

Iowa-Missouri Conference Office of Education

2026–2027 Education Calendar

This calendar contains **178** student-teacher contact days for 5-day schools, and **1,090.5** student-teacher contact hours for 4-day schools; 175 days/1050 hours are the minimum requirement for Mid-America Education Code, but 180 days and 1080 hours is the requirement for the state of Iowa. This schedule allows three emergency days for 5-day schools and 10.5 hours for 4-day schools.

First Quarter	
August 3 - 6 August 24 September 7 September 11 September 8-11** September 14-17 September 14-18 & September 21-25 October 1* October 5-9 October 16	Teachers' Convention – West Des Moines, IA First day of classes Labor Day – (no school) Friday school day for 4-day Schools Professional Development Community meetings (PLC) Outdoor School MAP Testing Professional Development (3-5:30 p.m.) PLC Meetings End of first quarter
Second Quarter	
October 19 October 20* November 9-13 November 19* November 25-29 December 18 December 21 – Jan. 3	Second quarter begins Parent/Teacher Conferences PLC Meetings Professional Development (3:00-5:30 p.m.) Thanksgiving Break End of second quarter Christmas Break
Third Quarter	
January 4 January 11-15 January 18 January 22 January 18-22 & January 25-29 February 8-12 February 15 February 19 February 25* March 12 March 15-19	Third quarter begins PLC Meetings MLK Day – (no school) Friday school day for 4-day Schools MAP Testing PLC Meetings President's Day (no school) Friday school for 4-day Schools Professional Development (3-5:30 pm) End of third quarter Spring Break
Fourth Quarter	
March 22 March 24-26 April 5-9 April 8-10 April 12-16 & April 19-23 April 29 May 27 May 28 May 31	Fourth quarter begins 7 th & 8 th Grade Bible Camp PLC Meetings Music Festival – (counts for two school days) MAP Testing Parent/Teacher Conference End of fourth quarter End of Year Reports due - Released from duty Memorial Day – Holiday

*Denotes a minimum day, see page 2 for requirements.

**PLC groups schedule to meet for 40 minutes at an available time.

School Day Requirements

The Mid-America Education Code* specifies that the minimum number of school days in the school year shall be 180 days (1080 hours per year), or more if state law requires 175 days (1050 hours per year), of which must be teacher-student instructional days. **Iowa law requires a minimum of 1080 hours. A school shall request approval through the conference board of education to base teacher-student instruction time on hours per year.** Fewer hours may be required for grades K-2 as listed below. There shall be no more than five days of school in any given calendar week. The elementary school calendar must be approved by the local school board and the conference board of education.

Calendar Changes

This is the conference school calendar as voted by the Conference Board of Education. Any deviations from this calendar require approval from the local school board and must be submitted to the Conference Office by May 31 of the preceding school year.

Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI)

Any days of Alternative Methods Instruction must be approved by the conference superintendent and only considered after three emergency days have already been used.

Weekly Instructional Time

Grades 3-8 require at least 30 hours of instructional time per week. Kindergarten through 2nd grade requires at least 20 hours. The maximum length of a school day is 8 hours (7.5 instructional hours). The Friday schedule may be adjusted if the weekly time requirements are met. These hours may include 30 minutes of PE and 30 minutes of recess per day. The lunch period must be at least 30 minutes and is not counted as student-teacher contact hours.

Minimum Days (Early Dismissal Days)

On minimum days, or early-dismissal days, the following guidelines should be met:

- Minimum school days should consist of 4 hours of teacher-student instruction time.
- Minimum school days hours should be reflected in the quarterly hour report.
- Scheduled minimum days must receive prior approval from the Conference Superintendent

Professional Development

Professional Development Days are an important time for our teachers and administrators to come together for continuing education purposes. For this reason, it is recommended that schools dismiss early for these meetings, as teachers cannot supervise a classroom during this time. If substitute teachers are used, the schools will need to cover the cost of this expense.

Thank you for attempting to keep our conference as unified as possible with our educational programs, quality of education, as well as our calendars.

Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams
Educational Superintendent

*** MAUC Education Code 2022 (1542:20 School Days)**