2023-2024 WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

Official calendar is available on www.westfordk12.us/district/about-wps/pages/calendar

STARTING DATES			
Aug 28	Teachers Return		
Aug 29	Grades 6 & 9 Orientation		
Aug 29 - 31	PreK & Kindergarten Orientation		
Aug 30	Grades 1-5, 7-8 & 10-12 Classes Begin		
Sep 5	PreK & K Classes Begin		

NO SCHOOL - HOLIDAYS/VACATIONS/ELECTIONS FULL DAY STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMEN				
Aug 29	Professional Development			
Sep 1- 4	Labor Day Weekend			
Sep 25	Yom Kippur Observed			
Oct 9	Indigenous Peoples' Day			
Nov 10	Veteran's Day			
Nov 23 - 24	Thanksgiving Break			
Dec 25 - 29	December Break			
Jan 1	New Year's Day			
Jan 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day			
Feb 19	President's Day			
Feb 19 - 23	February Break			
Mar 5 Pre	esidential Primary / Professional Devel			
Apr 10	Eid al-Fitr Observed			
Apr 15	Patriot's Day			
Apr 15 - 19	April Break			
May 7	Town Election / Professional Devel			
May 27	Memorial Day			
Jun 19	Juneteenth Observed			

EARLY RELEASE	
Aug 29	Gr 6 & 9 Orientation
Oct 5	WA ONLY Back to School Night
Oct 26	Professional Development
Nov 20	PreK - 8 Parent Conferences
Nov 22	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 22	December Break Begins
Jan 24	Professional Development
Mar 18 - 19	PreK - 5 Parent Conferences
Mar 27	Professional Development
Mar 29	Good Friday
May 16	Professional Development
Jun 14	Tentative Last Student Day

	MAJOR RELIGIOUS	& CULTURAL HOLIDAYS
*	Sep 15 - 17	Rosh Hashanah
*	Sep 24 - 25	Yom Kippur
*	Nov 12	Diwali
*	Dec 7 - 15	Hanukkah
	Dec 25	Christmas
	Dec 26 - Jan 1	Kwanzaa
	Jan 7	Orthodox Christmas
	Feb 10	Lunar New Year
*	Mar 10 - Apr 8	Ramadan
	Mar 29	Good Friday
	Mar 31	Easter
*	Apr 9	Eid al-Fitr
*	Apr 22 - 30	Passover
	May 5	Orthodox Easter

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Parent Conferences 5 Snow Days Back to School Nights

* Observances begin at sundown of the first day circled.

** Celebrations may occur on days preceding & following this date. Policies related to celebrating holidays can be found on back.

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September 2023

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November 2023 W

December 2023

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January 2024

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Early Release

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2023 - 2024 WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS

Sep 14	Gr 3 - 5
Sep 19	Gr PK & K - 2
Sep 21	Gr 6 - 8
Oct 5	Westford Academy - Early Release

PARENT CONFERENCES

Morning conferences begin at regular school start times.

Nov 20	Gr PK - 2	1:30-7:00 PM Conference - early release
	Gr 3 - 8	1:00-7:00 PM Conference - early release
Nov 21	Gr PK - 8	A.M. conferences - 2 hour delay
Mar 18	Gr PK - 2	1:30-7:00 PM Conference - early release
	Gr 3 - 5	1:00-7:00 PM Conference - early release
Mar 19	Gr PK - 5	A.M. conferences - 2 hour delay

MARKING PERIOD END DATES

Preschool:	Jan 19, Jun 14
Elementary:	Dec 1, Mar 8, Jun 14
Middle School:	Dec 8, Mar 12, Jun 14
High School:	Nov 2, Jan 22, Apr 1, Jun 14

STARTING AND DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

			Early
<u>School</u>	Start	End	Dismissal
Westford Academy	7:35 A.M.	1:55 p.m.	11:00 A.M.
Blanchard	7:35 A.M.	1:55 p.m.	11:00 A.M.
Stony Brook	7:35 A.M.	1:55 p.m.	11:00 A.M.
Grades 3-5	8:25 A.M.	2:30 p.m.	11:40 A.M.
Grades K-2	9:05 A.M.	3:10 p.m.	12:20 p.m.
PreK (A.M.)	9:05 A.M.	11:35 A.M.	11:35 A.M.
PreK (p.m.)	12:40 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	No School

SCHOOL CLOSING/DELAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are made at approximately 5:30 A.M.

- Web: westfordk12.us
- Radio: WBZ (1030), WCAP (980), WRKO (680)
- TV: WBZ (4), WCVB (5), WHDH (7), FOX 2



MAJOR RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HOLIDAYS POLICIE

Per Policy 5114: The existence of a religious holiday on a given day is, in and of itself, not a valid reason for removing a full or half day from the school calendar. A partial list of major cultural holidays will be listed on the reverse of the school calendar for reference only. If a committee is in place, the district or town cultural committee will review the list biannually. A more complete list of Massachusetts's legal holidays and some major religious holidays can be accessed annually at

http://www.doe.mass.edu/resources/holidays.html

<u>Per Policy 5203</u>: To be consistent with the spirit and letter of the law, and to avoid compromising any student's religious

Excused Absences - The Westford Public Schools will allow excused absences to celebrate religious holidays.

Notification of Absence - Parents are expected to follow procedures for 'reporting an absence' as stipulated in the student handbook.

Sports and Extracurricular Activities – Students shall not be penalized because they are unable to participate in a sporting event, practice, try-outs or any other extra-curricular activity due to their observance of a religious holiday.

Religious Holiday Observance – A student may not be penalized for his/her observance of a religious holiday. The student is expected to complete work impacted by the religious observance within one week of the holiday. Any missed tests or quizzes shall be taken within a week of the missed day, at a time mutually agreeable to the teacher and the student. At the elementary and middle school, it may be necessary to involve the student's parent/guardian for transportation consideration. Staff and teachers shall provide students with class notes or syllabus, and any assignments prior to the absence if requested and if available. Otherwise these items shall be provided upon return from a religious holiday.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

March 11, 2024 5 - 8 p.m. March 12, 2024 5 - 8 p.m.

WA GRADUATION

June 7, 2024