

JFK Weekly Newsletter

Friday, April 15, 2022 Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

Change to School Calendar - No School on Monday, May 2

Dear Winooski Community,

We want to inform you that we are changing the day off scheduled for Tuesday, May 3 to Monday, May 2. Our district is committed to honoring the cultures, languages, and beliefs of all students. An important way to show this respect is by considering the religious and cultural holidays observed by our students and their families.

Most public school districts in the U.S. break for the Christian holiday of Christmas, and Easter falls on a Sunday each year, but many school calendars are not built to reflect Muslim or Hindu holidays. To ensure equity, the WSD Leadership Teams consults with the district's Multilingual Liaisons to carefully plan around the most important holidays for the majority of our students. Unfortunately, it is not possible to create a school calendar that reflects every important day for every student, so we focus on the days that have the biggest impact on the largest percentage of students.

Last year, when the WSD Leadership Team was planning this school year's calendar, the current lunar calendar said that [Eid Al Fitr](#), a very important Muslim holiday, would be celebrated on Tuesday, May 3. However, every five years or so, [the lunar calendar can shift](#), as it has this year. We now know that Eid Al Fitr will be celebrated on Monday, May 2.

In our original calendar, Tuesday, May 3 was a planned day off to show support for the 120+ Winooski students who celebrate this holiday, so they can be with their families without missing school. Because this date has changed, we have moved our day off to Monday, May 2. **That means there WILL BE school on Tuesday, May 3.**

We apologize for any disruption this may cause families. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

Ramadan Mubarak or happy Ramadan to those who observe.

Sincerely,
Kevin Dirth, Interim Superintendent

After April break updates

The Capital Project construction is going smoothly and incredible progress is being made daily. The new high school wing has been renovated and we are so excited for students to finally see their beautiful new space!

Over April break, grades 3, 4 5, and high school classrooms will be moving to the newly renovated high school. For elementary classes, this move will be temporary. They are moving so the construction team can begin renovations on the older JFK building. By the beginning of the next school year, most students will be in their permanent classrooms!

We wanted to make you aware of some important changes.

1. The new Main Entrance for the entire school district will be the side entrance near the playgrounds. The current main entrance facing the main parking lot will be closed for renovations.
2. Student drop-off and pick-up **will not change**. Please continue to use our current procedures for dropping off and picking up students at the loop in front of the building.
3. **George St is NOT TO BE USED FOR DROP OFF OR PICK UP** with the new main entrance opening after break. That street is VERY small and can get easily congested. This prohibits access of emergency vehicles into the street.
4. The driveway across from the admin trailer area nor driveways of private residents are not turn arounds.
5. All visitors must also use this new main entrance to gain access to the building.
6. Any student who arrives late will use the "new" main entrance.
7. JFK students must check in to the new main office space in room E140, inside the first-grade pod.

Important Dates

April 1, 2022

11:00am Early Dismissal

JFK Conferences

April 18-22, 2022

No School

Spring Break

May 2, 2022

No School

May 2 - 6, 2022

Staff Appreciation Week

May 18, 2022

12:15pm Early Dismissal

May 30, 2022

No School

June 13, 2022

JFK All School Celebration

June 14, 2022

JFK All School Celebration Rain Date





JFK Elementary

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