

School Calendar

The school calendar for the ensuing year shall be prepared by the Superintendent and submitted to the School Committee for approval annually. The official calendar of the Belmont Public Schools shall include 180 instructional days and five additional days for emergency school closings, as required by law.

The calendar will set forth the days that schools will be in session, including holidays, vacation periods, in-service days, and parent conferences.

Start Date

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.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L 4:7; 69:1G; 71:1; 71:4; 71:4A; 71:73; 136:12
Board of Education Regulations for School Year and School Day, effective 9/1/75, Board of Education, Student Learning Time Regulations, 603 CMR 27.00, Adopted 12/20/94

Amended 6/1/17

Homework

The Superintendent shall oversee professional staff in the development of appropriate guidelines for the frequency, quantity and content of homework at all grade levels. Such guidelines shall consider educational goals and academic standards of the district and shall be developmentally appropriate. Homework guidelines shall be published in each school's student handbook.

Teachers will not assign significant homework on religious holidays.

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.

Teachers may assign make up work, and grant full or reduced credit, at their discretion, for students who miss work because of unexcused absences.

Cross reference: Recognition of religious and cultural beliefs and customs, Section 6011

Revised 6/7/16

BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2022-2023 CALENDAR

August and September				
M	T	W	TH	F
29	30 NS	31 NS	1 NS	2
X	6 T	7 EMM	8 P	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

October				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
X	11	12 M	13	14
17	18	19 EM	20	21
24	25	26 EMH	27	28
31				

November				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2 EMH	3	4
7	8	9	10	X
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23 EMH	X	X
28	29	30		

December				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7 M	8	9
12	13	14 M	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
X	X	X	X	X

January				
M	T	W	TH	F
X	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
X	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER (Days in School: 18)

- 9/5 **No School - Labor Day**
- 9/7 **First day of Classes (Gr. 1-12) - Early Release**
- 8/8 Half of Kindergarten students report; **no Preschool**
- 9/9 Half of Kindergarten students report; **Preschool visits**
- 9/12 First day of Preschool

OCTOBER (Days in School: 20)

- 10/10 **No School - Indigenous Peoples Day**
- 10/12 **Early Release - Middle School**
- 10/19 **Early Release - Elementary & Middle Schools**
- 10/26 **Early Release - Elementary, Middle & High Schools**

NOVEMBER (Days in School: 19)

- 11/2 **Early Release - Elementary, Middle & High Schools**
- 11/11 **No School - Veteran's Day**
- 11/23 **Early Release - Thanksgiving Recess - All Schools**
- 11/24 - 11/25 **No School - Thanksgiving Recess**

DECEMBER (Days in School: 17)

- 12/7 **Early Release - Middle School**
- 12/14 **Early Release - Middle School**
- 12/26-12/30 **No School - Winter Recess**

JANUARY (Days in School: 20)

- 1/2 **No School - New Years Day Observed**
- 1/16 **No School - Martin Luther King Day**

FEBRUARY (Days in School: 15)

- 2/20-2/24 **No School - February Recess**

MARCH (Days in School: 23)

- 3/15 **Early Release - Elementary & High Schools**
- 3/22 **Early Release - Elementary Schools**
- 3/29 **Early Release - Elementary Schools**

APRIL (Days in School: 15)

- 4/17-4/21 **No School - April Recess**

MAY (Days in School: 22)

- 5/11-5/12 **No Kindergarten, No Preschool**
- 5/24 **Early Release - Elementary, Middle & High Schools**
- 5/29 **No School - Memorial Day**

JUNE (Days in School: 11)

- 6/4 **High School Graduation**
- 6/19 **Juneteenth Independence Day**
- 6/23 **Last Day of School - Early Release *Includes 5 snow days**

- NS New Staff Report
- T School Closed for Students-Teachers Report
- E Elementary Schools Early Release Day
- M Middle School Early Release Day
- H High School Early Release Day
- K No School for Kindergarten Students
- P No School for Preschool students
- First Day of Classes (Gr. 1-12) - Early Release
- Closed for Students and Staff
- Early Release
- Last Day of School-Early Release subject to change

February				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
X	X	X	X	X
27	28			

March				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15 KH	16	17
20	21	22 L	23	24
27	28	29 F	30	31

April				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
X	X	X	X	X
24	25	26	27	28

May				
M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11 KP	12 KP
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24 EMH	25	26
X	30	31		

June				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
X	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

Belmont Public School Hours by School 2022- 2023

Start Time	Dismissal Times	Wed	Wed Early Release	Start Time	Dismissal Times	Wed	Wed Early Release
Burbank, Butler, Wellington 8:40am -	M, T, Th, F 2:50pm	1:40pm	11:40am	CMS 7:55am -	M, T, Th, F 2:25pm	1:15pm	11:00am
Winn Brook 8:50am -	M, T, TH, F 3:00pm	1:50pm	11:50am	BHS 7:35am -	M, T, Th, F 2:25pm	1:25pm	10:30am

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 2022-2023 school year that may require a student to be absent from school. Students who miss school work 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.

Name of Holiday	Religion	Dates
Eid al-Adha*	Islamic	July 9
Muharram (al Hijrah)	Islamic	July 30
Ashura*	Islamic	August 8
Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	August 19
Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	August 31
Rosh Hashanah*	Jewish	September 26 – September 27
Navratri	Hindu	September 26 – October 5
Yom Kippur*	Jewish	October 5
Dussehra	Hindu	October 5
Mawlid al-Nabi	Islamic	October 8
Sukkot*	Jewish	October 10 – October 16
Shemini Atzeret*	Jewish	October 17
Simchat Torah*	Jewish	October 18
Diwali	Hindu	October 24
Bestu Varas	Hindu	October 26
Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	November 6
Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	November 7
Chanukah*	Jewish	December 19 - December 26
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 15
Lunar New Year	Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese	January 22
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	February 18
Beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday	Christian	February 22
Ayyam-i-Ha	Baha'i	February 26 - March 1
Beginning of Lent	Orthodox Christian	February 28
Purim*	Jewish	March 6
Holi	Hindu	March 8
Naw-Rúz (New Year)	Baha'i, Zoroastrian	March 21
Ramadan begins*	Islamic	March 22
Rama Navami	Hindu	March 30
Palm Sunday	Christian	April 2
Passover*	Jewish	April 5 – April 13
Holy Thursday	Christian	April 6
Good Friday	Christian	April 7
Easter	Christian	April 9
Good Friday	Orthodox Christian	April 14
Easter	Orthodox Christian	April 16
Laylat Al-Qadr*	Islamic	April 18
First Day of Ridvan	Baha'i	April 21
Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)*	Islamic	April 21
Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	May 24
Shavuot*	Jewish	May 25 – May 27
Ascension of the Baha'u'llah*	Baha'i	May 29

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

Student Transportation Services

The Belmont Public Schools shall provide transportation to and from school at town expense in accordance with provisions governing the transportation of students set forth in the Massachusetts General Laws. The School Committee at its discretion may make transportation to and from school available to other Belmont Public School students. Such transportation may be subject to a fee. The provision of transportation to and from school is a privilege that may be revoked if abused.

The School Committee at its discretion may make transportation available for programmatic events and extracurricular activities. Such transportation may be subject to a fee.

The Superintendent shall develop appropriate procedures relating to the provision of student transportation.

Legal References:

MGL 71: 7 A

71: 68

71B: 8

76: 1

Student Health and Wellness

The Belmont Public Schools are committed to providing school environments that promote student health, well being, and ability to learn. The district shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations concerning student health, safety, education and nutrition. Students shall meet established health requirements in order to attend school.

The Belmont Public Schools shall comply with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's regulations pertaining to sports-related head injuries in extracurricular activities.

In accordance with state and federal law, the Belmont Public Schools shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention education programs in grades K-12.

The Superintendent shall ensure the development of procedures to implement this policy including procedures to govern the prevention and management of extracurricular sports related head injuries for students in grades six through twelve.

Notice of this health and wellness policy shall be provided to students and parents in accordance with state law. Belmont will file a copy of this policy with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in accordance with law in a manner requested by DESE.

Legal References: Chapter 166 of the Acts of 2012

MGL 71:1, 53, 54, 54B, 55, 56, 57, 96

76:15

111:6, 70F, 219, 222, 223

112:12F

119:51A

129A

135A

214:1B

105 CMR 200, 201, 210, 215, 220, 221, 225

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Comprehensive School Health Manual, 2007

Section 204 of PL 108-265, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) 7 CFR 210.10

Belmont School Nursing Protocols and Procedures, July 2010, available from school nurses and the Superintendent's office

File: JLCB - IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS

Students entering school for the first time, whether at kindergarten or through transfer from another school district, will be required to present a physician's certificate attesting to immunization against communicable diseases as may be specified from time to time by the Department of Public Health. The only exception to these requirements will be made on receipt of a written statement from a doctor that immunization would not be in the best interests of the child, or by the student's parent or guardian stating that vaccination or immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the student or parent/guardian.

SOURCE: MASC March 2021

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 76:15

CROSS REF.: JF, School Admissions

Dedication of Buildings and Facilities

The School Committee has sole authority over the naming or re-naming of buildings, interior facilities and grounds of the Belmont Public Schools. Dedication of a school facility is an honor bestowed on an individual whose work or service has contributed significantly to the Belmont Public Schools or to the Belmont community and who is not a school or town employee at the time of the dedication. The School Committee may consult community groups on such dedication.

The School Committee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.