

Orchard Park Central School District



School Calendars - 180 Days

October 10, 2023



Preparing the School Calendar

- Align with Erie 2 BOCES Calendar
- Align with NYS Regulations for [180 days](#) & [required instructional hours](#)
 - Elementary - 900 instructional hours for full-day kindergarten through grade 6
 - Grades 7-12 - 990 hours of instruction
 - *(b) Definition. "Instructional hours" shall mean an hour or a fraction of an hour, during which students are receiving instruction from a certified teacher pursuant to Part 80 of this Title in an academic subject and/or periods of time during which students are engaged in supervised study activities, including completing homework and/or the review of homework. Instructional hours shall not include periods of time where instruction and/or supervised study time is not provided to students, such as lunch or recess.*
 - Students are not allowed to begin school prior to Sept. 1 or attend after the last "rating day" in June as determined the NYSED
- Contractual obligations



Emergency School Closings

- **Elementary** - schedule 180 at the start of the year
 - Add additional days at the end of the calendar due to emergency closings
- At the **middle and high school levels**, due to the Regents Exam schedule and calendar, we have additional days built in above the 180 each year
- **State of emergencies** - the need to schedule additional days to make up for closings during a state of emergency are not required under law.
 - November storm and December blizzard last year as examples



Recent Changes and Future Considerations

- The addition of state holidays of Juneteenth and Lunar New Year
 - Students (SED Regulation) and teachers (contractual language) are not able to be in attendance when those holidays fall on weekdays or a Sunday
- Regional calendar committee for future planning



Other Considerations

- The proximity of the Highmark Stadium in our District
 - We set our calendar in early spring, the NFL schedule is released in late May
 - Other events at the stadium (concerts) may necessitate a proactive change in the school calendar to ensure safe transportation around the stadium
 - Example - Concert (Luke Combs) on April 19, 2024 - change the day to a half day PreK-8 and early dismissal at the high school

