



WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road – South
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Gaeton F. Stella, Ph.D. – Superintendent

Sheila Haverkamp – Special Services Director | Alfred Pullo, Jr. – Director of Business Services/Operations

November 29, 2012

Dear Beecher Road Families:

As you know, the Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge and Amity (BOWA) school districts participate in a regional school transportation collaborative. This arrangement allows elementary schools to dismiss at similar times and for the Orange and Bethany Middle Schools to open and dismiss at the same time in coordination with Amity Regional High School. When one BOWA school district closes, delays the opening of school, or dismisses early due to inclement weather, all BOWA school districts will also close, delay or dismiss early. The decision to delay, close, or dismiss early is often a difficult one. (Please see annual “Weather 2012 letter”, on the district’s web site home page, www.woodbridge.k12.ct.us under *Superintendent’s Updates*.)

The school calendar is developed in conjunction the other BOWA districts for a multitude of reasons including the necessity of complying with BOWA’s cooperative transportation agreement. On February 27, 2012, the Woodbridge School District approved a calendar for the 2012/13 school year. It was promulgated last year and put on the district’s web site. The calendar listed June 13, 2013 as the last student day of the year, with June 14 – 21 to be used as snow make-up days. Additional days, if needed, were to be taken from the April vacation week, starting with Monday, April 15, 2013. To date, there have been six (6) emergency closings. That now brings the last day of school to Friday, June 21st.

In order to avert the possibility of having to take vacation days from the April break, on November 20, 2012 the Woodbridge School Board voted to change Friday, March 22 from a Professional Development day to an Early Dismissal student day. (*Be sure to mark this change on your calendar.*) By doing so, the school district gained an additional day that can be used as a make-up day for any future school closing. With Board approval, there is also the possibility of reducing the number of school days on the district calendar from 182 days to 180 days which is the number of days mandated by the state. Doing so would provide the district with two (2) additional days for a total of three (3) days which may be used to make-up for future emergency closings, and thereby, averting the need to shorten the April vacation. We will keep you informed of any changes on an on-going basis. A copy of the updated 2012/13 school calendar can be found on the back of this letter as well as on the district web site.

One question that has been asked is why make-up days are not going to be taken from the February vacation week. There were several considerations that went into the decision not to use the February break when the 2012/13 calendar was developed which include:

- February is prone to inclement weather with the potential for emergency closings.
- February is the height of student and staff absences due to illness.

It is for these reasons, that historically April has been identified in the official District calendar as the period for make-up days. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Prisco, Mrs. White or me with any questions you may have about our calendar. Let’s all hope for a beautiful but mild winter and few, if any, future school closings.

Best wishes to all!

Gaeton F. Stella, Ph.D.
Superintendent

GFS/med

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WOODBRIAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2012/13 STUDENT CALENDAR

JULY				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	X4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

AUGUST (5)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21*	22*	23*	24
(27)	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER (17)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
X3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
X17	18	19	20	21
24	25	X26	27	28

OCTOBER (19)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
X8	9	10	11	12
15	(16)	17	(18)	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

NOVEMBER (17)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	6		8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	(21)	X22	X23
26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER (15)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	(21)
X24	X25	26	27	28
31				

JANUARY (21)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	X1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
X21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY (15)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
X18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	

MARCH (20)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	(22)*
25	26	27	28	X29

APRIL (17)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
(8)	9	(10)	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

MAY (22)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
X27	28	29	30	31

JUNE (15)				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	(21)
24	25	26	27	28

NO SCHOOL	BUILDING CLOSED	X
Jul. 4	Independence Day	
Sep. 3	Labor Day	
Sep. 17	Rosh Hashanah	
Sep. 26	Yom Kippur	
Oct. 8	Columbus Day	
Nov. 21-23	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	Holiday Recess	
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Day	
Feb. 18	Presidents' Day	
Feb. 18-22	Winter Vacation	
Mar. 22	Teacher Workshop	
Mar. 29	Good Friday	
Apr. 15-19	Spring Vacation	
May 27	Memorial Day	

ABBREVIATED DAYS	()
Aug. 27	First Day for Students
Oct. 16	Parent/Teacher Conference
Oct. 18	Parent/Teacher Conference
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 21	Holiday Recess
Mar. 22	Professional Development
Apr. 8	Parent/Teacher Conference
Apr. 10	Parent/Teacher Conference
Jun. 21	Last Day for Students

BOARD OF ED. MEETINGS	
July 16	Jan. 22
Aug. 20	Feb. 25
Sep. 18	Mar. 18
Oct. 15	Apr. 22
Nov. 19	May 20
Dec. 17	June 17

SNOW DAYS MAKE-UP
June 14-21
Additional Days Starting
April 15

WORKSHOP DAYS (*)
Aug. 21, 22, 23
Mar. 22

OPEN HOUSE DAYS	
Sep. 5	Ice Cream Social
Sep. 11	Kdg. Grades 1 & 2
Sep. 19	Grades 3, 4 & MAG
Sep. 20	Grades 5 & 6

*182 Student Days
187 Staff Days*

Kdg. Bus Ride/Safety Demo	Aug. 16
Kindergarten Visitation	Aug. 27

Report Card Distribution	Dec. 14, Mar. 15 and June 21
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New Staff Orientation Aug. 15, 16

 **Hurricane Sandy**
Snow Days