623.1462

Fax:

407.623.1474

www.mm.ocps.net

Soaring to

New Heights



JULY 2019 • Issue #1
 Published Four Times Per Year
 Maitland Middle School
 Orange County Public Schools
 P.O. Box 271 • Orlando, FL 32802-0271

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

@MaitlandMiddleOCPS on Facebook and Twitter



FROM OUR REGISTRAR

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR RISING 7TH GRADERS

Florida Statute requires that all students entering 7th grade have the **Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis)** and all other required immunizations. Proof of immunization must be provided to the school prior to your child starting 7th grade. In order to pick up your child's schedule and digital device for the 2019/2020 school year, we must have received your child's immunization record (form DH680).

Don't wait until next fall! Please bring a copy of your child's immunization record (form DH680) to the school's front office as soon as possible.

Please plan ahead if your child does need an immunization. You can get immunizations free of charge at the Orange County Health Department at 832 West Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32805. You may also get the immunization at your doctor's office, or any walk-in/urgent care clinic.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the MMS front office at 407-623-1462.

We need a valid Florida DH 680 Immunization Form for each 7th grader. Any student without such documentation will NOT be given a schedule on the first day of school and the parent will be called to pick up the student. If you are not sure of your child's status please call the Maitland Middle School front office at 407-623-1462. The proper form is available through doctors' offices, and must be received by Maitland Middle School by Monday, August 8, 2016. Department of Health in Orange County 832 West Central Blvd. Orlando, FL 32805 Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 407-836-2502

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DRESS CODE

- We take pride in the appearance of MMS students. Students are expected to dress neatly in clothes that are appropriate for school activities.
- Clothes shall be worn as they are designed: suspenders over the shoulders, pants secured at the waist, belts buckled, no underwear as outerwear, no underwear exposed.
- Clothing with holes, tears or inappropriate patches will not be allowed if considered obscene. No holes in pants/ jeans above the knee will be permitted.
- Bare midriffs and bare sides should not show even when arms are extended above the head.
- Clothing normally worn when participating in a school sponsored extracurricular or sports activity may be worn to school when approved by the sponsor or coach and principal.
- Clothing that is too tight or revealing is unacceptable.
- Garments and/or jewelry which display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, alcohol or tobacco-related wording/ graphics or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in school shall not be worn.
- Gang paraphernalia, bandanas, jewelry, tattoos, clothing or other insignias which display, suggest, provoke or may tend to provoke violence or disruptions are not allowed.
- Headphones may not be worn while in hallways or in transit, or in classrooms without permission.
- The following items have potential to cause disruption or threat to a safe and positive school environment and are prohibited:
 - Hats, caps, unnaturally colored hair, visors, sunglasses or bandanas while on campus during the school day
 - Chains hanging from the neck, belt, pocket or attached to wallet
 - Expensive jewelry or jewelry that contains any type of sharp object
- Hemlines of shorts, dresses, skirts and skorts shall be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Sleeves of shirts/blouses/dresses must follow the four fingers wide rule at the shoulders; no tank tops.
- Sheer shirts will not be permitted unless a dress code approved shirt is worn underneath that follows the four finger rule.
- Other articles of clothing may be deemed inappropriate by an administrator. ∅ Shoes shall be worn. The following are NOT acceptable: thong sandals, cleated shoes, backless shoes and Heeley

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FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Monday, August 12, 2018 The first day of school is a very exciting time when students reconnect with old friends and some may face a new campus. In order to help your child have a positive first day please review the following info.

- The campus opens at 9:00 a.m.
- Breakfast is available daily for approximately \$2.00.
- Grade 6 students will report to the cafeteria.
- Grade 7 and 8 students will report to the gym. Students should bring their schedule from the Meet and Greet with them, and for those who did not attend, they will be able to pick up their schedule from guidance who will be available at tables located in the cafeteria and gym. • At 9:30 a.m., all students will report to their first period class.
- Students should bring paper and pencil/pens with them for opening day classes.
- Also, remember to either bring a lunch (lines are especially long the first few weeks of school) or approximately \$3.00 to purchase lunch.
- Students will go to lunch with their class the first 2 weeks of school. This is a good opportunity to meet new friends, and make new to the area students feel welcome. We followed this procedure last year and found it quite helpful. Please encourage your students to make new friends this year in middle school.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

Bus riders: To locate your bus route with pick up and drop off times, please log into our website. A link will be available to get district bus information. In addition routes will be posted at the front of the school the week prior to school's starting.

Car riders: Just a few friendly reminders- the first few weeks of school are very busy in our driveways and parking lots. We have many new families trying to learn the logistics of how to maneuver the pick-up lanes. We ask that while in our driveway and parking areas you limit cell phone usage, so you can be alert to students who may walk into traffic lanes unexpectedly. In addition, the major car pick up line is located at the front entrance of the school on Thistle Lane. Upon entering the loop we have two lanes of one way traffic heading south. At the curve at the end of the administration building, the line becomes single file and hugs the curb until the entrance to DES (Dommerich) Students exit from campus near the cafeteria and may get in their car as long as it is curbside. Please be patient as drivers and students try to find each other! If you are arriving at the back of the school off of Choctaw Trail, please use the center lane for pick up: the lane closest to the building is for buses only! Our buses hug the curb from behind the gym nearly to Dommerich's back door! For the safety of our students and staff you may be directed to move your car, so please be observant of school staff directing traffic. The small parking area behind the gym is currently used as part of our bus loop. It is not advisable to park and wait for your rider in this location, as you may be blocked in by buses. Once students are released no cars should be moving in this area as it jeopardizes the safety of our students.



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DIGITAL DEVICE ROLL OUT

All students attending Maitland Middle School will be issued a Lenovo Thinkpad Yoga laptop. Laptops and chargers will be issued on Wednesday, August 7th from 07:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please select an appointment time via this Sign Up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F44AFAE23A2F58-device>

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PLEASE JOIN US AS WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW STAFF MEMBERS TO THE MAITLAND FAMILY

Please welcome our new assistant principal, **Mrs. Crystal Higgs**, to Maitland Middle School. Crystal Higgs, a native Floridian, attended the University of Central Florida where she earned her Bachelor's degree in English: Creative Writing. She furthered her education by attending Nova Southeastern University where she obtained a Master's degree in Urban Studies Education and a Specialist degree in English Education. Mrs. Higgs has been employed with Orange County Public Schools for 13 years and during this time she has taught a variety of Language Arts courses ranging from remedial to International Baccalaureate. In addition to serving students inside of the classroom, she has also held school-wide support positions to include International Baccalaureate Program Coordinator, Writing Instructional Coach, and Curriculum Resource Teacher. Although Mrs. Higgs now serves in the capacity of Assistant Principal, her love for the art of teaching has motivated her to continue teaching college writing courses, and she has been doing so for the past nine years. Mrs. Higgs is a published author and the title of her work, "Connecting with Students", speaks to her core belief of student-centered leadership. Mrs. Higgs is married and has two sons. Her favorite pastime is creating memories with her three guys or she can be found indulging in literature on education, leadership, faith, or fun fiction.

Mr. Brian Himschoot will join us as an Administrative Dean.

Mr. Himschoot included the following message:

I have worked in both Middle and Elementary schools in OCPS for six years. During this time I have enjoyed working as both a teacher and administrator. I truly believe in William G. Spady's position on education, which states that " all students can learn and succeed, but not on the same day in the same way." I am excited to join the team at Maitland Middle School and look forward to helping lead all of our students to success.

Ms. Elizabeth Kempe will be teaching Algebra 1 and pre-algebra. She has included the following message:

A little bit about me. I have been teaching math for over 10 years. Maitland is my hometown neighbor community. I grew up in Altamonte Springs; graduating from Lake Brantley High School before going on to college; after which I worked as an Architect. I completed additional education coursework at Valencia, whereupon I began teaching Middle Grades Math. This year we will be learning Algebra Topics as a tool to understand and interpret our world. We will strive to understand and apply mathematics to better our lives and prepare for our increasingly digitized future. Our goal is to become skilled 21st century Mathematicians. The key to opening that door is to gain a deep understanding of important mathematical skills using mathematical habits of mind. Be prepared for a energized year with Algebra and Me.

Other points of interest about me: I am a local, I graduated from Lake Brantley High School, I studied abroad, and, yes, I did climb to the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa,

I've travelled to over 30 states, I've visited 17 countries, I am both artful and technical, my favorite state except for Florida is Maine, I relish archeology, I enjoy collaborative projects, and I find joy watching my students succeed.

Ms. Peggy Forman to the MMS science team.

Hi, I'm Mrs. Forman and will be teaching 7th grade science. I'm married with 3 children and 3 grandchildren. My youngest son attended Maitland (many years ago). Teaching is a second career for me after working in the medical field for many years. I've been teaching for 14 years after graduating from UCF, and have been teaching primarily 7th and/or 8th grade with a certification in science 5-9, Earth Science 6-12 and elementary ed.

Meet **Suzanne Mattox**, our newest 7th grade math teacher! After graduating from UF, Suzanne worked in video production in the instructional design department at Full Sail University. Of all her favorite creative productions, her favorite is her three-year-old daughter, Elora. When Suzanne decided to begin a life-long dream of becoming a teacher three years ago, she taught at Timber Lakes Elementary. When she isn't chasing around her daughter, she enjoys traveling with her husband, going to movies, and baking. She is thrilled to join the faculty at Maitland Middle School!

Please join us in welcoming **Ms. Louise Yergey** as our new 8th grade guidance counselor. Ms. Yergey was born and raised in Winter Park, Florida. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida in Psychology and her Master's degree from the University of Central Florida in Counselor Education. Ms. Yergey has been a school counselor for the past three and a half years at Plant High School in Tampa, Florida as well as the Head Cheerleading Coach. She is excited to return to her hometown and to be part of the Maitland Middle School Community!

Please join us in welcoming, **Ms. Rebecca Kleiman**, to Maitland Middle School. Ms. Kleiman will be joining us to teach Spanish and has included the following message:

I grew up bilingual because my mother is Spanish and my father is American. I have lived and breathed the Spanish culture my entire life. In addition, I spent many years teaching English as a second language and I can understand and explain the language learning perspective from both angles.

I have been working at Ocoee Middle School, so I am naturally excited to cut out my long commute and now be able to walk to work. It is my mission to contribute to the success of Maitland Middle School. I spent 15 years living in Madrid, Spain, and I am looking forward to infusing that passion for Spanish into my students at Maitland Middle.



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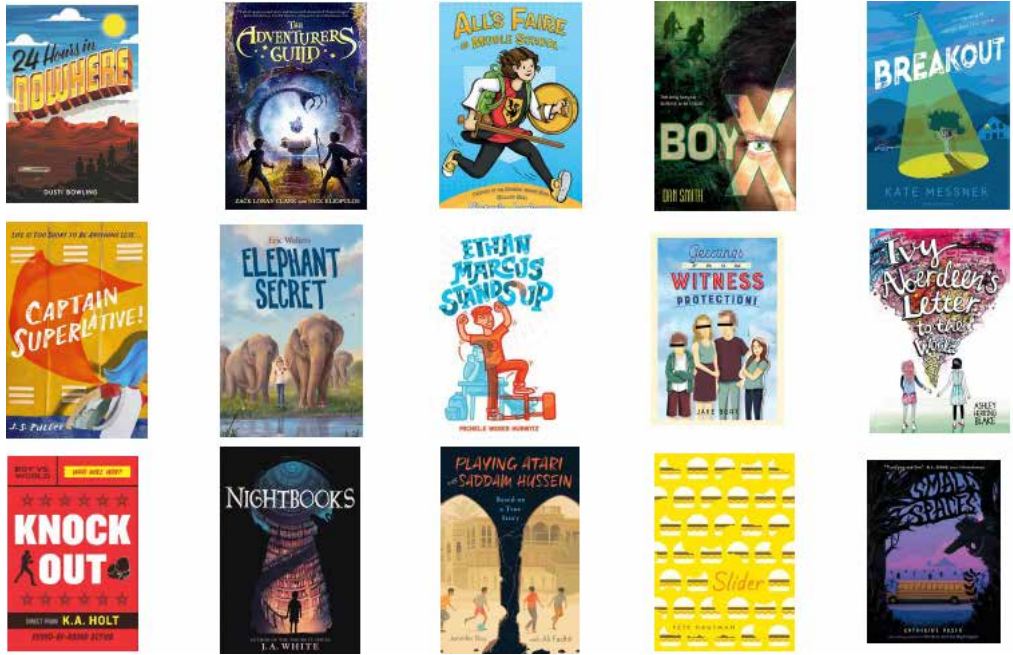
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LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Keep up to date on library events and book suggestions by following our library accounts: @MaitlandMS_OCPS on Instagram and @MMS_HawksMC on Twitter.

The SSYRA lists for 2019-2020 are out and a part of the OCPS Summer Reading Initiative. Several of these titles are available as eBooks in Follett Destiny via student Launchpad in the Library Research Tools folder.



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OCPS SUMMER READING INITIATIVE

This challenge encourages students to read and log their minutes electronically. This summer we are challenging OCPS students to read 5 million minutes. Our top school and students will be awarded prizes. The theme this year is "A Universe of Stories... What's your Story? #OCPSReads". OCPS Social Media will share the literacy message and encourage families to have students read this summer. We will ask our families to upload pictures and videos using #OCPSReads to share stories about reading, including why they love reading, their favorite book and why, or a quick preview of a book they think everyone should read. We encourage district staff to attend as well. We will fill our social media pages with a love for reading and sharing our universal stories that bring us together.

Maitland Middle School is currently in 5th place among OCPS middle schools in summer reading participation. If you'd like to get involved and engage in a little healthy competition with other schools, check out this information below:

Please have your school's parents and students go into launch and select the Beanstack icon to sign up! NOTE use this configuration for their birthdate MMDDYY. They can also sign up for summer reading on Beanstack at the public library at www.ocl.info and connect to their school so the information they enter in OCPS will be shared with the public library and enter students in their summer reading contest too.

As students read this summer they should log into Beanstack to chart their minutes and unlock badges. Top schools and students will receive prizes and recognition in September! Here are the current standings as of July 8th! Go Hawks!

Middle Schools:

1. Innovation
2. Lakeview
3. Lockhart
4. Hunter's Creek
5. Maitland



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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Maitland Middle School has a number of clubs and organizations for students to explore and enjoy. Details about meetings and upcoming events will be shared via morning announcements. Stay tuned!

- Youth in Government
- National Junior Honor Society
- Battle of the Books
- Civics Club
- Chess Club
- Science/SECME
- PTSA

SUMMER BREAK

The summer break provides a much needed rest from the rigors of school life, but a complete disconnect from education can make the start of the new school year more difficult for your student. Consider a few ways to engage your child in activities that stimulate learning and provide an opportunity to enhance your relationship. Pick two or three of the following summer opportunities and commit to achieving a common goal with your child.

READING: Read two books with your child over the summer. Each of you select a book, read it independently, and talk about it. Everyone identifies different meanings and ideas. These conversations lead to insights, not only about the books but perhaps more importantly, about each other. You may discover that some of your child's interests and perceptions surprise you.

MOVIES: See two movies with your child over the summer. Again, each of you pick a movie, see it together, and talk about its effect on you. The benefits of these conversations cannot be overstated. It's not uncommon to discover a point of view that you had never considered. As a result, you will become closer to your child. Many movies are adaptations of popular books or series. Watching them may motivate your child to read the books or others with similar or opposing themes.

HOMEWORK: Yes, yards must be tended, cars washed, kitchens cleaned, and trash taken out, but perhaps there are budgets to be discussed, correspondences to write, and bills to be paid. If appropriate, you might consider getting your child involved. Practical applications of math, reading, and writing skills reinforce the importance of education. These skills are vital for a fulfilling life!

TAKE A CLASS TOGETHER: Does your student have unexplored interests or passions? There are free online courses in art, music, dance, woodworking, gardening, writing and composition, etc., not to mention math, science, and technology. Encourage your child to select an online class of interest and complete it together. There's no way to predict undiscovered interests and talents.

FUN and GAMES: Consider some outdoor activities. Go hit a bucket of golf balls, or try surfing/water skiing. Host a game of 'Capture the Flag' at home or try paintballing. (Can you remember the joy of besting mom or dad?) Introduce games and activities that you remember from childhood. Encourage your child to practice his/her research skills by looking up rules, tips and strategies before engaging in the activity. If they really enjoy it, have them look further into opportunities for continued involvement. These activities develop and improve communication and social skills. There are numerous parks and recreation centers nearby to play any game or sport inexpensively.

These types of activities not only support the learning process but enhance relationships. Summer is a wonderful time to recover, relax, and reconnect. Make a point of including opportunities to reinforce and develop your child's education. Enjoy your summer!

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FREE BACK TO SCHOOL PHYSICALS FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN AND TEENS

Shepherd's Hope is offering free back to school physicals for children up to age eighteen who are uninsured. Appointments are available at a number of locations on various dates and times between July 24 and August 6. Questions about this program may be referred to Shepherd's Hope at 407-876-6699 extension 265.

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Who Is Eligible

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ShepherdsHope.org



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WEST ORANGE MEDICAL CLINIC

Wednesday, July 24 9 a.m. to noon
Thursday, August 1 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Tuesday, August 6 9 a.m. to noon

Location:

455 9th Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787

LONGWOOD SHEPHERD'S HOPE HEALTH CENTER

Thursday, July 25 9 a.m. to noon
Monday, August 5 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Location:

The Sharing Center Plaza
600 N. U S Hwy 17-92, Suite #124, Longwood, FL 32750

DR. DIEBEL, JR. MEMORIAL SHEPHERD'S HOPE HEALTH CENTER

Tuesday, July 30 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Location:

Samaritan Resource Center
9837 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32817

DOWNTOWN SHEPHERD'S HOPE HEALTH CENTER

Wednesday, July 31 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location:

Orange County Medical Clinic
101 S. Westmoreland Dr., Orlando, FL 32805

Forms Issued: The Florida Department of Health required form (DOH 3040) will be issued following completion of the physical examination. This form meets the Florida state requirement for enrollment in public or private school.

ABOUT SHEPHERD'S HOPE: Shepherd's Hope offers free and compassionate health care to the uninsured and underinsured in Central Florida through the support of 2,800 volunteers who donate 39,000 hours. Last year, Shepherd's Hope provided 19,033 patient visits and medical services to men, women and children who visited our five health centers.



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ATHLETICS

If you are interested in trying out for a team next year, make sure to print out your 2019-2020 athletic physical from www.mmsAthletics.com.

As required by state law, students in PE will be taking an End Of Course semester exam. Required Uniform and Materials:

- GREY SHIRT · RED SHORTS
- Combination lock (NO KEY LOCKS ALLOWED)

Uniforms will be sold the first week of school (shirt-\$10 & shorts- \$15).

If you have any questions, you may contact the PE department at 407-623-1462 x 5172323.

YMCA OF CENTRAL FLORIDA AFTER SCHOOL ZONE

The YMCA of Central Florida After School Zone is funded by a grant from the Orange County Government and is free for all students. The Zone offers fun, educational, and athletic programs that provide enrichment beyond your student's school day. In our programs, we emphasize values such as caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and empathy. Our goal is to raise graduation rates, promote literacy, and close the academic achievement gap. Each school site offers a unique set of clubs each day, including homework assistance. Examples of these may include: Journalism, Basketball, Video Production, Photography, Robotics/STEM, Culinary Arts, Fine Arts, Music, and Dance. Please contact your school's Program Coordinator for their specific offerings.

Start Date TBA Times 4 p.m.-6 p.m.:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday. 3 p.m.-6 p.m.: Wednesdays.

Signed registration forms must be submitted to your school's front office or YMCA Program Coordinator prior to the first day of programming. Looking forward to a great year!!!

YMCA OF CENTRAL FLORIDA BEFORE SCHOOL PROGRAM The Y offers a safe and positive environment for your student before the start of each school day. Students can be engaged in sports, arts & crafts, culinary arts, team building, computers and much more. Students can also receive homework help each morning from our staff.

Cost Payments are made bi-weekly in the amount of \$40 via Automatic Bank Draft. (This equals a cost of \$20 per week for the program). *First payment of the year must be in the form of check or money order.

Start Date TBA Times 7 - 9 a.m.:

Monday-Friday.

Register Signed registration forms must be submitted to your school's front office or YMCA Program Coordinator. You may send your student with the first payment and registration form on the first day of programming. Note that you will also receive a parent handbook that must be signed.



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School Psychologist

ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2019-2020

Monday-Friday	August 5-9 August 7	Pre-Planning Professional Development Day
Monday	August 12	First Day of School
Monday	September 2	Labor Day Holiday
Wednesday	October 16	End of First Marking Period
Thursday	October 17	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Friday	October 18	Teacher Professional Day/Student Holiday Teacher Non-Workday
Monday	October 21	Begin Second Marking Period
Monday-Friday	November 25-29	Thanksgiving Break
Friday	December 20	End of Second Marking Period
Two Weeks	Dec. 23-Jan. 3	Winter Break
Monday	January 6	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Tuesday	January 7	Begin Third Marking Period Begin Second Semester
Monday	January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Schools and District Offices Closed)
Monday	February 17	Presidents' Day Holiday (Schools Closed/District Offices Open)
Thursday	March 12	End of Third Marking Period
Friday	March 13	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Monday-Friday	March 16-20	Spring Break (Schools Closed/District Offices Open)
Monday	March 23	Begin Fourth Marking Period
Monday	May 25	Memorial Day Holiday (Schools and District Offices Closed)
Wednesday	May 27	End of Fourth Marking Period/Last Day of School
Thursday-Friday	May 28-29	Post-Planning (2 Days)



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- Stress and Fatigue
- Wheezing

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