

Park Forest–Chicago Heights School District 163



2024-2025 Parent/Student Calendar

*Continuing To Build
Positive & Effective
Learning Communities*

Administrative Offices

242 S. Orchard Drive • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9400 • www.sd163.com

21st Century Primary Center

(Grades K - 3)

Mrs. Jennifer Gervase, *Principal*
240 S. Orchard Drive • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9490 • Fax (708) 395-2514
(708) 668-9450 to report absences

Blackhawk Primary Center

(Grades K - 3)

Ms. Kelli Pumphrey, *Principal*
130 Blackhawk Drive • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9500 • Fax (708) 395-2517
(708) 668-9550 to report absences

Algonquin Pre-Kindergarten Center

(Pre-Kindergarten)

Mrs. Felice Hybert, *Principal*
170 Algonquin • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9200 • Fax (708) 395-2512
(708) 668-9250 to report absences

Mohawk Primary Center

(Grades K - 3)

Dr. Chrishawn Chinn, *Principal*
301 Mohawk • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9300 • Fax (708) 395-2513
(708) 668-9350 to report absences

Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM

(Grades 4 - 6)

Dr. Lori Colbert, *Principal*
Ms. Danielle Gladstone, *Principal*
401 Concord Drive • Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 668-9100 • Fax (708) 395-2511
(708) 668-9150 to report absences

Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts

(Grades 6 - 8)

Dr. Taiyuan Banks, *Principal*
Dr. Felix Anderson, *Principal*
Mr. TJ Lee, *Assistant Principal*
530 Lakewood • Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9600 • Fax (708) 395-2516
(708) 668-9650 to report absences

www.sd163.com

Mission Statement

Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163 is committed to meeting the academic needs and social-emotional needs of our diverse student body and promoting high educational standards for ALL learners by:

- differentiating instruction
- nurturing active, strategic, and higher-level thinking skills
- inspiring a love of life-long learning

Belief Statement

We, the community and staff of the Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163, believe:

1. All children want to and can learn.
2. Education empowers the student to be a productive member of society.
3. High academic expectations are essential for excellence.
4. Children are the central focus of the District's educational processes and decisions.
5. Respecting each individual's worth is vital to a positive educational climate.
6. The multi-racial and multi-cultural experience is essential for the development of the total person and community.
7. A positive educational climate fosters high expectations and performance for all.
8. Each individual has a responsibility to contribute to a positive learning environment.
9. Education is a partnership based on the participation of the students, parents, staff, and community.
10. Students are influenced by adult role models.

Administration Center Hours

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

School Hours

Kindergarten – 8th Grade Students: 8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Early Childhood Program Students:

8:15 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. • 12:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. • Full Day 8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163 Board of Education

Margaret McDannel, *President*

Allison R. McCray, *Vice President*

Kimberly Elmore-Perkins, *Secretary*

Jacqueline Jordan, *Assistant Secretary*

Dr. Christina Dupee, *Board Member*

Takesha Howard, *Board Member*

Walter L. Mosby III, *Board Member*

Administration Center

242 S. Orchard Drive • Park Forest, IL 60466

Dr. Joyce Carmine

Interim Superintendent
(708) 668-9427

Dr. Ericka Patterson

Associate Superintendent of Human Resources
(708) 668-9413

Dr. Regina Nottke

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
(708) 668-9434

Mr. David Ricker

Chief School Business Official
(708) 668-9400

Dr. Erika Johnson

Director of Instructional Services and Grants
(708) 668-9417

Dr. Karen Burns

Director of New Teacher Development and Student Intervention Programming
(708) 668-9431

Mr. Dion Wiley

Information Technology Director
(708) 668-9409

Instructional Services

Dr. Lori Colbert

Director of District Honors Program
(708) 668-9101

Transportation & Food Services

Mrs. Sandi Gordon

Manager
(708) 668-9425

Bullying Hotline

(708) 668-9638

MyPal - Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM:

<https://www.mypalschools.com/sd163midsch>

MyPal - Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts:

<https://www.mypalschools.com/sd163jrhs>

Year at a Glance





August 14-16	New Teacher Orientation	December 3	Early Release, 12:30 pm
August 19-20	Teacher Institute Days	December 20	Early Release, 12:30 pm
August 21	First Day of School	Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 . . .	Winter Break, No School
August 21-30	Late Start, 9:25 am	January 14	Early Release, 12:30 pm
September 2	Labor Day, No School	January 17	2nd Quarter Ends
September 3	Michelle Open House, 6:30 pm	January 20	Martin Luther King Day, No School
September 10	Early Release, 12:30 pm	January 28	Early Release, 12:30 pm
	Barack Open House, 6:00 pm	February 11	Early Release, 12:30 pm
September 11	Blackhawk Open House, 6:00 pm		Parent/Teacher Conferences 1-4:00 pm
September 12	Mohawk Open House, 6:00 pm	February 17	Presidents' Day, No School
September 12	21st Open House, 6:00 pm	February 25	Early Release, 12:30 pm
September 18	Algonquin Open House, 6:00 pm	February 28	Mid-Winter Break, No School
September 24	Early Release, 12:30 pm	March 3	Casimir Pulaski Day, No School
October 8	Teacher Institute Day	March 11	Early Release, 12:30 pm
October 14	Columbus Day, No School	March 18	Teacher Institute Day
October 15	Early Release, 12:30 pm	March 21	3rd Quarter Ends
	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:00-4:00 pm	March 25	Early Release, 12:30 pm
October 25	1st Quarter Ends	April 8	Early Release, 12:30 pm
October 29	Early Release, 12:30 pm	April 18	Good Friday, No School
November 5	Election Day, No School	April 21-25	Spring Break, No School
November 11	Veterans Day, No School	April 29	Early Release, 12:30 pm
November 19	Early Release, 12:30 pm	May 13	Early Release, 12:30 pm
November 25	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 2-8:00 pm	May 26	Memorial Day, No School
November 26	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm	May 29	8th Grade Graduation
November 27-29 . . .	Fall Break, No School	June 4	Last Day of School, 4th Quarter Ends
		June 19	Juneteenth, No School

21st Century Primary Center
(708) 668-9490
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Barack Obama School
of Leadership and STEM
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AUGUST 2024

All weekday shaded areas are non-attendance days.

Blackhawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9500
Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300
Michelle Obama School
of Technology and the Arts
(708) 668-9600

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Download these useful apps...</p>   <p>It's everything District 163. in your pocket.</p> <p>Calendar Menu Events Staff Directory Alerts Athletics</p>  				1 Algonquin Preschool Screening	2 Algonquin Preschool Screening	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	14 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	15 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	16 Michelle Student Orientation Day 8th 9:00 am 7th 11:00 am 6th 1:00 pm	17
18	19 Teacher Institute Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	20 Teacher Institute	21 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL Late Start 9:25 am Algonquin Preschool First Day Meet and Greet	22 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am Michelle Band Night 5:00 - 7:00 pm	23 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am	24
25	26 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am	27 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am	28 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am	29 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am	30 Breakfast 9:05 am Late Start (Instruction) 9:25 am Mohawk Summer Packet Celebration	31

21st Century Primary Center
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SEPTEMBER 2024

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Labor Day No School	3 Michelle Title I Meeting 6:00 - 6:30 pm Open House 6:30 - 7:30 pm	4	5	6 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Michelle Summer i-Ready Celebration	7
8	9	10 Early Release 12:30 pm Barack Title I Meeting 5:30 - 6:00 pm Open House 6:00 - 7:00 pm	11 Blackhawk Title I Meeting 5:30 - 6:00 pm Open House 6:00 - 7:00 pm	12 21st & Mohawk Title I Meeting 5:30 - 6:00 pm Open House 6:00 - 7:00 pm	13 21st & Blackhawk Summer Packet Celebration Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	14
15	16	17	18 Algonquin Title I Meeting 5:30 - 6:00 pm Open House 6:00 - 7:00 pm	19	20 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm 1st Quarter Progress Report	21
22	23 Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	24 Early Release 12:30 pm	25 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am	26 Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am	27 21st Student of the Month 8:20 am Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	28
29	30	<p><i>Contact your child's teacher via phone message or email at the start of the school year. Be certain you are added to a teacher's Class Dojo; many teachers digitally provide helpful tips and reminders.</i></p>				

Algonquin Pre-Kindergarten Center
(708) 668-9200

OCTOBER 2024

Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Have you signed in to Skyward?</p> <p>Class Dojo?</p>		1	2	3	4	5
					Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Teacher Institute	Barack Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration 1:00 pm		Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	
Mental Health Awareness Week						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Columbus Day No School	Early Release 12:30 pm Parent/Teacher Conference 1:00 - 4:00 pm		Primary Schools Family Reading Night 6:00 pm	Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Board Meeting Education Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm		Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am	Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am Michelle Curriculum Night 6:00 pm	Barack, Algonquin, 21st, Blackhawk, Mohawk Fall Festival 21st Student of the Month 8:20 am 1st Quarter Ends	
Red Ribbon Week						
27	28	29	30	31	<p>Please remember to check your child's grades regularly.</p>	
		Michelle Fall Festival Early Release 12:30 PM Algonquin Family Night 5:00 - 6:00 pm		21st, Blackhawk, Mohawk, Algonquin Character Day Halloween		
Red Ribbon Week						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Is your child completing all required i-Ready lessons?</i></p> <p><i>This is an important part of the math and ELA programs.</i></p> <p><i>Remember to schedule your Parent Teacher Conferences.</i></p>					<p>1</p> <p>Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm</p> <p>1st Quarter Report Card can be accessed through Skyward</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Ends</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Election Day No School</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm</p> <p>Michelle 8th Grade Q1 Incentive Trip</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veteran's Day No School</p>	<p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Week</p>			<p>15</p> <p>Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Early Release 12:30 pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Barack Family Curriculum Night 6:30-7:30 pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Student of the Month 21st 8:20 am Mohawk 9:30 am</p> <p>Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Parent/Teacher Conference 2:00 - 8:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Parent/Teacher Conference 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>Fall Break – Schools Closed</p>						

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DECEMBER 2024

All weekday shaded areas are non-attendance days.

Blackhawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9500
Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300
Michelle Obama School
of Technology and the Arts
(708) 668-9600

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Early Release 12:30 pm	4 21st Holiday Show 1:30 pm	5	6 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Mohawk Holiday Show 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	7
8	9	10 Blackhawk Holiday Show 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	11 Algonquin Holiday Show 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	12 Barack Holiday Show 1:30 pm	13	14
15	16 Board Meeting Regular Session 7:00 pm	17	18 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am Michelle Holiday Show @ Rich South 7:00 pm	19 Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am Michelle Holiday Show @ Rich South 7:00 pm	20 21st Student of the Month 8:20 am Early Release 12:30 pm 2nd Quarter Progress Report	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Hanukkah Begins	26	27	28
Winter Break - No School						
29	30	31	Please check the Live Feed section on the website or in the District 163 app for upcoming events.			
Winter Break - No School						

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JANUARY 2025

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(708) 668-9500
Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300
Michelle Obama School
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Help your child start off the new year with a "Kindness Matters" resolution.</i></p>			<p>1</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
Winter Break - No School						
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>School Resumes</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Early Release 12:30 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Algonquin Family Night 5:00 - 6:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Michelle Spelling Bee 9:30 am</p>	<p>17</p> <p>21st Winter Packet Celebration Barack Spelling Bee 9:30 am 2nd Quarter Ends</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Primary Schools Family Math Day 1:30 pm Michelle 7th/8th Grade Science Fair</p>	<p>24</p> <p>2nd Quarter Report Card can be accessed through Skyward</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Early Release 12:30 pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am District Spelling Bee 9:30 am</p>	<p>31</p> <p>21st Student of the Month 8:20 am Michelle 8th Grade Q2 Incentive Trip</p>	

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FEBRUARY 2025

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Mohawk Primary Center
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Black History Month</i></p> <p><i>Have you spent time reading and discussing the contributions of Black Americans?</i></p> <p><i>Sharing stories of our families is an important part of building family traditions in all ethnicities.</i></p>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	8
9	10	11 Early Release 12:30 pm Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:00 - 4:00 pm	12	13 Mohawk Black History Program 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	14 Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Presidents' Day No School	18 Blackhawk Black History Program 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	19 Algonquin Black History Program 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	20 Choir Gala @ GSU	21 3rd Quarter Progress Report 21st Black History Program 1:30 pm	22
23	24 Board Meeting Education Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	25 Early Release 12:30 pm	26 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am	27 21st Student of the Month 8:20 am Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am Barack Black History Program 1:30 pm	28 Mid-Winter Break No School	

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MARCH 2025

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Blackhawk Primary Center
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Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300
Michelle Obama School
of Technology and the Arts
(708) 668-9600

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Download this useful app</p> 						1
2	3 Casimir Pulaski Day No School	4	5	6 Michelle Black History Program @ GSU 7:00 pm	7 Algonquin Preschool Screening 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	8
9 Daylight Saving Time Starts	10	11 Early Release 12:30 pm	12	13	14 Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	15
16 St. Patrick's Day	17	18 Teacher Institute	19 Algonquin Family Night 5:00 - 6:00 pm	20	21 3rd Quarter Ends	22
23	24 Board Meeting Fin. Comm 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	25 Early Release 12:30 pm	26 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am	27 Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am	28 21st Student of the Month - 8:20 am Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Michelle 8th Grade Q3 Incentive Trip 3rd Quarter Report Card can be accessed through Skyward	29
30	31					

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APRIL 2025

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Blackhawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9500
Mohawk Primary Center
(708) 668-9300
Michelle Obama School
of Technology and the Arts
(708) 668-9600

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Early Release 12:30 pm	9	10	11 Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	12
13	14 Algonquin Preschool Screening for 25-26 Mohawk Title I Meeting 1:30 pm Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	15 Algonquin Preschool Screening for 25-26	16 Algonquin Preschool Screening for 25-26 Barack Family STEM Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm	17 Algonquin Preschool Screening for 25-26 Student of the Month 21st 8:20 am Mohawk 9:30 am	18 Good Friday No School	19
20 Easter	21	22	23	24 Michelle SSJHS Band and Art Festival	25	26
Spring Break – No School						
27	28	29 Early Release 12:30 pm	30 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am Primary Schools Science Fair 1:30 pm	Spring Break is a great time to catch up on i-Ready, missing assignments and reading logs.		

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MAY 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Allow children to make a household budget with you. When shopping, let them do price comparisons for the items that will be purchased.				1 Michelle Title I Meeting 5:00 pm Blackhawk Title I Meeting 6:00 - 6:30 pm	2 Michelle Career Day 21st 3rd Grade Spelling Bee 9:00 am 4th Quarter Progress Report	3
4	5	6	7 Blackhawk 3rd Grade Spelling Bee 9:00 am	8 Mohawk 3rd Grade Spelling Bee 9:00 am Michelle Band, Orchestra and Jazz Band Spring Concert 6:00 PM	9 Barack Energy Fair 9:00 am Algonquin Family Playgroup 9:30 am & 1:30 pm	10
11 Mother's Day	12 21st Title I Meeting 1:30 pm	13 Early Release 12:30 pm	14 Algonquin Step-Up Day Michelle Choir and Dance Recital 6:00 pm	15 Barack Title I Meeting 9:30 am	16 Michelle 8th Grade Dance 7:00 pm	17
18	19 Michelle 8th Grade Trip Primary 3rd Grade Step Up Day Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	20	21 Michelle 8th Grade Picnic	22	23 Michelle 7th Grade Springfield Trip	24
25	26 Memorial Day No School	27	28 Blackhawk Student of the Month 9:00 am	29 8th Grade Graduation Mohawk Student of the Month 9:30 am Blackhawk Field Day	30 21st Student of the Month 8:20 am Algonquin Blast Off to Kindergarten Barack Field Day	31

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JUNE 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 21st Field Day	3 Mohawk Field Day Algonquin Family Appreciation Play Day	4 4th Quarter Ends LAST DAY OF SCHOOL Early Release 12:30 pm 4th Quarter Report Card can be accessed through Skyward	5 Emergency Days	6 Emergency Days	7
8	9 Emergency Days	10 Emergency Days	11 Emergency Days	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth No School	20	21
22 Father's Day	23 Board Meeting Finance Committee 6:00 pm Regular Session 7:00 pm	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	<p><i>How much time does your child spend reading?</i></p> <p><i>Help your children keep track of how they use their time for a week by creating a "time log."</i></p>				

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July 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day No School	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	Family Field Trips to the zoo, museum or farm can enhance background knowledge necessary for strong reading comprehension skills.	

21st Century Primary Center
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AUGUST 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Prepare a weekly schedule each Sunday before a school week. Update the schedule as the week goes on.					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						