

Electronic Message Sent to Hanscom Families, Faculty, and Staff on 9/2/16
Dear Hanscom Families, Faculty and Staff,

We are so pleased to start this school year in the new Hanscom Middle School building. And now it is time to focus on the construction of our new Primary School building.

Our original plan was to move our current primary school into the temporary facility located on Eglin Road at the end of last school year so that construction of a new Hanscom Primary School could begin. However, the awarding of a construction contract has been delayed and we are awaiting notification from DoDEA that the Hanscom Primary School construction contract has been awarded and that we may move into the temporary school facility located on Eglin Road. As a result, we do not yet have certainty about when we will move from the current primary school building into the temporary facility.

At this point, we are hopeful that we will move over the December recess. If we move over the December recess, additional vacation days for all students and Hanscom Middle School faculty and staff will be added on December 23rd and January 3rd. Hanscom Primary School and Preschool faculty will work on these days to pack and unpack. Assuming that we will be moving during this school year, we will need to adjust the school calendar to build in two days when students do not attend school, one day for faculty to complete their packing before the move and a second day for faculty to unpack after the move.

To assist families with scheduling vacations and childcare, we will be keeping Hanscom Primary School, including the preschool, and Hanscom Middle School on the same schedule. Hanscom Primary School, including preschool students, and Hanscom Middle School students will not attend school on one day prior to the Primary School move and one day following the Primary School move, whenever the move takes place.

Massachusetts' law requires schools to provide 180 days of instruction each school year. This means that we will need to make-up these two non-student days. There are a few options listed below. Please complete the survey at this link to let us know your preference: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FJTG2GP>. Please respond to the survey as soon as possible; it will close at noon on Thursday, September 8th.

Make-up day options:

- Add one or two full or half days at the end of the school year in June (last day of school with 5 snow days is June 20)
- Attend school on Rosh Hashanah, October 3rd. Faculty who observe the holiday may use a personal day. And, students who observe the holiday will receive an excused absence.
- Attend school on October 12th, Yom Kippur. Faculty who observe the holiday may use a personal day. And, students who observe the holiday will receive an excused absence.
- Attend school for a half day on Good Friday, April 14th.
- Shorten February vacation by 1 or 2 days.

Important Information:

- We must meet the state requirement of 180 school days and 900 instructional hours. A half day counts as a school day but has fewer instructional hours. We do have the possibility of using half days to make up the two no student days.
- Extending a half day Wednesday does not help because the half days on Wednesdays already count towards our 180 school days.
- We build 5 snow days into the Academic School Year Calendar. If we use all 5 of these snow days, our last student day is June 20, 2017. If we have fewer than five snow days, the June 20 last day of school will be adjusted earlier. Let's hope for a mild winter!
- We cannot hold school on any state or federal holiday, including January 2nd because that is the observance of New Year's Day.

Your input will be extremely important in helping us determine when the two additional school days will be made up. Thank you in advance for completing the survey by noon on Thursday September 8th. In the event that a move does not take place during this school year and we added two school days, these days would be taken off at the end of the school year.

Sincerely,

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Becky McFall, Superintendent

2016 - 2017 Hanscom Make-up Day Options Survey

Hanscom Make-up Day Options

Due to an anticipated move of Hanscom Primary School into a temporary school facility during the 2016 - 2017 school year, two current school days will need to become non-student days. The non-student days will be used to provide appropriate preparation time for the Hanscom Primary School move into the new building. These two instructional days will need to be made up in order to meet the state requirement of 180 instructional school days. Currently, the last day of school (if we have 5 snow days) is June 20. We would like your input regarding when to make up these two non-student days. They can be made up prior to when the move will take place.

Please respond to the survey below as soon as possible; it will close at noon on Thursday, September 8th.

* 1. Please choose one of the options below. I am a (an):

- Parent
- Faculty Member
- Staff Member
- Administrator

2. Please indicate your top preference for when the two school days should be made up. Select the options below that you prefer to make up two school days:

- Add two days at the end of the school year in June
- Shorten the February vacation by two days
- Add one day at the end of the school year in June **AND** another one day choice I have checked
- Attend school on Rosh Hashanah, October 3rd **AND** another one day choice I have checked (Staff who observe may use a personal day. Students receive an excused absence.)
- Attend school on Yom Kippur, October 12th **AND** another one day choice I have checked (Staff who observe may use a personal day. Students receive an excused absence.)
- Attend school on Good Friday, April 14th for half a day **AND** another one day choice I have checked .
- Shorten the February vacation by one day **AND** another one day choice I have checked

Other (please specify)

3. Any additional days in June should be half days.

Yes

No

4. If we hold school on Rosh Hashanah and/or Yom Kippur, they should be half days.

Yes

No

I have no preference

5. Additional Comments