



Lake Mills Area

SCHOOL DISTRICT

2017 – 2018 School Calendar

August 24-25	New Teacher Inservice Days
August 28-31	All-Staff Inservice Days
September 1	Labor Day – No School
September 5	First Day of School
September 25	Inservice Day – No School
October 26	Multi-District Inservice Day – No School
October 27	No School
November 3	End of First Quarter
November 9	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 4:00–8:00p.m.
November 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 4:00–8:00p.m.
November 22	Thanksgiving Break – No School
November 23	Thanksgiving Day – No School
November 24	Thanksgiving Break – No School
December 1	End of First Trimester
December 22	Last Full Day of School before Winter Break
December 25-29	Winter Break – No School
January 1	New Year’s Day – No School
January 2	School Resumes
January 19	End of Second Quarter
January 22-23	Inservice Days – No School
February 23	Inservice Day – No School
March 2	End of Second Trimester
March 23	End of Third Quarter
March 26-30	Spring Break – No School
April 2	No School
April 3	School Resumes
April 5	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 4:00–8:00p.m.
April 10	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 4:00–8:00p.m.
May 28	Memorial Day – No School
June 3	Graduation @ 1:00 p.m.
June 8	Last Day of School – End of Fourth Quarter/Third Trimester

Please find below a list of ten considerations in creating the annual school calendar:

1. At this time, the State of Wisconsin dictates that we begin school for students **on or after** September 1. School Districts around the State are asking for a removal of this constraint with the start date returning to local control but, at this time, school must start **on or after** September 1.
2. We believe that it is not in the best interests for families, students, or staff to have just one day of school in a week. For this reason, most school districts have chosen to start on September 5, 2017 for this school year.
3. We adhere to four legal holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, and Memorial Day. These days are off for students and staff.
4. We have four full day inservices (Professional Development) during the school year as outlined in our Employee Handbook. We believe that a full day inservice model is easier for families to manage and it is more productive time for staff. This model has changed through the years, in the past, we have used more half day inservices.
5. The State of Wisconsin dictates the minimum number of hours of instruction for each grade level. This is a change from the past when the State told us the number of days of instruction we were required to provide. The Lake Mills School Area School District has built in extra hours to this calendar to accommodate potential weather days or other emergency closures. "Make up days" would only be used if we did not meet the required number of hours set out by the State.
6. Quarters, Trimesters, and Semesters are chosen to approximate equal days in each grading period, but it is not required. End dates for each period are chosen to make logical sense for students as staff reflect natural breaks in instruction, i.e., before a vacation, etc.
7. Several years ago, the Lake Mills Area School District committed to placing Spring Break near the end of March rather than having it tied to Easter. This is to allow families to plan potential vacations and to place an extended break at a time when it is beneficial for students, families, and staff.
8. Teachers are contracted for 192 days per year. These days include inservice (professional development) prior to September 1. New teachers have additional days of inservice prior to school starting.
9. Parent/Teacher Conferences have returned to late afternoon and evening hours on four full days of instruction rather than the noon-8:00p.m., one-day event, two times per year. This change is related to careful monitoring of parent attendance patterns and the effective of non-teaching days on the entire calendar.
10. Parent/Teacher Conferences at the Middle School and High School were placed just after the end of the first and third quarter with input from teachers. In this way, the conversation can focus on the previous quarter performance with an eye to promoting success for the conclusion of the semester.