



January Family Update

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ADM Families,

We are in that time of the year where planning for next year starts to ramp up, while we also maintain focus on finishing this school year strong. One aspect of that planning is our 2022-23 school calendar. More information is below about the board-approved calendar. A feature that remains is the two-hour early release on Fridays. This time allows for one hour of professional development and one hour for collaborative teams to meet. Without this precious time, we would not be able to spend the time necessary to address our wildly important goals. Thank you for your support of our work and the calendar that allows it to happen.

Approved 2022-23 Academic Calendar

The 2022-23 ADM Academic School Calendar was reviewed and approved by the ADM Board of Education on Monday, January 10, 2022.

[Click Here To View ADM 2022-23 Academic Calendar](#)

All elements of the approved calendar remain the same as what was shared with families and staff, with the exception of the following change made based on feedback received.

- **Change: Winter Break Extended By One Day**
 - Winter break has been extended one additional day from the originally proposed calendar, beginning with an early dismissal on Wednesday, December 21, 2022, rather than an early dismissal on Thursday, December 22, 2022.
 - This change provides students and staff with a winter break that is the same length as was experienced in this school year's school calendar.
- **Impact of Change: Last Day of School, Seniors' Last Day**
 - The last day of school for students has changed from Thursday, May, 25, 2023 to Friday, May 26, 2023.
 - The seniors' last day of school has changed from Thursday, May 18, 2023, to Friday, May 19, 2023.

All other elements of the calendar remain as proposed. See below to review important information about the approved calendar.

Key Academic Dates and Features	The Approved Calendar Includes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Day of School: 8/23/22 ● Thanksgiving Break: 11/23/22-11/27/22 (Includes 11/23/22 teacher comp day for conferences) ● Winter Break: 12/22/22-1/2/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1:00 Early Dismissal on 12/21/22 ● Spring Break: 3/10/23-3/19/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes 3/10/23 teacher comp day for conferences and aligns with area schools and DMACC spring break dates ● Seniors Last Day: 5/19/23 ● Commencement: 5/21/23 ● Last Day of School: 5/26/23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1123 instructional hours ● 177 days of student attendance ● 189 contractual days for certified staff <p>Please Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The earliest allowed start date by the state of Iowa is August 23rd. ● ADM's calendar is considered an "hours calendar" which must include a minimum of 1080 student instructional hours to meet state requirements. ● ADM is committed to having a minimum of 177 student contact days each school year.

A Focus on Learning and Results

Travis Wilkins, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning and Communication

As shared with ADM families earlier this fall, ADM is in the midst of what we are calling a “Radical Reset” related to how we use data, make instructional decisions, and focus on results. To support this work, ADM has identified the following “Wildly Important Goal”.

ADM's Wildly Important Goal

Decrease PK-11 grade students identified as “not yet proficient” in reading on the identified grade level state assessment from 24.6% to 15% by June 1, 2022.

Throughout the fall, teachers in all buildings have been relentlessly focusing on the implementation of universal instructional changes (instruction that impacts all students) and changes to instruction provided during intervention (instruction received only by students who indicate a specific need in reading). While there has been more work occurring than could possibly be captured in this short description, the information below captures a few of the key changes to universal instruction that have occurred so far during the 2021-22 school year.

Grades PK-2:

- Key Universal Instruction Change: All students in grades PK-2 now receive daily phonemic awareness and/or phonics instruction to support students in the development of foundational skills that lead to strong decoding and fluent reading.

Grades 3-6:

- Key Universal Instruction Change: All students in grades 3-6 now receive daily phonics or advanced morphology instruction to support students in the further development of skills that lead to strong decoding, fluent reading, understanding of vocabulary and deeper comprehension.

Grades 7-8:

- Key Universal Instruction Change: All students in grades 7-8 now receive daily instruction and practice related to reading fluency to support reading comprehension and vocabulary instruction with an emphasis on morphology. Students also receive reading instruction in other core classes weekly.

Grades 9-12

- Key Universal Instruction Change: Teachers have been learning about literacy and the importance of disciplinary literacy instruction in all classrooms at ADM High School. Teachers have been completing a book study and are implementing specific instructional changes to ensure literacy instruction occurs in all classrooms.

Here's to a great start to 2022! Thank you for trusting us with your children. Go Tigers!

Greg Dufoe
ADM Superintendent

