



December Family Update

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ADM Families,

Happy holidays! We are fresh off of Thanksgiving break and winter break is only a week and a half away. We continue to focus on our mission of high levels of learning for all students and are committed to maximizing the minutes we have with students between now and the upcoming break. Please take a few minutes to read through this month's edition of the Family Update to learn about the 2025-26 draft calendar and other important updates.



2025-26 Draft School Calendar Public Hearing and Feedback: The following proposed 2025-26 DRAFT ADM Academic School Calendar has been developed, reviewed by the Board, and is being shared for feedback from families and staff. ADM's calendar is considered an "hours calendar" which must include a minimum of 1080 student instructional hours to meet state requirements. Review the key information below to learn more about the draft calendar and provide feedback by 1/3/25.

Draft Calendar: Key Information

The Proposed Calendar Includes:

- 1094.5 Instructional Hours (Minimum of 1080 Required)
- 176 Student Attendance Days
- 189 Certified Staff Contract Days
- First Day of School: 8/25/25
 - Note: The earliest allowed start date by the state of Iowa is August 23. In 2025, August 23 occurs on a Saturday making Monday, August 25 the earliest date that schools can start.
- Thanksgiving Break: 11/26-11/30 (including weekend)
 - Note: This Includes 11/26 as a teacher comp day for conferences.
- Winter Break: 12/20-1/4 (including weekends)
 - Note: Due to the unique circumstances of where the dates on the calendar fall for the 2025-26 school year, winter break is 16 days long (including weekends). This is two days longer than the 14 day break that has occurred the past several school years.
- Spring Break: 3/13-3/22 (Including Weekends)
 - Notes: This includes 3/13 teacher comp day for conferences and the break aligns with area schools and DMACC.
- Seniors Last Day: 5/27
- Commencement: 5/31
- Last Day of School for Students: 6/3
- November and March parent/teacher conferences changed from 2:00-8:00 PM to 2:00-7:30 PM.

Public Hearing: A public hearing for the proposed 2025-26 Academic School Calendar will take place on January 13 at 6:00 PM at the next regular board meeting.

Review and Feedback: Families are encouraged to review the draft calendar and provide feedback using the links below by 1/3/25

- View: [Draft 2025-26 ADM Academic Calendar](#)
- Provide Feedback by 1/3/25: [Draft 2025-26 Calendar Feedback](#)



Winter Weather Communication Plan:

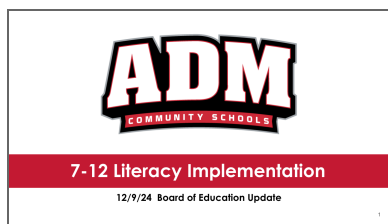
Winter weather is upon us and with winter comes questions about communication related to late starts, early outs, and school closure. Please take a moment to review the following information about ADM's winter communications.

How Are Closing and Delay Decisions Made?

School may be closed, delayed, or dismissed early due to inclement weather or other emergency situations. Decisions to cancel school are not taken lightly, and any changes to our regular schedule are made by the superintendent after consultation with the director of transportation and other related personnel. ADM's number one priority is ensuring the safety of all students. [A decision to close or delay school will normally be made no later than 5:30 AM.](#)

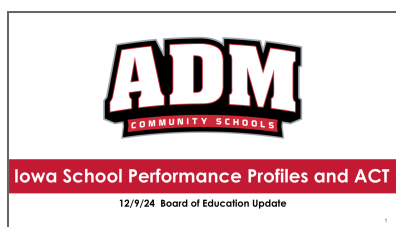
How Are Parents Notified?

ADM uses the SchoolMessenger alert system to directly notify parents of weather and emergency related delay, dismissal, or cancellation decisions. Parents are notified by email, phone, and text message. Messages are also sent to area television stations, Raccoon Valley Radio, and displayed on the school website at www.admschools.org.



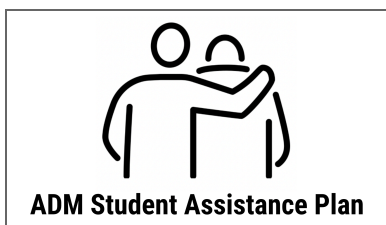
Focus on Learning School Board Report: 7-12 ELA WIG

Each month the ADM School Board receives a "Focus on Learning" report at the monthly School Board meeting. At the November Board Meeting, ADM's Middle School and High School Principals provided an update about each building's work related to ADM's widely important goal in literacy. Use the following link to review the slide deck and learn more: [7-12 ELA Focus on Learning](#)



Focus on Learning School Board Report: ISPP and ACT

At the November Board Meeting, Assistant Superintendent Travis Wilkins and Superintendent Greg Dufoe provided an update about changes to the state's Iowa School Performance Profiles and ADM's performance, as well as an update about ADM's performance on the ACT assessments. Use the following link to review the slide deck for more information: [ISPP & ACT Focus on Learning](#)



Student Assistance Program

ADM partners with Employee and Family Resources (EFR) to provide a formal Student Assistance Program (SAP) for **all students and their family members**. ADM's Student Assistance Program is **confidential, free**, and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Learn More: [ADM Student Assistance Program](#)

Have a great day!
Greg Dufoe
ADM Superintendent