

**2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**  
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
April 2, 2008

The 2008-2009 School Year Calendar must be adhered to without exception, unless notifications of subsequent changes are received pursuant to collective bargaining agreements or for other reasons, provided these other reasons are not inconsistent with collective bargaining or legal obligations.

Schools will not be in session on Labor Day (September 1), Rosh Hashanah (September 30 and October 1), Yom Kippur (October 9), Columbus Day Observed (October 13), Veterans Day (November 11), Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving (November 27 and November 28), Winter Recess (December 24 through and including January 2, including Christmas and New Year's Day), Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (January 19), Mid-Winter Recess (February 16 through February 20, including Washington's Birthday), Spring Recess (April 9 through and including April 17, including Good Friday, Easter and Passover), and Memorial Day (May 25). On Tuesday, November 4, 2008 (Election Day), and on Thursday, June 4, 2009 (Anniversary Day), a Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development is scheduled IN ALL FIVE BOROUGHES. Students IN ALL FIVE BOROUGHES will NOT be in attendance on either day.

The school year calendar incorporates the following understandings:

1. That two Chancellor's Conference Days are to be used for staff development related to the Regents High Learning Standards and Assessments (November 4 and June 4 in elementary and middle schools, and November 4, February 2 (see section 10 below) and June 4 in high schools);
2. That this calendar does not preclude subsequent changes that may be made pursuant to collective bargaining agreements or for other reasons, but in no case can this calendar or subsequent changes result in a loss of state aid;
3. That all shortened sessions resulting in early dismissals of students and any other changes in this calendar must be approved by the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration, and must provide appropriate 4 weeks prior notification to parents;
4. That the Chancellor shall use the powers vested in him by law when, in violation of this citywide school year calendar, a school is closed or shortened sessions (defined in section 12 below) are scheduled without prior authorization of the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration;

The following should also be noted:

5. The School Year Calendar for 2008-2009 meets the State Education Department requirement of a minimum of 180 state aidable days in all schools in the City School District.
6. On Monday, August 25, the following staff report: Assistant Principals and school-based intermediate supervisors not designated to work an increased work year.
7. On Thursday, August 28, Classroom Teachers, Bilingual Teachers in School and Community Relations, Guidance Counselors, Attendance Teachers, Nurses, Therapists, Laboratory Specialists and Technicians, Educational Paraprofessionals (except for School Secretaries, Psychologists and Social Workers) report for a Professional Day - General staff orientation. School Secretaries, Psychologists and Social Workers report for a regular work day. Employees in titles not listed should consult the applicable collective bargaining agreement. On Friday, August 29, a Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development is scheduled and it will be a regular work day for School Secretaries, psychologists, and Social Workers). On both dates, students will NOT be in attendance.
8. The 2008-2009 school year calendar mandates that school sessions begin for all students on September 2, 2008. An early dismissal will be held on Tuesday, September 2 and Wednesday, September 3 for non-District 75 Kindergarten students ONLY.

9. All schools will be open citywide on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2008, for a Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development related to the Regents High Learning Standards and Assessments, and open IN ALL BOROUGHES on Thursday, June 4, 2009, also for a Chancellor's Conference Day for staff development related to the Chancellor's High Learning Standards and Assessments. On both November 4, 2008 and on June 4, 2009, students IN ALL FIVE BOROUGHES will not be in attendance.
10. Monday, February 2 will be scheduled by all high schools for professional development related to the Regents High Learning Standards and Assessments. No high school students will be in attendance on February 2. High school level students in District 75 will be in attendance on February 2. The high school spring term begins on Tuesday, February 3 with a full day of instruction.
11. All schools will be open on Thursday, February 12, 2009, and students will be in attendance.
12. As a result of professional / Chancellor Conference Days, shortened sessions for various purposes, and Regents Days, the total number of instructional days (days when students report to school) may be different from the number of state aidable days. A shortened session is any day when school is in session for kindergarten through grade 6 students for less than 5 hours of instruction, exclusive of lunch and of the extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students, or any day when school is in session for grade 7 and above students for less than 5.5 hours of instruction, exclusive of lunch and of the extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students.
13. Calculations of aidable days incorporate Chancellor Conference/Regents Examination Days. Under Commissioner's Regulations, Chancellor Conference Days may include general staff orientation, curriculum development, in-service education, or Parent-Teacher Conferences. They may not include routine administrative matters such as grading examinations or pupil assignments, recordkeeping, or lesson planning.
14. In part, the school calendar takes into account the following citywide centrally-scheduled shortened sessions: To be designated by the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration, two Parent-Teacher Conference shortened sessions (one in the Fall Term and one in the Spring Term), and other citywide shortened sessions approved by the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration. Separate notifications will be forthcoming regarding all of these citywide centrally-scheduled shortened sessions. An early dismissal of students is to be scheduled on the last day of school, subject to the guidelines outlined in section 16 below.
15. In non-District 75 high schools having administered the Regents examinations from June 16 through June 24, high school students will not be in attendance on Regents Rating Day, Thursday, June 25.
16. As concerns the early dismissal of students on the last day of school (Friday, June 26, 2009), the day should be recorded as a regular day of instruction for purposes of the Period Attendance Report, and schools must adhere to the following guidelines: Students are required to attend school, pupil attendance must be taken, recorded and reported as part of the average daily attendance, and students are to receive instruction and/or guidance and assistance as needed. Schools should provide at least 4 weeks prior notice to parents and to the Office of Pupil Transportation regarding the specific time they have set for the early dismissal at their site.
17. Monday, June 29 and Tuesday, June 30, all other staff report except Classroom Teachers, Bilingual Teachers in School and Community Relations, Attendance Teachers, Nurses, Therapists, Laboratory Specialists and Technicians, and Paraprofessionals.
18. To avoid the risk of a reduction in State Aid, and to limit impacts on bus scheduling for students, schools will not be closed or shortened sessions (defined in section 12 above) will not be scheduled without prior authorization of the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration. Prior to requesting, on a timely basis, shortened session approval of the Deputy Chancellor for Administration and Finance, the following should be considered: in weeks when a single scheduled shortened session for kindergarten through grade 6 is requested, the school must still be in session for 25 hours of instruction, exclusive of lunch and of the extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students. When a shortened session is scheduled during a 4 day week (for instance, when the week includes a holiday), the school must still be in session for 20 hours of instruction over that week, exclusive of lunch and of the

extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students. Further clarification and information on exceptions are available upon request from the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration.

19. In a week when, exclusive of lunch and of the extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students, 25 hours of instruction are scheduled for kindergarten through grade 6 students, or 20 hours in a 4 day week, and a shortened session, approved by the Deputy Chancellor for Administration and Finance, is scheduled, schools may designate that shortened session as a regular day of instruction for purposes of the Period Attendance Report. For students in grades 7 and above, see section 20 below.
20. As concerns Grades 7 and above, generally a shortened session results in the school being in session for less than the required minimum of 27.5 hours of instructional time scheduled in a week, exclusive of lunch and of the extra session of 37.5 minutes for targeted students. Therefore, in almost all instances, a shortened session for grades 7 and above, which must also be approved by the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration, should be designated as a non-instructional day for purposes of the Period Attendance Report. Exceptions pertain to the last day of school Friday, June 26, 2009, with the requirements of section 16 above being met this day should be recorded as instructional for purposes of the Period Attendance Report.
21. **For Non-District 75 Kindergarten**, there are 183 aidable days (182 in Brooklyn and Queens), and 183 instructional days.
22. **For District 75 Kindergarten through Grade 6 Level and All Grades 1 through 6**, there are 185 aidable days (184 in Brooklyn and Queens), 183 of which are instructional.
23. **For Grades 7 and 8 Citywide and Grade 9 in Middle Schools (including District 75)**, there are 183 aidable days (182 in Brooklyn and Queens), and 183 instructional days.
24. **For High School Level Grades 9 through 12**, there are 184 aidable days in all boroughs (and including District 75), 181 of which are instructional (in District 75, there are 183 instructional days).
25. Staff development activities must meet needs that are mandated or of high priority, including implementation of the new comprehensive, system-wide instructional approach to literacy and mathematics under the Children First initiative, school violence prevention and intervention, the implementation of the Continuum for Students with Disabilities, performance standards, science education, assessments, etc., as they relate to general, special and bilingual education. There must be an appropriate focus on the Regents High Learning Standards and Assessments as indicated in sections 1 and 9 above.
26. Under Section 2586 of the Education Law, Anniversary Day is the first Thursday in June, or the second Thursday in June when the first Thursday falls within the same week as Memorial Day.
27. Consultation on the school year calendar has taken place with superintendents, parent representatives, the Nonpublic Schools Committee, and appropriate collective bargaining representatives.