



CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI SCHOOLS
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

2026-27 District Calendar Recommendation

Calendar Committee Summary & Proposal

12/18/25

“The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance.”

ALAN WILSON WATTS



HONESTY | RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | SELF-DISCIPLINE | COMPASSION

Why This Year Is Different?

- The 2026–27 school year presents a unique challenge, with Labor Day falling unusually late on **September 7, 2026**, impacting the overall structure of the school year.
- In response, the Minnesota Legislature is temporarily allowing districts to start school **before Labor Day** without requiring the usual statutory waivers, creating additional planning flexibility.
- The Calendar Committee, representing multiple buildings, departments, and staff groups, spent several months reviewing data, comparing options, and modeling scenarios.



Calendar Committee Process



Representation

A committee representing various buildings, departments, and staff came together to ensure all voices were heard.



Modeling Options

We set out to develop two distinct sets of calendars: **Pre-Labor Day** start and **Post-Labor Day** start to compare directly.



Community Focus

Discussions centered on balancing instructional hours, contract requirements, family routines and community expectations.



Before Labor Day Start

Benefit:

- Ends school in early June

Concerns:

- Disrupts long-standing Minnesota traditions
- Conflicts with:
 - Late-summer vacations
 - Cabin weekends
 - State Fair
- Likely higher early-year absences
- Earliest allowed start: **September 1** (4-day first week)



After Labor Day Start

Benefits:

- Aligns with long-standing family and community expectations
- Preserves traditional Minnesota school start routines

Concerns:

- With Labor Day on September 7, pushes the school year deep into June
- Shortens summer break significantly
- Strong feedback against ending school in mid-June



Finding the Middle Ground

Committee built a calendar that:

- Starts **Tuesday, September 8**
- Ends **Friday, June 4** (students & graduation)
- Meets all student/staff day requirements
- Balances trimesters and instructional time
- Minimizes disruption to families and staff



Conference Improvements

What We Heard:

- Evening-only conferences do not work for all families
- Teachers reported long, exhausting days with limited prep time

What Changed:

- Added a daytime conference option on October 14
- October 9 adjusted to support quality preparation:
 - Morning: Professional Learning
 - Afternoon: Grading and planning

Benefits:

- Improves access and flexibility for families
- Provides teachers meaningful preparation time
- Creates a more balanced and sustainable conference experience



Key Calendar Adjustments (Fall & Prof. Learning)



Start of Year

- **Week of Aug 31:** Workshop Week
- **Sept 3:** Full workday
- **Sept 4:** Non-workday (conference comp day)



Fall Events

- **Friday, Oct 2:** Homecoming
- **Oct 14:** Added daytime conferences



Prof. Learning

- **Nov 6:** PL day removed to regain student day
- **Jan 18 (MLK Day):** Mid-year PL day
- **Feb 12:** PL day
- **Mar 5:** Half-day PL / half-day grading



Key Calendar Adjustments (Spring & Activities)

Spring Break & Holidays

Spring Break **Mar 22-26**

(aligns with Good Friday)

End of Year Schedule

Grading / Planning **May 7**

Last Student Day **June 4**

Graduation **June 4**

Full Workday **June 7**

Flex PD Comp Day **June 8**



Activities & Athletics

Fall Conflicts:

Late start increases preseason practices before school begins. This may create scheduling challenges for families in late August.

Spring Conflicts:

Spring Break (Mar 22-26) occurs *after* spring sports start. This creates potential travel and participation conflicts for varsity athletes.

** These impacts were weighed carefully as part of the committee's overall decision-making process.*

Committee Recommendation

After Labor Day Start with Students Done on June 4

This calendar:

- Honors Minnesota's traditional school start expectations
- Avoids an unusually late end to the school year
- Protects instructional time and maintains a balanced academic year
- Addresses professional learning and conference needs
- Minimizes disruptions to athletics, activities, and family routines
- Fits within all district and staff contract parameters

This recommendation reflects a thoughtful compromise and the collective work of a committee committed to supporting teaching, learning, and the well-being of our school community.





Cambridge-Isanti Schools

Staff Calendar 2026-27

July 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Total Student Instructional Days:
Trimester 1 - Sept 8 to Dec 3
Trimester 2 - Dec 7 to Mar 4
Trimester 3 - Mar 8 to Jun 4

169
57
54
58

- New Teacher Workshop
- All Staff Professional Learning
- Licensed Staff Professional Learning
- Daytime Conferences/ Comp Day
- Grading and Planning
- Holiday, Buildings Closed
- First/Last Day of School
- No School

Total Teacher Days:
Grading & Planning Days
Professional Learning Days
Daytime Conference Days
Conference Comp Days

183
4.5
7.5
1
1

Questions?

&

Comments!

