

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

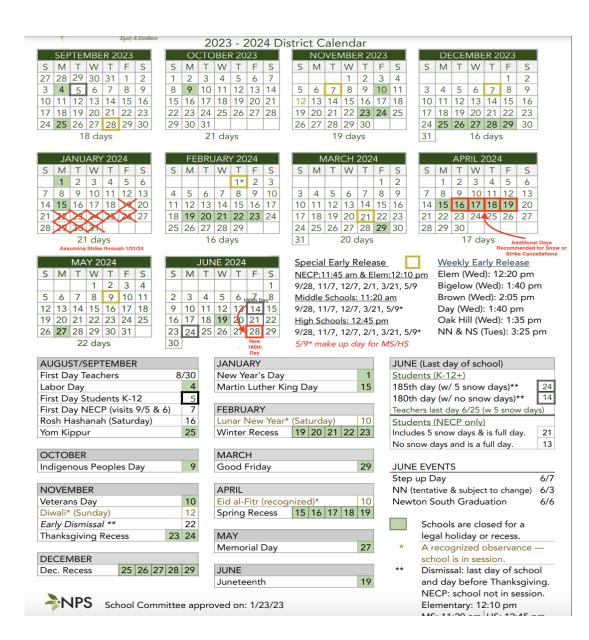
To: Newton School Committee From: Anna Nolin, Superintendent

Date: January 30,2024

Re: School Calendar Revisions

As you know, due to the NTA strike, the school calendar must be adjusted to meet the obligatory attendance needs required by time and learning regulation 603.27.03 and 603.27.04. The requirement indicates 180 schools of school and a certain number of minutes of instruction per grade level (elementary and secondary). Given 9 days of striking, and one school closure day for Franklin, school attendance will have to occur through to June 28, 2024. All school year attendance requirements have to be completed by June 30 of each school year. To that end, the school committee needs to make a revision to the school calendar.

In red X's, I have indicated the days of the strike. In June, I have indicated with a red box the last day of school in June. Also in red boxes in the month of April are the four other possible make-up days, taken from the previously-scheduled April break. The Franklin School also has to make up an additional school day due to the closure due to an emergency closure. Many of you have asked if canceling previously-scheduled half days and making them whole days could be a strategy for addressing this problem. It is not. Half days already count as full school days in the current time and learning schedule.



Should the strike continue, or, if snow days are called, I will need your authorization to hold school on the 16th-19th of April (depending on the number of continued strike days). Should the strike extend further, I will then need your authorization to hold school either on the February break or on a series of Saturdays. The time and learning regulations do not apply to kindergarteners, where only 425 minutes of instruction each year is required, with no number of required days.

Given the nearness of the February break, I do not recommend using time from that planned break as families have not had time to adjust schedules to attend school.

Should the need arise in the coming days, I'd like your authorization to amend the calendar in the following order:

- 1. Attend school until the end of June (June 28)
- 2. Utilize April 16-19
- 3. Use a rotation of weekend days until all days are made up.