



MANCHESTER ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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Heather Leonard  
Director of Curriculum and Instructional  
Technology

TO: MERSD School Committee  
FROM: Heather Leonard, Curriculum Director  
DATE: March 14, 2024  
RE: 2024-25 District Calendar

Attached please find the Proposed Draft #2 for the MERSD 2024-25 School Year Calendar. Please note the following areas of significance:

### **Professional Development Early Release Days**

The proposed increase in professional time is based on feedback from building administrators and the Professional Development Committee. We strive to continually provide high quality professional learning experiences for our staff as we move practices to meet our strategic priorities and district and school improvement goals yet find ourselves limited with the amount of dedicated professional learning time in the calendar.

Draft #2 proposes 10 early release days. This is an increase from the 8 early release days in this current 2023-24 school year, and a decrease from 11 early release days proposed in Draft #1. The committee will note that in Draft #2, two of the proposed early release days are scheduled for Fridays prior to longer breaks, whereas the rest of the days continue to be scheduled on Wednesdays. Professional development days scheduled on Wednesday coincide with extended days for staff allowing us to maximize the early release time.

### **Conference Days**

The Professional Development Committee spoke favorably about the shift of conference dates to follow the release of report cards. This shift allows families and teachers to meet and conference about student progress and utilize the most current report to inform questions and conversations.

The spring date was shifted to a Friday in Draft #2 (originally a Wednesday in Draft #1.) In order to assess the impact of the new configuration, the PDC plans to collect data about family availability to examine the impact of this change.

### **Full Professional Development Day**

The full day shift from October in this past year to March allows us to plan the day collaboratively with teachers & the Professional Development Committee, whereas when the day is earlier in the year, planning and external presenters are selected in the summer, limiting teacher involvement. March gives us flexibility to have full district connections around work currently taking place, showcase staff learning, launch any new insights into the future year, and engage staff and admin in identifying priority areas for cross-district, preK-12 learning experiences.

# MERSD | 2024-2025 CALENDAR DRAFT #2 (as of 3/13/24)

AUG/SEPTEMBER '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**26** Staff Back to School  
**28** First Day of School  
  
**2** Labor Day: No School  
**?** Essex Elementary Open House  
**?** Memorial School Open House  
**?** Middle School Open House  
**?** High School Open House

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FEBRUARY '25						
S	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	25	26	27	28	

**17** Presidents' Day: No School  
**17-21** February Vacation: No School

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OCTOBER '24						
S	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	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**14** Indigenous People's/  
 Columbus Day: No School

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MARCH '25						
S	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	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**17** Teacher PD Day

20

NOVEMBER '24						
S	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	25	26	27	28	29	30

**11** Veterans Day (Observed):  
 No School  
**27** Early Release\*  
**28-29** Thanksgiving Recess: No  
 School

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APRIL '25						
S	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	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**2** ½ day: K-8 Conferences  
**21** Patriots' Day: No School  
**21-25** April Vacation: No School

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DECEMBER '24						
S	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	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**23-31** Winter Recess: No School

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MAY '25						
S	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
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**26** Memorial Day: No School

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JANUARY '25						
S	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	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**1** New Year's Day: No School  
**20** M.L. King Day: No School

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JUNE '25						
S	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	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**6** MERHS Graduation  
**17** Last Day of School\*  
 (No Snow Days)  
**19** Juneteenth  
**25** Last Day of School\*  
 (5 Snow Days)

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K-8 Grading Dates	HS Quarter Ends
Trimester 1: Nov. 20: grades close (57 days) Dec. 4: Report cards sent home Trimester 2: March 21: grades close (63 days) March 28: Report cards sent home Trimester 3: June 6: grades close (53 days) June 17: Report cards sent home	November 1 / January 17 / April 4 / June 17  <b>K-8 Conferences</b> December 5 (1/2 day)* December 6 April 4 (1/2 day)* *HS full day for students 12/5 & 4/2

Professional Development Half Days	Professional Development Full Days
September 18 October 23 November 8 December 11 January 15 February 5 March 5 April 18 May 7 June 4	August 28 & 29 December 6 (HS only) March 17