



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204**

**Room 103-104  
100 South Brainard Avenue  
La Grange, Illinois 60525  
Tuesday, September 2, 2025 - 6:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**IV. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

A. 2026-2027 School Year Calendar (First Reading)

2

**V. HUMAN RESOURCES**

A. Stipend Committee Recommendations (First Reading)

4

**VI. BOARD DISCUSSION: ENHANCING CONNECTIONS WITH THE LTHS COMMUNITY**

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**VIII. CLOSED SESSION**

The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5)

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

BY ORDER OF  
TIM ALBORES  
LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204  
100 SOUTH BRAINARD AVENUE  
LA GRANGE, IL 60525

# Lyons Township High School District 204 Office of Curriculum and Instruction

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**Dr. Patrice Payne**

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

To: District #204 Board of Education  
From: Dr. Patrice Payne, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Date: September 2, 2025

## Re: 2026–2027 Academic Calendar – First Reading

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The attached draft calendar is presented for initial consideration for the 2026–27 school year. Consistent with past practice, the calendar begins no earlier than August 17 and concludes the first semester prior to winter break.

<b>Pupil Attendance Days</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Semester 1 Attendance Days</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Semester 2 Attendance Days</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Teacher Institute Days</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Teacher Attendance Days</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Emergency Days</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Days including Emergency Days</b>	<b>188</b>

### Significant Dates Proposed

<b>First Day of School</b>	<b>August 17, 2026</b>
<b>Last Day of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester</b>	<b>December 18, 2026</b>
<b>First Day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</b>	<b>January 5, 2027</b>
<b>Last day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester (grades 9–11)</b>	<b>May 28, 2027</b>

The proposed calendar maintains the practice of weekly late starts on Wednesdays and designates specific days for final examinations. As in the current year, Opening Institute is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12 to ensure that all staff are available to support Freshman Experience Day on Friday, August 14.

This draft will be made publicly available on the LTHS website to all staff, students, parents/guardians, and community for the next 30 days. We will bring feedback, any necessary revisions, and a final draft calendar for Board consideration to the October 20 Regular Action Meeting.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

No Recommendation at this time.



# LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204 2026/2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	TI	TI	TI	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Total Days 11

SEPTEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	HOL	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	SIP	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Total Days 21

OCTOBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	TI	10
11	HOL	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	PTC	X	31

Total Days 19

NOVEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	X	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	SIP	19	20	21
22	23	24	X	HOL	X	28
29	30					

Total Days 17

DECEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	X	X	X	X	HOL	26
27	X	X	X	X		

Total Days 14

Semester 1 Total Days 82

JANUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					HOL	2
3	TI	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	HOL	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	SIP	28	29	30
31						

Total Days 18

FEBRUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	X	13
14	HOL	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	TI	27
28						

Total Days 17

MARCH 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	SIP	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	TI	20
21	22	23	24	25	X	27
28	X	X	X			

Total Days 18

APRIL 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				X	X	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	

Total Days 20

MAY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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	HOL					

Total Days 20

Semester 93 Total Days

JUNE 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1*	2*	3*	4*	5
6	7*	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	HOL	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	HOL	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	

Important Dates	
Book Pick Up	Aug 5-6, 10
Frosh Experience	Aug 14
School Begins	Aug 17
South Campus Open House	Sept 3
North Campus Open House	Sept 10
End of Semester 1 Finals	Dec 18
1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Semester 2	Jan 5
PACT Testing (No School Grade 9)	April
PACT/ACT Testing (No School Grades 10 & 12)	April
Commencement	May 26
End of Semester 2 Finals	May 28

School Holidays	
Independence Day	7/5
Labor Day	9/7
Indigenous People's Day	10/12
Thanksgiving Day	11/26
Christmas Day	12/25
New Year's Day	1/1
MLK Day	1/18
Presidents' Day	2/15
Memorial Day	5/31
Juneteenth	6/18

Calendar Legend	
Federal Holiday	HOL
Teacher Institute	TI
Not in Attendance	X
First Day of School	
Emergency Days	*
Last Day of School	
Parent Teacher Conference	PTC
Final Exam Days	
School Improvement Day	SIP
Early Dismissals - (Students are dismissed at 11:30am)	
Late Start Days - (1 <sup>st</sup> period starts at 9:15 am)	
Regular School Day 7:45 am - 3:05 pm	

Pupil Attendance Days	176
Approved Institute Days	7
Approved All Day Parent Teacher Conf. Days	1
Total Days	183
Emergency Days	5
BOE Approved on:	___/___/___





**ED PIOTROWSKI**  
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Lyons Township High School District 204  
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**To:** LTHS Board of Education  
Dr. Brian Waterman, Superintendent  
**From:** Ed Piotrowski, Director of Human Resources  
**Date:** August 26, 2025  
**Re:** Stipend Committee Recommendation (ACT Prep Stipend Increase Proposal)

**Background:** On Tuesday, August 26, the LTHS Stipend Committee met to discuss a recommendation to increase the hourly rate stipend for ACT Test Prep instructors. This recommendation was made to provide compensation that is competitive with current tutoring and test preparation rates and to ensure that we can continue to recruit and retain qualified staff for this important program.

Currently, instructors are compensated at a teaching rate of \$50 per hour with an additional \$25 for preparation per two-hour session. This amounts to \$125 per content session, or an effective rate of \$62.50 per hour before taxes. This rate has remained unchanged since at least the 2009–2010 school year, despite significant increases in market rates for comparable services during that time. As a result, the current stipend is no longer competitive with the rates being charged by private tutors and companies offering test preparation services in our area, many of whom work directly with our students.

We are proposing an increase in the instructional rate from \$50 per hour to \$75 per hour, while maintaining the \$25 preparation rate per session. This would raise the per-session rate from \$125 to \$175, bringing the effective hourly rate to \$87.50 before taxes.

**Compensation Comparison**

	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Proposed Rate</b>
Teaching Pay (2 hours)	\$100	\$150
Planning Pay (per session)	\$25	\$25
<b>Total Per Session</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>\$175</b>
<b>Effective Hourly Rate</b>	<b>\$62.50</b>	<b>\$87.50</b>

Each winter, we offer four sessions of ACT Prep, enrolling approximately 60 students per session (240 total). The program continues to be in high demand, and student enrollment has remained steady.

Maintaining LT staff as ACT Prep instructors is in the best interest of our students. Our staff are already vetted, invested in the success of our students, and bring established relationships that help increase student engagement in the course. If we are unable to provide a stipend that reflects current market rates, we risk losing the ability to staff these sessions internally and would need to seek outside providers.

This proposed increase represents a relatively small financial investment for the district but yields significant benefits in staff retention, program stability, and student success.

**Recommendation:** We recommend that the Board of Education approve the increase to the ACT Test Prep hourly rate as indicated above.