

# NORTH MAC COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 34

525 N. Third Street, Girard, IL 62640 • Dr. Jay Goble, Superintendent

North Mac High School  
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July 9, 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s),

This past spring the State of Illinois and the Illinois State Board of Education worked through yet more legislative changes to what constitutes an actual school day. That work caused delays for the Illinois State Board of Education and local school districts when it came to getting school calendars approved. Now that we have finally been able to formally have our calendar approved by the Illinois State Board of Education, we wanted to get a copy of that calendar out to parents and also point out some changes that will be taking place this year in our school calendar.

For the 2019 – 2020 school year, all of our students will be dismissed **every Wednesday at 1:20 pm for the Elementary and 1:30 for the High School and South Campus**. The weekly early release days will replace the random early release days normally found in the school calendar. This will provide educators in our District the much needed time to engage in continuous professional learning. Currently we find that teachers are isolated in their classrooms because time simply is not available for them to meet as an entire grade level or a department. These consistent early dismissal days will provide our educators and educational support staff the time to work and learn from each other, as well as address an ever growing number of responsibilities required of us from the State of Illinois and the federal government. Our ultimate goal of professional learning will be to improve student learning by identifying best instructional practices and using them consistently.

Currently, districts in our area that incorporate weekly early release days into their school calendars are Tri-City CUSD #1, Ball-Chatham CUSD #5, Riverton CUSD #14 and Springfield District #186, just to name a few. This weekly early release time has become a common practice across the state and country as schools and educators face increased directives and responsibilities.

Education, like many other occupations and professions, is changing rapidly. We here at North Mac recognize that in order to adequately provide the needed time to focus on improved student learning to address our educational priorities and goals, we must find a way to carve out the time needed for planning, collaboration, professional development and communication.

So, starting this coming school year students will be dismissed at **1:20 pm for the Elementary and 1:30 for the High School and South Campus each Wednesday** so teachers, paraprofessionals, and administration can engage in planned meaningful activities for the purpose of improving student learning. Such activities will include, but not be limited to:

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- school improvement planning
- review and analysis of standardized assessments
- district academic improvement initiatives
- grade level meetings to insure horizontal articulation of the curriculum
- multi-grade level meetings to insure vertical articulation of the curriculum
- curriculum development and assessment
- data analysis
- professional development
- problem solving meetings
- safety and crisis prevention and planning
- staff meetings
- group consultation, etc.

All planned activities will be developed around building, grade and/or unit level student achievement data. We will post a schedule of planned activities on our website so parents can stay informed of exactly what our teachers and staff are working on as we move forward in our efforts to improve student achievement.

When considering the different days of the week to plan our early release time, we attempted to identify a day that will have the least number of conflicts throughout the school year. Wednesdays are typically less impacted by holidays and have fewer athletic competitions or co-curricular activities scheduled. As you will note from the calendar, outside of Wednesdays, we have removed all other random early release days in an effort to allow for more consistent planning by parents and caregivers and to eliminate the randomness of the early release days that normally appear in the school calendar.

The administration and teaching staff will evaluate the effectiveness of the early release programming as the year progresses and will report to the Board of Education at the conclusion of the 2019 – 2020 school year. We appreciate your support for our educators and our students as we continue to grow and improve here at North Mac. Should you have any questions feel free to contact your child's principal or another member of the administrative team. Have a great summer everyone!

Go Panthers!



Dr. Jay A. Goble



# North Mac CUSD #34

## 2019-2020 School Calendar

July 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
				0	0	

September 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
				20	20	

October 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
				22	42	

November 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				19	61	

December 2019						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
				15	76	

January 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
				19	95	

February 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
				19	114	

March 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
				22	136	

April 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
				21	157	

May 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	X	30
31				19	176	

June 2020						
Su	M	Tu.	W	Th.	F	S
	X	X	X	X	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
				4	180	



School Closed/ Holidays/  
X Emergency Days



Wednesday - Early  
Dismissal Days for Students  
1:20/1:30



Student Registration  
8/20 12:00 AM -7:00 PM



Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> No School Due to Parent/Teacher Confs.  
on the evenings of Oct. 16 and 17  
End of quarter dates: 10/23, 12/20, 3/18, 5/27



Student Attendance Days



Teacher Institute Day (NO STUDENT ATTENDANCE)  
8/29, 8/30, 1/3, 5/28