

While we prepare for the excitement and celebrations that come with the end of the school year, we are also looking ahead to next fall.

Included with this communication is the 2019-20 calendar and school start and end times. We would like to highlight two key points for your planning.

The First Day of School is Tuesday, September 3

While other area schools will start before Labor Day next year, we will start the Tuesday after on September 3rd. This will allow us to follow the original work timelines set for construction projects at Riverside, Westlake and Lakeview Middle. We are excited to welcome students and staff back to these updated buildings next fall and will join area schools for the pre-Labor Day start in 2020.

School will end 30 minutes early on Mondays

Beginning next fall, we will release students 30 minutes early every Monday. The time gained, plus an additional 30 minutes, will be dedicated work time for teachers to collaborate in support of student achievement.

Information gathered this year through parent and teacher surveys, focus groups, and interviews, made clear the need for additional common professional learning time for our teachers. Scheduling this time outside of the school day will allow teachers to work in groups by grade level and subject area to monitor and advance student learning at the individual level. This means every Lakeview student - whether in need of accelerated enrichment or extra support - will benefit from the expertise of multiple teachers planning together for the next step in his or her academic mastery.

Early release days have become a common practice for schools across the country. Unlike half days, which are for district and school wide professional development, early release days will establish regular blocks of time for teachers to collectively focus on individual student progress. Early release days will also reduce the need for substitutes, which provides continuity of instruction for students.

Please know that adjusting the school day is never an easy decision. Common professional learning time helps us plan instruction in order to challenge high achieving students and to provide intervention for students who need additional support. We appreciate your support as we continue to focus on helping every student excel.