

Northside Year Round Schedule FAQs

What is a year-round calendar?

You might have heard this calendar referred to as a “45-15” calendar. Year-round calendar students attend school for approximately 9 weeks and then have a 2-3 week break called an “Intersession”. The summer break is then shortened to just under six weeks. Attached are both the 2019-2020 year round calendar (for Northside) and the 2019-2020 conventional calendar (for Coulee Montessori).

What are the benefits to changing to a schedule?

The biggest benefit of moving to a year-round calendar is a reduction in learning loss over a long summer break. With a traditional schedule involving a three-month summer break, teachers spend several weeks at the start of the year catching students up on academic, social, and behavior expectations that were lost over the summer break. A shorter summer break shortens this catch up time. Hamilton test scores and report cards have shown improved academic learning since implementing the year-round calendar. Other benefits include stronger student/teacher bonds, more stability for students, and fewer behavioral issues.

Will enrollment requirements for preschool and kindergarten students change?

The enrollment requirements (age of 4 for preschool or 5 for kindergarten) for students enrolling in preschool and kindergarten will not change. Students will still need to be 4 or 5 by September 1st. So it could be possible that a student could start in preschool or kindergarten in the summer and then not turn 4 or 5 until September 1st.

How does Intersession programming work?

For students in Kindergarten through Second grade: (optional during intersession)

Northside Intersession classes for students in kindergarten through 2nd grade will operate daily from 8:00AM - 2:55PM. The emphasis for morning classes (8:00am to 12:00pm) will be on academic integration - theme based units where all academics relate to a central topic (for example: farms could be the theme for the week. Students then would read about farm, do math connected to farms, perhaps visit a farm etc.) and the afternoon classes 12:30pm to 2:55pm will focus on academic extensions (i.e., connecting academics to with the arts).

From 2:55 PM to 5:30 PM Kindergarten through 2nd grade students can head home with parents, join the regular after school programming provided by the BGC at Northside** or join the Y Surround care program.

For students in Grades 3-5: (optional during intersession)

Northside Intersession classes for students in third through fifth grade will operate from 8:00am-12:30 pm daily. The emphasis for these morning classes will be on academic integration. Then at 12:30pm, Grade 3- 5 students have the option of boarding a bus to be taken to the BGC Erickson Club** for programming offered on site until 6:00pm. Alternately, grade 3-5 students can also return home at 12:30pm during intersession.

Intersession Afternoons

During the afternoon of intersession, the BGC Erickson club will be available for students in grades 3-5 if they have signed up. During the afternoon of intersession, Northside programming will be available for students in kindergarten through second grade if they have signed up. For both locations during intersession, families will need to sign up ahead of time and students will **not** be permitted to attend on a “drop in” basis.

Unfortunately the YMCA and the BGC will not be available for any student during the mornings of intersession.

YMCA

- During intersession days YMCA Surround care will operate as per usual from 6:30am - 7:45 am for before school care and from 2:55-5:30 pm for after school care every day.

Will students continue to receive breakfast and lunch during intersession?

Breakfast and lunch will be served during intersession!

Who will teach Intersession Period classes?

Regular school staff (teachers and TAs) will have the opportunity to work during intersession. If regular staff are not interested, positions will be offered to substitute teachers.

How do parents enroll students in the Intersession Periods?

A form will be sent home a few weeks prior to the break. Classroom teachers assign students to Intersession classes.

No programming will be offered at Northside Elementary from June 6th through July 17th. Families needing care for their children during this time may wish to consult either the Y Surround care program or the BGC.

If a family opts out of the year-round schedule at Northside would they be able to enroll at another school?

Yes, however transportation may become an issue and some schools are at maximum capacity. Northwoods, Summit and SOTA 1 are options with bussing provided. Coulee Montessori is also an option for families! Parents were asked to enroll in December 2018 to be considered for a transfer in order for planning to occur at other schools. At this point in the year, children will be accepted at the other schools based on space.

When will the schedule be implemented?

Northside will start the 19-20 school year July 18th, 2019!

What happens after school from July 18th to the last week in August? If any Northside Elementary students need programming after school between July 18th and the last week in August, they will be bused to the Erickson club for programming that lasts to 5:30pm. Students will need to be members to participate in this programming and sign up for the needed bussing.

Contact Laura Huber, Principal of Northside Elementary with any questions, comments, or concerns at 789-7970 or lhuber@lacrossesd.org

***Students will need to be members of the BGC in order to receive this programming.*