

Press Release:

Seymour Community School Corporation

Thursday, March 19, 2015

Seymour Community Schools Announces its 2015 Extended School Days & Make-up Days Schedule

The Seymour Community School Board of Education has directed Superintendent Robert Hooker to inform students, staff, parents, coaches, and others that it is necessary to add sixty minutes of additional instruction time to twelve school days in April 2015 and extend the School Calendar to Friday, May 29, 2015.

Beginning Wednesday, April 1, 2015 each school day will be extended 60 minutes in the Seymour Community School Corporation to make up for lost instructional time due to the unusually severe winter weather, again this year. The last day for extended school days will be Thursday, April 16, 2015. Again, unusually severe winter weather has caused school to be canceled eight instructional days and has delayed the start of school ten times. These cancellations and delays were made in the interest of student and staff safety.

The IDOE has informed public school corporations their options to make-up lost instructional days and/or instructional time include:

- ✕ accepting a financial penalty for each day missed (**Approximately \$150,000 per day**)
- ✕ extending the school year the necessary number of days (180 days)
- ✕ scheduling school on Saturdays
- ✕ scheduling school during spring Break and/or other holidays
- ✕ seeking a "Conditional Waiver" by adding additional instructional time for lost instructional days.

The Conditional Waiver Option requires us to add one hour of instructional time to our normal school day for at least 12 school days to meet the requirements. For every additional day missed, six additional extended days may need to be scheduled.

All Seymour Public Schools will continue to start school at their regularly scheduled time. The school day will end exactly one-hour later until Thursday, April 16, 2015.

Beginning, Wednesday, April 1, 2015 our new school schedules are as follows:

- Elementary Students – 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- SMS & SHS – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Parents and students are encouraged to contact their school office concerning the actual start time for their school day.

Healthy snacks will be provided to all students at no charge during these extended days.

Spring Break remains scheduled for March 23-27, 2015

School will be in session on Good Friday, April 3, 2015 and Easter Monday, April 6, 2015. These school make-up days are also extended sixty minutes.

After-school practices and events may be scheduled until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays during these extended days. Athletic competitions may also be scheduled on Wednesdays as needed.

Girls Inc. and Boys & Girls Club will continue their busing and programming during these days.

Our first major concern is dealing with the missed instructional time as we prepare for the State mandated Testing. The IDOE has moved the start date of ISTEP+ Part 2 to April 23rd and the test window closes on Friday, May 15, 2015. End of Course Assessments (ECA's) for secondary students will begin on April 20, 2015

Each School Principal will be sharing the necessary information concerning changes to class periods, lunch, recess, after-school activities, athletic practices and competitions, and Parent-Teacher Conferences. Please refer to the Corporation and/or School Web Pages for the latest scheduling information.

The SHS Band Trip to Disney World travel times will remain the same. The Band departs on May 22nd and will return on May 28th. The High School Administration will be sharing a modified testing schedule for those taking the trip to Florida later this semester.

The last school day for students will be Friday, May 29, 2015.

Senior Graduation Day remains scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 31, 2015.

School employees will be informed of their options concerning extended school days and additional school days by their building principal or supervisor.

2015 Kindergarten Round-up dates and places set for April 2nd, April 7th, and April 16th have not been changed. The Round-ups will be extended one-hour.