

**Memorandum**

To: John P. Phelan, Superintendent  
From: Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent  
Date: December 5, 2019  
Re: Proposed School Calendar for 2020-21

Enclosed please find the calendar proposed for the 2020-21 school year. Here are a few highlights:

- The first day for staff and students is before Labor Day.
- School Committee policy: When Labor Day occurs on or before September 3rd, the start date for students will be the Wednesday after Labor Day. When Labor Day occurs later than September 3rd, the start date for students will be the Wednesday before Labor Day.
  - First day for staff = Tuesday, September 1
  - First day for students = Wednesday, September 2
  - Labor Day = Monday, September 7
- Schools will be closed for students and teachers on November 3, 2020 (presidential election day).
- We have shared the list of religious observances with all Belmont staff and the Belmont Religious Council for input. The list may still be updated before the January 7 vote.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

**BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
 Belmont, Massachusetts  
 School Calendar for 2020 – 2021 (includes 5 snow days)

August 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	NS	NS	NS	28
31				

September 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
	T	2 ● K P EMH	3 ☉	4 ☉ P
X	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

October 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
X	13	14 M	15	16
19	20	21 EM	22	23
26	27	28EMH	29	30

November 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	S	4 EMH	5	6
9	10	X	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25*	X	X
30				

20 days

21 days

17 days

T School Closed for Students-Teachers Report  
 X Closed for Students and Staff  
 S School Closed for Students and Classroom/Cafeteria Staff  
 NS New Staff Report (8/25, 8/26, 8/27)  
 \* Early Release Day  
 + High School Graduation – June 6, 2021

E Elementary Schools Early Release Day  
 H High School Early Release Day  
 M Middle School Early Release Day  
 K No school for Kindergarten Students  
 P No school for Preschool Students  
 ● Day 1 for All Students Grades 1-12 (not K)  
 ☉ Half of Kindergarten students each day (for ½ day) - Notices will be sent home by each school.  
 ☉ Last day of school – early release – all grades (Includes 5 snow days; subject to change depending on snow days)

**School Hours:**  
**Start Time Dismissal Times**  
**Burbank, Butler, Wellington**  
 M,T,Th,Fri Wed Wed. Early Rel.  
 8:40am - 2:50pm 1:40 pm 11:40 am  
 (1/2 Day Kindergarten 8:40am-11:55am)  
**Winn Brook** M,T,Th,Fri Wed Wed. Early Rel.  
 8:50am - 3:00pm 1:50pm 11:50am  
 (1/2 Day Kindergarten 8:50am – 12:05pm)  
**CMS** M,T,Th,Fri Wed Wed. Early Rel.  
 7:55am - 2:25pm 1:15pm 11:00am  
**BHS** M,T,Th,Fri Wed Wed. Early Rel.  
 7:35am - 2:25pm 1:25pm 10:30am

**HOLIDAYS**

Labor Day – September 7, 2020  
 Columbus Day – October 12, 2020  
 Election Day – November 3, 2020  
 Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11, 2020  
 Thanksgiving Recess\* – November 26 & 27, 2020 (beginning with early release on November 25)  
 Winter Recess: December 24, 2020 - January 1, 2021  
 Martin Luther King Day – January 18, 2021  
 February Recess – February 15– 19, 2021  
 April Recess – April 19 - 23, 2021  
 Memorial Day – May 31, 2021

December 2020				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2 M	3	4
7	8	9 M	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	X	X
X	X	X	X	

17 days

January 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
				X
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
X	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

19 days

February 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
X	X	X	X	X
22	23	24	25	26

15 days

March 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17EH	18	19
22	23	24E	25	26
29	30	31E		

23 days

April 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
X	X	X	X	X
26	27	28	29	30

17 days

May 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13 K	14 K
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26EMH	27	28
X				

20 days

June 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22 ☉	23	24	25
28	29	30		

11 days (+ High School Graduation – June 6, 2021)

July 2021				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL IN JUNE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

The Belmont Public Schools District is a culturally and religiously diverse community. While the schools are not closed for observance of religious holidays, it is the intention of the District to respect the religious and cultural days that are significant to students, families, and staff. The following list includes many of these holidays celebrated during the 2020-2021 school year that may require a student to be absent from school. Students who miss schoolwork because of an excused absence, including absence for religious observance, should not be expected to complete homework, study for tests or do other school work during their absence. They shall be given the opportunity to complete assignments and tests within a reasonable time, based on the circumstances. These absences should be managed in the same manner as absences for other excused reasons, including informing the school of the absence, talking with teachers about the absence, missed work, etc. Please contact the Belmont Public Schools with information about any religious day not listed, for inclusion in future lists.

<b>Name of Holiday</b>	<b>Religion</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Eid al-Adha*	Islamic	July 31 - August 3
Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	August 12
Muharram (al Hijrah)	Islamic	August 20
Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	August 22
Ashura*	Islamic	August 29
Rosh Hashanah*	Jewish	September 19-20
Yom Kippur*	Jewish	September 28
Sukkot*	Jewish	October 3-9
Shemini Atzeret*	Jewish	October 10
Simchat Torah*	Jewish	October 11
Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	October 18
Navratri	Hindu	October 17-25
Dassera	Hindu	October 25
Mawlid an-Nabi	Islamic	November 3
Diwali	Hindu	November 14
Bestu Varas	Hindu	November 15
Chanukah*	Jewish	December 11-18
Christmas Day	Christian	December 25
Kwanzaa	African American	December 26-January 1
Feast of the Nativity	Armenian Orthodox, Orthodox Christian	January 6
Pongal	Hindu	January 14
Lunar New Year	Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese	February 12
Beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday	Christian	February 17
Purim*	Jewish	February 25
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	March 11
Beginning Lent	Orthodox Christian	March 15
Naw-Rúz (New Year)	Baha'i, Zoroastrian	March 20
Palm Sunday	Christian	March 28
Passover*	Jewish	March 28-April 4
Holi	Hindu	March 29
Holy Thursday	Christian	April 1
Good Friday	Christian	April 2
Easter	Christian	April 4
Ramadan begins*	Islamic	April 13
Rama Navami	Hindu	April 21
Good Friday	Orthodox Christian	April 30
Easter	Orthodox Christian	May 2
Laila Al-Qadr*	Islamic	May 8
Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)*	Islamic	May 13
Shavuot*	Jewish	May 17-18
Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	May 23
Ascension of the Baha'u'llah*	Baha'i	May 28

\*All Jewish and Islamic holidays listed above begin at sundown on the previous day  
**Source: Anti-Defamation League Calendar of Observances**