

CHELMSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Linda J. Hirsch, Assistant Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Jay Lang, Superintendent
Members of the School Committee
From: Dr. Linda Hirsch, Assistant Superintendent *Linda J. Hirsch*
Date: May 1, 2018
RE: 2018/19 School Calendar – First Day for Students

Traditionally, Chelmsford has started the school year after Labor Day each year. The discussions about starting school before Labor Day was first considered for the 2017-2018 school year. The decision was made to not implement a school start date prior to Labor Day in 2017-2018 and that a before Labor Day start should commence in the 2018-2019 school year. The rationale for this decision was to allow for the completion of union negotiations and complete the implementation of full-day kindergarten, with the instillation of the new modular classrooms. Additionally, this allowed for families to prepare for the change and summer plans a year in advance.

The 2018-2019 school year will start prior to Labor Day. In order to clarify this change, the start dates for the 2018-2019 school year are as follows:

Monday, August 27th: *Staff Only – No Students*

Tuesday, August 28th: *First day of school for students, Grades 1-8 & CHS Grade 9 Only**

Tuesday, August 28th: *Morning and afternoon orientation sessions scheduled - Kindergarten Only***

Wednesday, August 29, 2018: *All students K-12*

Thursday, August 30, 2018 will be the last day of school for all students the first week of school. Labor Day break will begin on Friday, August 31, 2018. All students will report back to school on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 and follow the school calendar for the remainder of the school year.

**Grade 9 students will report to CHS for a full day of orientation and mentor support. CHS Grade 10-12 students report to school on Wednesday, August 29th.*

*** This is not a full day of school for kindergarten students. Kindergarten students will be scheduled for a 2-hour orientation with their parent/guardian for either a morning or afternoon session on Tuesday, August 28th. Kindergarten students report with their parent on this day only at their scheduled orientation time. At the end of their session, parents will take their kindergarten child(ren) home. There will be no bus services for kindergarten students on Tuesday, August 28th. Parents of kindergarten students will be contacted by the school principal during the summer to learn of their assigned session time. All kindergarten students will report to school on Wednesday, August 29th and follow a regular full-day schedule with bus transportation.*