

# STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**To:** Parents and Families  
**From:** Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent  
**Date:** August 9, 2021  
**Subject:** September School Opening

It is hard to believe it is August and school will be starting in one month from now. As we return to a full five-day program for all students, I have had a number of questions from parents about COVID-19 issues. I have provided answers and updates below to many of the questions I have received. Please know that some of these issues may change between now and school opening. Your principal and I will keep you apprised of any changes that may affect your child. Enjoy the next few weeks of vacation!!

**What is the schedule for school opening?** School begins for all grades on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the approved school calendar for early release dates and times.

**What are the mask requirements?** All students and all adults are required to wear masks while in school buildings except when eating lunch. This is currently the recommendation of our state and local health departments. We are encouraging "mask breaks" during the day. We also are setting up tents again this year and establishing other outside areas for students (PE, recess, classrooms).

**What other mitigation measures will be prescribed?** We continue to follow our local health department recommendations including social distancing of a minimum of three feet and maintaining cohorts as much as possible.

**Are there full distance learning options this coming year?** The Connecticut State Department of Education is not allowing remote learning this coming year for any K-12 schools.

**What are the COVID-19 quarantining guidelines for this coming year?** We follow the direction of our local health department which at this point includes the requirement to quarantine any individual who is not vaccinated and is deemed a "close contact". If a student or students require quarantining, our school nurse or other staff member will notify parents. Each school will have more specifics on school work assignments and other quarantining issues.

**What about field trips and other adults at schools?** Due to the fact that no elementary students will have the ability to be vaccinated at this time, there will be no field trips for elementary and middle school students. This practice will be reviewed monthly. Since most of our high school students have been vaccinated, a limited number of local academic field trips and local sports trips will be approved. Volunteers and other non-employees will not be allowed in school buildings during school hours except in an emergency situation.

**I am a parent and need a meeting with my child's teacher?** Parent meetings will be scheduled virtually as they have been in the past until COVID-19 restrictions are reduced.

**What about clubs and sports?** School clubs and sports activities for K-8 may be allowed pending COVID-19 rates in our area. There will be no K-5 activities until at least October. Middle school outdoor sports activities will follow the high school guidelines. These activities would all be after school hours.

**What about bus transportation issues?** Bus schedules will be available in the newspaper or on the school/district website on or before August 16<sup>th</sup>. The current plan is to have assigned seating to establish the three-foot distancing protocol whenever possible. Parents are encouraged to provide home to school transportation if at all possible. Your principal will share more information concerning buses and parent drop off requirements.

**Vaccine Reminder: Vaccines for those eligible are the best way to ensure in-person learning and extracurricular activities continue uninterrupted!!!**

**Please visit the CDC website for more information about the vaccine**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>

# STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

JULY 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	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	31

JANUARY 2022 (20)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	ER	13	14	15
16	NS	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

12 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
17 No School - M.L. King Day

AUGUST 2021						
S	M	T	W	Th	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	31				

FEBRUARY 2022 (19)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	ER	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	NS	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

9 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
21 No School -Presidents' Day

1 Professional Development Day  
2 Professional Development Day  
6 No School - Labor Day  
7 Professional Development Day  
8 Opening Day  
15 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
16 Yom Kippur  
29 No School – Professional Development Day

SEPTEMBER 2021 (16)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			PD	PD	3	4
5	NS	PD	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	ER	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	NS	30		

MARCH 2022 (22)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	NS	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

9 No School – Professional Development Day

11 No School – Indigenous Peoples Day  
13 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
26 Early Release – Elementary/Middle School Conferences (K-8 Only – SHS regular schedule)  
27 Early Release – Elementary/Middle School Conferences(K-8 Only – SHS regular schedule)

OCTOBER 2021 (20)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	NS	12	ER	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	ER	ER	28	29	30
31						

APRIL 2022 (15)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	NS	16
17	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

15 No School - Good Friday  
18 – 22 No School - Spring Recess

2 No School - Professional Development Day  
11 No School -Veterans Day  
24 Early Release - Districtwide  
25-26 No School –Thanksgiving Recess

NOVEMBER 2021 (18)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	NS	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	NS	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	ER	NS	NS	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2022 (21)						
S	M	T	W	Th	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	NS	31				

30 No School - Memorial Day

8 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
23 Early Release - Districtwide  
24-31 No School - Winter Recess

DECEMBER 2021 (17)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	ER	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	ER	NS	25
26	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	

JUNE 2022 (13)						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	ER	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	ER	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

8 Early Release – Districtwide/PD  
17 Early Release Districtwide – Closing Day  
17 \*Graduation Day\*  
\*NOTE\*  
Graduation Day is subject to change pending any significant district closures  
ALL Early Release Days are a 2 Hour Release from the regular end of day scheduled time

182 School Days  
Approved: 1/14/21  
181 School Days  
Approved/Revised:6/24/21

  2 Hrs. Early Release - PD: High School Release Time: 12:00 PM  
Middle School Release Time: 12:40 PM  
Elementary School Release Time: 1:25 PM

  2 Hrs. Early Release School Break  
  No School   2 Hrs. Early Release Conferences