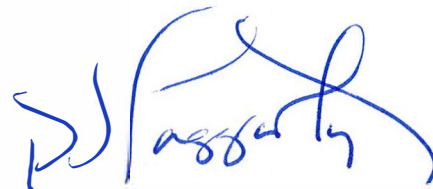


To: Catholic School Leaders
From: Patrick Haggarty, Ed.D.
Date: December 16, 2016
RE: 2017-18 Archdiocesan School Calendar



To assist Catholic school principals in their planning, the Office for Catholic Schools annually prepares the Archdiocesan Academic School Calendar. The calendar is attached to this email.

Per the Archdiocesan policy, the calendar has 180 days of student instruction. If a school calendar projects less than 180 instructional days, *grades 9-12 shall have at least 1,080 instructional hours and grades K – 8 shall have at least 1,000 instructional hours*. In addition, the school's calendar should provide opportunities for teachers' professional growth and faith formation. Any variation from 180 days or 1080 / 1000 hours must be approved by the superintendent.

In consultation with the OCS staff and the Executive Principal Committee, the Office for Catholic Schools recommends the following dates for 2017-18 Catholic school calendar:

2017	
June 19 – 20	Catholic Educator Forum (Formerly known as the Summer Institute)
August 14 - 15	Kick Start School - All Principal Meeting
September 5	First Day of School
August 22	New Teacher Orientation
September 21 - 22	Principal Retreat
October - TBD	TED - Please hold a day. OCS will make this date available ASAP
December 20 – December 31	Christmas Break
2018	
January 1 – 2	Christmas Break
Feb 16	Faculty Retreat Day
March 16	Regional Curriculum Development Day
April 2-6	Easter Break
June 13	Last Day of School
June 18 - 19	Catholic Educator Forum (Formerly known as the Summer Institute)

Bold = Required dates for all schools

This calendar provides 180 instructional days and three (3) Professional Development Days.

The date for the **2018 Fulcrum Foundation Celebration of Light** is still being determined (it will likely be either the last Friday in January or the first Friday in February) – school auctions should not be celebrated on that weekend.

A digital version of this 2017-2018 Academic Calendar tool is available at this [link](#).

The Curriculum Review Schedule:

2016: Science

2018: Arts and PE

2020: ELA

2017: Social Studies

2019: Religion

2021: Math

Special Note:

I would like to draw your attention to the **February 16 - Faculty Retreat Day**.

As Catholic educational institutions, it is important that we intentionally set aside a day of prayer and reflection, to call us back to the school's mission and refocus our efforts of bringing Christ into every classroom. This "retreat day" should be toward the middle of the school year so that it is, in fact, a withdrawal from the routine and a chance to re-center our vocational call. Additionally, having an annual Faculty Retreat Day will assist all schools in meeting their WCEA Accreditation criteria. Hence, OCS has established the Faculty Retreat Day on the Archdiocesan school calendar as a paid, professional development day for all teaching faculty on February 16. Should your school prefer to schedule its Faculty Retreat Day on a different date, would you please let OCS know?

Thank you for submitting your 2017-18 school calendar to the Office for Catholic Schools by **March 1, 2017**. This will allow us to collate the information and create a master calendar for the Archdiocese.

Know that I am looking forward to seeing you in January. Until then, may the joy and hope of this Advent season bring love and happiness for your family and you.

Peace and all good things....