

North Middlesex Regional School District

2024-2025



August '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				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

(4 days)

September '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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					

(20 days)

October '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		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		

(22 Days)

November '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					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

(16 days)

December '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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				

(15 days)

January '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			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	

(21 Days)

February '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						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	

(15 days)

March '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						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					

(21 days)

April '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		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			

(17 days)

May '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				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

(21 days)

June '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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					

(8 days)

July '25						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		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		

(0 days)

STARTING / END DATES

- Aug 19-20 New Employee Orientation
- Aug 21 District-wide Meeting & Building-based work
- Aug 22 Teachers Professional Development Day
- Aug 26 First Day Grades 1-12 & Pre-K Open House
- Aug 27 Kindergarten Orientation
- Sept 3 First Day Pre-K/Kindergarten Students
- Jun 11 Tentative Last day of school Grades K-12 *
- * last day for K-12 subject to change due to snow days
- Jun 18 180th day with 5 snow days

NO SCHOOL DATES

- #### Holidays, Vacations, Full Day PD
- Aug 23 No School
 - Aug 30 Labor Day Recess
 - Sep 2 Labor Day (District Office/Buildings Closed)
 - Oct 14 Indigenous Peoples' Day (Dist. Office/Bldgs Closed)
 - Nov 5 Election Day - **Teacher Professional Day**
 - Nov 11 Veterans' Day (Dist. Office/Bldgs Closed)
 - Nov 27 - 29 Thanksgiving Recess
 - Dec 23 - Jan 1 Winter Recess
 - Jan 20 Martin Luther King Jr Day (Dist. Office/Bldgs Closed)
 - Feb 17 - 21 February Recess
 - Apr 21 - 25 Spring Recess
 - May 26 Memorial Day (Dist. Office/Bldgs Closed)
 - Jun 19 Juneteenth (Dist. Office/Bldgs Closed)
- Please see back for observances*

EARLY RELEASE / LATE START DATES

- Oct 31 Early Release - All Schools
- Nov 25-26 Early Release **K-8 Only** (Caregiver Conferences)
- Dec 11 Early Release - All Schools
- Jan 15 2.5 Hour Late Start - All Schools
- Mar 5 2.5 Hour Late Start - All Schools
- Mar 12-13 Early Release K-8 Only (Caregiver Conferences)
- Jun 6 NMRHS Graduation
- Jun 11 Early Release - 180th Day of School 0 Snow Days
- Jun 18 Early Release - 180th Day of School 5 Snow Days

2024 - 2025 NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

REGULAR STARTING AND DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

School	Arrival	Start	End
SECC AM		9:15 a.m.	11:45 a.m.
SECC PM		12:15 p.m.	2:45 p.m.
AES	8:45 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	3:05 p.m.
SMS	8:45 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	3:05 p.m.
VBES	8:45 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	3:05 p.m.
HBMS		8:00 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
NMS		8:00 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
NMRHS		7:15 a.m.	1:54 p.m.

LATE START - EARLY RELEASE – DELAY SCHEDULE

School	2.5 Hour Late Start	Early Release	2 Hour Snow Delay
SECC AM	No Preschool	11:45 a.m.	No Preschool
SECC PM	12:15 p.m.	No Preschool	12:15 p.m.
AES	11:30 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
SMS	11:30 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
VBES	11:30 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
HBMS	10:30 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
NMS	10:30 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
NMRHS	9:45 a.m.	10:25 a.m.	9:15 a.m.

SCHOOL & STUDENT ABSENTEE PHONE NUMBERS

School	Main Number	Absentee Number
AES	978-743-1005	978-743-1006
SMS	978-597-0380	978-597-0383
VBES	978-433-6722	978-433-8976
HBMS	978-597-6914	978-597-5261
NMS	978-433-0114	978-433-0119
NMRHS	978-597-8721	978-597-8721

SCHOOL CLOSING / DELAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and delays will be made via phone call and email, and posted on the District website www.nmrtd.org, District [Facebook](#), and the following television: WBZ (4), WCVB (5), WHDH (7), FOX 25, NECN.

TRANSPORTATION

Dee Bus	978-597-2768
Van Pool Transportation	978-400-7811

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION & DATES

Orientation: August 29, 2024

2025-26 Kindergarten Information Nights will be held in March 2025

No kindergarten due to screenings: April 28-29, 2025

*Dates and Times are subject to change.

CENTRAL OFFICE

Superintendent of Schools	978-597-8713	Ext. 1200
Assistant Superintendent	978-597-8713	Ext. 1300
Special Education Office	978-597-8713	Ext. 1500
Human Resources	978-597-8713	Ext. 1600

MAJOR RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HOLIDAYS

* Oct 2-4	2024	Rosh Hashanah
* Oct 11-12	2024	Yom Kippur
Oct 31	2024	Halloween
** Oct 31	2024	Diwali
* Dec 24-Jan 2	2024	Hanukkah
Dec 25	2024	Christmas
Dec 26-Jan 1	2024	Kwanzaa
Jan 7	2025	Orthodox Christmas
Jan 29	2025	Lunar New Year
* Mar 1-Mar 30	2025	Ramadan
* Mar 30	2025	Eid al-Fitr
* Apr 12-20	2025	Passover
April 18	2025	Good Friday
Apr 20	2025	Easter
Apr 20	2025	Orthodox Easter
* Jun 7	2025	Eid al-Adha

* Observances begin at sundown on the first day noted.

** Celebrations may occur on days preceding and following this date

To request additional observances to be added to this list, please email reibye@nmrsd.org

For more information, please click the below links:

[Massachusetts's Legal Holidays](#)

[Full Interfaith Calendar](#)

SCHOOL HANDBOOKS

<https://www.nmrtd.org/domain/194>

POLICIES

<https://www.nmrtd.org/domain/45>

Religious Holidays - K-12: For practices related to religious holidays, please refer to policy IMD. [Full policy can be found here](#)

The North Middlesex Regional School District encourages all students and staff members to appreciate and be tolerant of each other's religious views and will use every opportunity available to foster understanding and mutual respect among students and caregivers whether it involves race, culture, economic background, or religious beliefs. In that spirit of tolerance, students and staff members will be excused from participating in practices that are contrary to their religious beliefs

SCHOOL COMMITTEE INFORMATION

School Committee information can be found [here](#)

To contact all members, email nmschoolcommittee@nmrsd.org

FAMILY RESOURCES

Family Resources can be found [here](#)

WEATHERING THE STORM: NM GUIDE TO DELAYS, EARLY RELEASES, AND CANCELLATIONS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear NM Families,

Although these questions relate to winter weather more often than not, New England is a region where weather can force a school cancellation or school day modification at any time.

One of the most difficult challenges I have as a Superintendent is deciding whether or not to delay or cancel school due to weather or unsafe conditions. Unfortunately, this decision-making process is far from a perfect science.

However, it is important for students, caregivers, and staff to understand how it works, as each town/city has its unique set of factors that are considered when determining delays and/or cancellations. I hope this FAQ document answers your questions.

Who makes the decision about whether or not to close school?

As Superintendent, I am responsible for the final decision. I work with District staff to monitor state and local weather forecasts and consult, as needed, with officials from Ashby, Pepperell, and Townsend, who update me on snow removal operations and neighborhood road conditions. I also collaborate with our neighboring districts. It is important to understand that this decision hinges on the status of road conditions. Even if your street looks clear, travel elsewhere in the district may be dangerous.

What time do you make the call?

My goal is to make the decision to open, close, or delay by 5:15 a.m. or earlier. While I know there is often an interest in having a decision the night before, this is New England, and a lot can change overnight. Whenever possible, caregivers will be informed of delayed starts and/or cancellations the evening prior should the meteorological information we have at that time allow us to make these proactive decisions. We realize that this assists families in the planning of alternative means of transportation and/or childcare.

How is the decision made?

There are multiple factors used in deciding whether or not to close school. Information on road conditions, snow accumulation predictions, building conditions such as electricity and heat, parking lot conditions, air temperature and wind chill, and estimated times from the DPW as to when roads, walkways, and parking lots will be cleared of snow and ice. Ultimately, buses need to be able to navigate the district safely. I prefer not to make my decision based solely on weather predictions, which are not always accurate. However, sometimes this is unavoidable. We share information with other local districts and check whether they are opening or closing. However, these conditions vary greatly (especially in NM) depending on the town, even if they are our next-door neighbor.

Generally, school will not be canceled or have a modified day solely based on extreme outdoor temperatures (hot or cold) or a power outage. Each building has a generator to supply emergency power to specific areas in each building, including the cafeteria. While I realize extreme temperatures and power outages are not optimal for learning, we can still provide meals and supervision to students, both of which many of our families depend on. With the state *time on learning* requirements, we

have to be mindful of the possibility of extreme heat well into September and during the month of June, along with a very cold winter.

What is a delayed opening?

Rather than close school for a whole day due to short-term weather situations, there may be days when the opening of school will be delayed two hours. School will simply start two hours later on that day. Bus pickup, therefore, will also occur two hours later. For example, if your child is typically picked up at 7:40 am, they will be picked up at 9:40 am during a two-hour delayed opening. Lunch will still be available, and dismissal will be at the regularly scheduled times.

IMPORTANT:

There may be times when a two-hour delay must be moved to a full cancellation if the anticipated improvement in road conditions has not occurred.

Will you dismiss early if a storm is unexpectedly heavy during the school day?

Early dismissals are very unlikely as we risk sending students home to empty houses. Families should have a plan in place in the event it is necessary. Our system uses the same buses to transport all of the grades. This is why our school start and dismissal times are staggered. After one group is transported, the buses begin the next tier. We cannot call additional buses to release all the students from all the schools simultaneously. Therefore, conditions may warrant a staggered early dismissal for all schools. This will allow the buses with slow driving conditions to get a head start on their first route and arrive at the elementary schools close to the planned dismissal time.

What about bus transportation during storms?

Waiting at home for a child to arrive when the bus is late can be difficult, especially during a storm. Road and traffic conditions will slow the travel. Please remember that your child is safest on the bus due to its size as it slowly moves through town in a storm. This slowdown can be compounded as the buses complete their loops from school to school. If a run requires ten extra minutes to deliver students safely, the buses begin the next loop 10 minutes late. If the next run takes ten additional minutes, the bus is now 20 minutes late, etc.

What about sidewalks and getting to bus stops?

The DPW clears the sidewalks as soon as they can. In most towns, the town relies on property owners and citizens to clear their walkways. Families must be aware that unfavorable sidewalk conditions can occur during and after a snowstorm. Even if sidewalks have been cleaned, citizens clearing their driveways and walkways can cause sidewalks to be blocked. Melting and re-freezing of snow can also create an icing situation. Families should always be aware of the conditions of their child's walk to school or the bus stop and act accordingly.

What are caregivers' responsibilities?

Ultimately, I realize that regardless of my decision, some will disagree, and your child's safety is paramount. If you do not feel it is safe for your child to attend school, use your best judgment when deciding whether your child should attend. Also, please discourage teenagers from driving in bad conditions and offer them alternatives if weather conditions worsen. We ask caregivers of young drivers to reinforce winter weather driving skills by allowing extra travel time, reducing

speed, and not worrying about being late. We encourage all caregivers to proactively make alternative arrangements for all pending inclement weather situations that may impact the school day.

How are days made up?

If school is closed due to weather, the day will be made up at the end of the school year. Massachusetts is a state that has both an hours and days requirement. Every public school in the district must be in operation for 180 days with one exception: school districts cannot go into July if a school district has used April vacation. The only alternatives if we run out of time on the calendar are to consider Saturdays (which is very rare) or to add time onto our days in May and June to make up a day(s). It is essential to consider how warm it can be during June, in addition to students being focused on getting out for summer vacation.

How do power outages affect the decision?

Inclement weather can affect the timeline for utility companies to restore electricity. If all school buildings have electricity, the goal will be to open school. School will only be canceled if road conditions are unsafe and/or if the school's generator is not operational.

What about after-school activities?

If school is canceled or, in a rare situation, released early, all after-school activities will be canceled unless it is a state tournament athletic contest, which is under the purview of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association.

How is the public notified?

Announcements about school closings and delays are posted as outlined below. Please be advised that depending upon the storm's severity, school and district administration offices may also be closed, in addition to canceling student classes.

- District website www.nmrso.org
- District Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NorthMiddlesexRegionalSchool>
- BlackBoard email
- BlackBoard phone call ("robocall") if the timing is appropriate
- Local Television and Radio:
 - WBZ-Ch. 4
 - WCVB-Ch. 5
 - WHDH-Ch. 7
 - FOX-Ch. 25
 - NECN

Each station also posts school closings on its website.

I hope this FAQ helps everyone understand the process used to make the best possible decision for our students.