



Alton Community Unit School District #11

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November 1, 2021

IMPORTANT: CHANGE TO THE SCHOOL CALENDAR November 12 and January 5

Dear Alton School District Families:

I am writing to share an upcoming change to the school calendar. On Friday, November 12, there will be no school for students.

We anticipate a higher than usual need for substitutes on November 12. As you are likely aware the District has been experiencing a shortage of subs this year like so many other school districts across the region and State. Mondays and Fridays are already extremely difficult days to cover and especially before/after a holiday. Therefore, November 12 will now be a Teacher In-Service Day with no student attendance. Rather than make up this day in May at the end of the school calendar and extend the school year (beyond any emergency/weather days needed), January 5, 2022 will now become a day of student attendance. January 5 was originally scheduled as a Teacher In-Service Day with no student attendance. However, we are now moving that in-service day to November 12. January 5 will now become a student attendance day. Here is a summary of the calendar changes:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11: No School for Students – Veteran’s Day

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12: No School for Students – Teacher In-Service Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5: School Resumes – Student Attendance Day

Over the past two weeks, we have been attempting to receive approval from the Illinois State Board of Education to use November 12 as a School Improvement Day. School Improvement Days do not require extending the school year if approved. However, after receiving a response today, this option and the required approval process cannot be completed by November 12. Therefore, the decision was made to instead move the Teacher In-Service Day from January 5 to November 12 and avoid extending the school year for our students and staff.

Thank you for making a note of this important calendar change. Dialer notifications will also be sent prior to November 12 and January 5 as a reminder of the changes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristie L. Baumgartner
Superintendent