

## Details of 2009-10 School Calendar and Professional Learning Community Implementation

The following calendar has been approved for the 2009-10 school year to facilitate the full implementation of **Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)** in the Northfield Public Schools:

- Increase student contact days in the 2009-10 school calendar from 173 to 174 days to partially offset the implementation of PLC time. Staff development days prior to the start of school are reduced from the previously proposed 4 to 3 days, as it has been in prior years. This is in addition to the elimination of four two-hour late starts/early releases provided in earlier calendars. It is also with the understanding that the current elementary school day is already 24 minutes longer than the average of comparable schools while the current secondary school day is already 12 minutes longer than the average of comparable schools. This increase in student contact days is contingent on the implementation of PLC time. Should PLC time be discontinued in the future, the number of student contact days would return to the current 173 days.
- Weekly one-hour late start on Wednesday mornings for Middle School and High School and weekly one hour early release on Wednesday afternoons for all preschool and elementary buildings to provide PLC time for all teachers.
- AM kindergarten and preschool students begin school at the regular time with all other students and are dismissed from school ½ hour earlier on Wednesday morning. PM kindergarten students and preschool students begin school ½ hour earlier on Wednesday afternoon. Kindergarten students go home with all other elementary students at the end of the day. Preschool students go home on special education buses at dismissal.
- All PLC groups will meet for a full hour.
- All PLC groups will be responsible to complete documentation of their work, including but not limited to:
  - Following a District-wide schedule for PLC team tasks and products.
  - Completing templates/documents to record PLC work.
  - Completing Team evaluations.
  - Sharing PLC team progress with administrators and colleagues and when appropriate with the community.
  - All regular education buses will run at the same time on all five days. Middle school and high school special education buses will pick up students one hour late each Wednesday morning. Elementary school special education buses will pick up students from school one hour early each Wednesday afternoon.
- **Elementary students** whose parents choose will be provided with 1 hour of free supervised time from the end of the shortened day until the regular dismissal time.
  - Provides a bridge to the existing Kid Ventures program start time.
  - Provides supervision until school bus, parent or day care provider picks up the student at the regular time.
  - Parents can choose to pick their children up at the end of the shortened school day.
- **Middle School students** On Wednesday mornings bus riders and any other student whose parents chose to send them early will be supervised in a structured activity from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. Details about the activity offered are being determined.
- **High School students** whose parents choose would be provided with 1 hour of supervised time prior to the start of the shortened school day. This time would be in the form of a study session (upper cafeteria, media center). Parents can choose to drop off their children at the start of the shortened school day.
- **Middle School and High School Co-Curricular activities** will run at their regular times.

*The Mission of the Northfield Public Schools is to deliver educational excellence  
that empowers all learners to participate in our dynamic world.*