

Dr. Yolanda Cargile, Superintendent 8701 Holmes, Kansas City, Missouri 64131-2899 Telephone: (816) 349-3310 Email: <u>superintent@center.k12.mo.us</u>

Dear CSD Community,

I first want to thank you for your commitment to being a part of the Center School District.

As our CSD community continues to navigate one of the most challenging times in the history of education, we recognize that stress levels throughout Center School District are an area of concern. The factors causing the stressors are not unique to CSD, Kansas City or even Missouri. Schools around the country are combating common issues. However, as I visit schools and converse with members of our community, it is clear that time is a resource all of us need right now. Time to rest and renew.

After surveying our parents and staff, as well as listening to our CSD community during staff engagement sessions, there was overwhelming support for CSD to alter its calendar to allow staff and students a full week off for fall break. Hence, there will be no school on Monday, Nov. 22 or Tuesday, Nov. 23 to give CSD staff and students a full week off for fall break.

The staff survey results included 83.4 % percent in favor and the parent/guardian survey results included 77.2% in favor of extending the days. This calendar adjustment will not change the last day of school, provided we do not exceed more than ten (10) inclement weather days prior to the end of the year. For now, our last day of school remains May 27, 2022.

Important to note, CSD employees who serve on the 260-day calendar assignment will work Monday, November 22, but will not work Tuesday November 23rd or Wednesday November 24th.

Our Board of Education and Administration care deeply about the mental wellbeing of our students, staff, parents/guardians and community. As we've navigated quarantines, substitute teacher shortages, transportation challenges and more, we know our CSD village has worked tirelessly to persevere in the face of unthinkable challenges.

My hope is that all of us will take this extended break as an opportunity to focus on self-care and family. I believe we will emerge from the break stronger, healthier, and even more committed to our mission: "Each student and every staff member will demonstrate high achievement, character and collaboration in a diverse community."

Sincerely,

Dr. Yolanda Cargile

Yolanda Cargile, Ed.D Superintendent for Center School District

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