



School District 105
Countryside – Hodgkins - LaGrange
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

The District 105 Board of Education adopted the 2017-2018 school calendar during its March meeting. A new component of this calendar is an **early-dismissal** schedule, one day per week. During the 2017-2018 school year, students will be dismissed on Wednesdays at 2:15 PM. The early-dismissal days will replace the 6 half-day dismissals that currently exist in our calendar.

Throughout this school year, a committee of teachers, administrators, and Board members explored possible options for an early-dismissal structure. Over the past several weeks, I met with all District 105 teachers, as well as parent groups from each of our schools to discuss our proposal, answer questions, and collect feedback. Based on the feedback I received through these meetings, and in response to my recent informational letter about this topic, we revised our original proposal. The following items were considered when creating next year's calendar.

- Aligning D105 calendar with the Lyons Township HS winter and spring breaks:
 - Winter Break: December 23rd – January 7th (LT has no student attendance on Monday, January 8, 2018)
 - Spring Break: March 24th – April 2nd
- Eliminating our current half-day schedule (six days in current calendar)
- Selecting day of week for early dismissals
- Compromising loss of instructional time for students with the addition of early-dismissal days
- Creating a consistent schedule for early dismissal days
 - Preferable to have one per week as opposed to 3 out of 4 weeks per month

This new **Wednesday early-dismissal schedule** will provide teachers with more frequent and consistent professional time to collaborate with grade-level colleagues across the district, and will ultimately strengthen instruction in our classrooms, resulting in a positive impact on student achievement. We understand that this change to our schedule may be challenging for families. It is our intention to minimize this inconvenience, while still providing optimal professional time for our teachers.

The 2017-2018 District 105 school calendar is included in this mailing, and can also be accessed through our district webpage under the calendar heading (www.d105.net).

Thank you,

Steve Bahn