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## WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**Michael R. Silsby**  
Superintendent

**Keith Gunuskey**  
Assistant Superintendent

**Kerriann Horan**  
Business Administrator

**Lindsey Shaheen**  
Board Secretary

October 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Last evening the Board of Directors amended the school calendar to include the following school days as half-days: October 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 30<sup>th</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>, November 13<sup>th</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup>, December 11<sup>th</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup>. The updated school calendar along with specific dismissal times for each building are attached. Students will be responsible for completing assignments asynchronously for the afternoon of these half-days. All students will receive a bagged lunch to take home for these days.

Our current educational model of providing face-to-face and remote learning is a monumental task for our teachers. Teacher expectations have increased dramatically, and more time is needed for teachers to record lessons, network with students at home, plan for all three types of learning environments, and network with colleagues. In addition, technology integration has been swift, as teaching, while utilizing iPads and Schoology requires ongoing training and professional development. The additional half-days will help support our teachers in their mission of providing the best educational experience for their students.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the parents and students of our great community. At the beginning of the school year, it was communicated with families that it would take everyone's support and vigilance to ensure that our schools do not contribute to the community spread of COVID. Throughout the first part of this year, we have received numerous phone calls and emails from families who have erred on the side of caution and kept their children home when there may have been exposure outside of the school, or students were not feeling well. This self-less and proactive approach of not jeopardizing the health, safety and welfare of others is part of the reason that we have not had one Wallenpaupack student test positive while in school, which has allowed us to continue with face-to-face instruction. In addition, our students and staff have been stellar in following the social distancing and face covering guidelines. I appreciate everyone's continued attentiveness as we move further into the school year.

As always, your continued support is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith E. Gunuskey".

Keith E. Gunuskey, Pandemic Coordinator  
Assistant Superintendent

**WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2020-2021  
SCHOOL CALENDAR-Revised 10/12/2020**

Friday	October 23, 2020	Early Dismissal
Friday	October 30, 2020	Early Dismissal
Friday	November 6, 2020	Early Dismissal
Friday	November 13, 2020	Early Dismissal
Tuesday	November 24, 2020	*Parent Conferences – Early Dismissal for Pupils
Wednesday	November 25, 2020	Early Dismissal –Recess Begins
Thursday	November 26, 2020	Recess begins – School Closed
Tuesday	December 1, 2020	School Re-opens
Friday	December 4, 2020	Early Dismissal
Friday	December 11, 2020	Early Dismissal
Friday	December 18, 2020	Early Dismissal
Wednesday	December 23, 2020	Early Dismissal –Recess Begins
Monday	January 4, 2021	School Re-opens
Monday	January 18, 2021	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-School Closed
Tuesday	January 26, 2021	Teacher In-Service-No School for Pupils
Monday	February 15, 2021	President’s Day – School Closed
Friday	April 2, 2021	Recess begins – School Closed
Tuesday	April 6, 2021	School Re-opens
Monday	May 31, 2021	Memorial Day – School Closed
Thursday	June 17, 2021	Teacher In-Service – No School for Pupils
Friday	June 18, 2021	Last Day of School
Friday	June 18, 2021	Graduation

\*Includes 6 Snow days\*

\*Note: If there is a need for a delayed start on November 24<sup>th</sup>, it will become a full day of school for students and conferences will be re-scheduled for a later date.

Early Dismissal Times

Building	Dismissal Time	Bus Departure
North Primary	10:50	11:01
South Elementary	10:55	11:05
North Intermediate	11:09	11:17
Middle School	11:11	11:17
High School	11:24	11:30

The Board of Education will review the calendar, monthly, beginning in January, to amend if necessary