

Hobbs Municipal Schools Student & Family Guide

Your Guide to Success at Hobbs Middle Schools

2026-2027



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Mr. Kerry Romine – Vice President
Mrs. Pat Jones – Secretary
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Mrs. Pam Randall – Member

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Mr. Shawn Hardison – Director of Safety & Security
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Mr. Jeremy Soria – Athletic Director

Letter from the Superintendent



Hobbs Municipal Schools

... aspires to be a community that equips ALL Learners for their unique futures.

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to a new school year with Hobbs Municipal Schools!

At HMS, we believe that every student deserves a safe, supportive environment where learning thrives and student success is at the center. This student handbook is your guide to understanding the supports, opportunities, and expectations that shape our schools and ensure a high-quality educational experience for every learner.

Our mission is clear. *Hobbs Municipal Schools provides a safe learning environment that ignites and fosters passions so that all learners are prepared and high-quality educators that opens doors to endless opportunities. Everything we do—from the classroom to extracurricular activities—is built around that purpose.*

Our vision drives us forward. *We aspire to be a community that equips ALL learners to their unique future. This handbook reflects that commitment by outlining the tools, resources, and expectations designed to help students grow both academically and personally.*

As a district, we are grounded in values that guide our daily work:

- **Students Centered:** prioritize their positive habits, voices, and potential of each learner
- **A spirit of Service:** to one another and to our school community
- **Growth Mindset:** that empowers students to think critically, adapt, and lead
- **A culture of Innovation:** that prepares students for a changing world
- **A pursuit of Sustainable High Performance:** in everything we do

To that end, we are deeply committed to developing graduates who demonstrate a growth mindset, ethical thinking, adaptability, and strong communication.

We encourage every student and family to review this handbook and refer to it throughout the year. It is more than a list of rules—it is a reflection of our shared responsibilities to create schools where all students can succeed, contribute, and belong.

If you have any questions or need support along the way, our teachers, counselors, and administrators are here for you. We're honored to partner with you in this journey.

Here's to a meaningful, inspired, and successful school year. Go Eagles!

With Gratitude,

Gene Strickland
Superintendent

Provide a safe learning environment that ignites and fosters passions so that all learners are provided with high-quality educators that opens doors to endless opportunities. – HMS Mission

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Hobbs Municipal Schools

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Introduction

Forward

Welcome to a new school year! We are excited to partner with students and families as we begin another year of learning, growth, and opportunity.

This Student & Family Guide has been prepared by the Hobbs Municipal Schools Administration in collaboration with the Superintendent and Board of Education to provide important information for students attending Heizer, Highland, and Houston Middle Schools. Inside, you'll find information about academics, student life, school expectations, available resources, and district policies to help students and families navigate the school year with confidence.

We encourage students and families to read this guide together and refer to it throughout the year. By working together, we can create a safe, respectful, and engaging learning environment where every student is supported, challenged, and encouraged to succeed.

To Students:

Welcome to Hobbs Middle Schools! We are excited that you are part of our school community. Middle school is a time to discover new interests, build lasting friendships, challenge yourself, and grow as a learner and leader. Along the way, you will have teachers, counselors, administrators, and staff who are here to support and encourage you.

We encourage you to take pride in your school, treat others with kindness and respect, ask for help when you need it, and make the most of every opportunity. We are glad you're here and look forward to a great year together!

To Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for entrusting Hobbs Municipal Schools with your child's education. We recognize that families are a child's first and most important teachers, and we appreciate the opportunity to partner with you throughout the middle school years.

Your encouragement, involvement, and support make a meaningful difference. Regular attendance, open communication with your child's teachers, and an active interest in your child's learning help build a strong foundation for success.

If you ever have questions or concerns, we encourage you to reach out to your child's teachers, counselors, or school administrators. We look forward to partnering with you to help every student learn, grow, and thrive.

Mission

Hobbs Municipal Schools provides a safe learning environment that ignites and fosters passion so all learners receive a high-quality education that opens doors to endless opportunities.

Vision

Hobbs Municipal Schools aspires to be a community that equips **ALL** learners for their unique future.

Values**Student-Centered**

We put students first by valuing their voices, partnering with families, and empowering them to thrive

Service

We serve with purpose by listening, taking initiative, and supporting others.

Capacity Building

We invest in growth by learning, leading, and supporting one another.

Innovation

We embrace change with curiosity, thoughtful risk-taking, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

Sustainable High Performance

We strive for excellence by setting high expectations, learning from progress, and celebrating success.



Educational Philosophy

At Hobbs Municipal Schools, we believe that strong relationships are the foundation of student success. Through the **Capturing Kids' Hearts** philosophy, we are committed to creating safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environments where every student feels valued, connected, and empowered to learn. We believe students thrive when they are challenged academically, supported socially and emotionally, and encouraged to develop responsibility, integrity, resilience, and a growth mindset. By partnering with families and our community, we prepare students to become respectful, compassionate, and productive citizens who are ready for success in school and beyond.

Our commitment is to inspire every student to learn, lead, and grow while discovering their unique strengths and opportunities for the future.

The Hobbs Way: How we Learn, Lead, and Grow Together

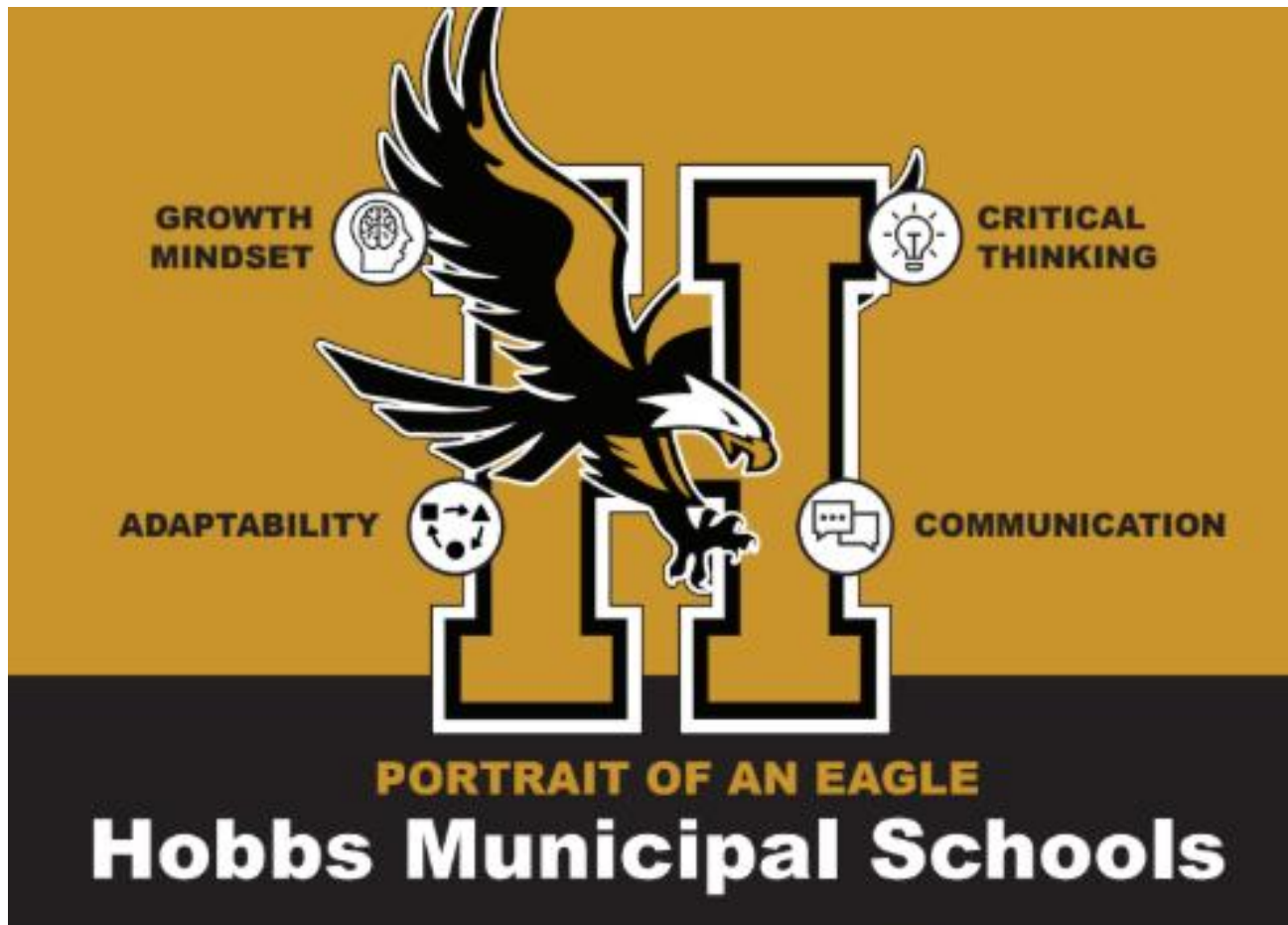
The Hobbs Municipal School Board recognizes the Hobbs Way as our district's framework for continuous improvement and student success. Built upon our Mission, Vision, Values, Capturing Kids' Hearts®, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), and AVID, the Hobbs Way guides how we teach, lead, and learn across all Hobbs schools.

Through the Hobbs Way, we are committed to:

- Maintaining a clear and focused vision for teaching and learning
- Building strong relationships that create safe, supportive, and engaging learning environments
- Strengthening Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that use collaboration, data, and shared practices to improve student learning
- Implementing AVID strategies that promote rigor, student engagement, organization, critical thinking, and college and career readiness
- Holding high expectations for all students and staff
- Building meaningful partnerships among families, schools, and the community
- Continuously improving instructional practices and programs to ensure success for every learner

These guiding principles provide the foundation for preparing students to thrive in school, career, and life. The Hobbs Municipal School Board embraces the Hobbs Way as the district's guiding framework and remains committed to implementing these practices across every campus as we work together to equip ALL learners for their unique future.

Portrait of an Eagle



Growth Mindset

- Embrace curiosity to experience new ideas
- Seek out diverse perspectives from others
- Develop the desire to learn, unlearn, and relearn in order to be a life-long learner



Critical Thinking

- Understand the bigger picture
- Propose mindful solutions
- Apply intentional thinking
- Imagine new ways to solve problems



Adaptability

- Demonstrate flexibility and work effectively
- Respond with self-control in uncertain and urgent situations
- Seek, contribute, and respond to feedback including criticism and praise



Communication

- Choose appropriate types of communication
- Practice active listening skills, and express thoughts and ideas effectively
- Check for clarity and consider impacts when sharing complex issues
- Build an effective team to have a positive impact

The Hobbs Eagle Commitment

As a student of Hobbs Municipal Schools, I recognize that my education is a shared responsibility among my family, school, and community. I understand that my actions, character, and choices shape my future and contribute to the success of those around me.

As a Hobbs Eagle, I will strive to:

- Show respect, responsibility, and integrity in my words and actions.
- Build positive relationships and contribute to a safe, supportive, and inclusive school community.
- Demonstrate a growth mindset by embracing challenges, learning from mistakes, and continuously improving.
- Think critically, solve problems, and apply my learning in meaningful ways.
- Communicate effectively by listening actively, expressing my ideas respectfully, and collaborating with others.
- Adapt positively to change, challenges, and feedback.
- Take ownership of my learning through hard work, organization, and perseverance.
- Practice honesty and uphold academic integrity in all situations.
- Respect school expectations, community values, and the rights of others.
- Value diversity, show empathy, and contribute positively to my school and community.
- Use my talents, leadership, and influence to serve others and make a positive impact.
- Pursue excellence in preparation for college, career, and lifelong success.

Together, we will create a culture of connection, respect, learning, and opportunity where every Hobbs Eagle can thrive.

School Colors & Mascots

School	Schools' Colors	Schools' Mascots
Heizer Middle School	Black and Gold	"Hornets" 
Highland Middle School	Black and Gold	"Bears" 
Houston Middle School	Black and Gold	"Demons" 

People Who Are Here to Help

At Hobbs Middle Schools, every student has a team of caring adults who are committed to helping them learn, grow, and succeed. Whether students have questions about academics, need support, or simply need someone to talk to, our staff is here to help every step of the way.

Teachers

Teachers are dedicated professionals who create engaging, supportive classrooms where students are challenged, encouraged, and respected.

Through meaningful relationships and high expectations, teachers inspire curiosity, critical thinking, collaboration, and personal growth. They provide guidance, encouragement, and feedback while helping students build the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed for success.

Teachers are partners in every student's educational journey and work closely with families to support academic, social, and emotional growth.

Principal

The principal serves as the school's instructional leader and is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and student-centered learning environment where every student can succeed.

Working in partnership with students, families, teachers, and staff, the principal promotes high-quality teaching and learning, celebrates student achievement, and helps ensure every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

The principal is available to listen, solve problems, and support students and families throughout the school year.

Assistant Principal

The Assistant Principal works alongside the Principal, teachers, students, families, and staff to help create a safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environment where every student can succeed.

Assistant Principals support teaching and learning by working with teachers, monitoring student progress, promoting regular attendance, and helping students develop positive behaviors and strong decision-making skills. They partner with families to address concerns, celebrate successes, and connect students with the support they need.

Whether helping solve a problem, recognizing student achievements, or supporting a positive school culture, the Assistant Principal is committed to helping every student learn, grow, and thrive.

Counselor

School counselors are dedicated advocates who partner with students, families, teachers, and administrators to support each student's academic, career, and personal growth. They help students develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to succeed in school and beyond.

Counselors work with students to set goals, make informed decisions, build positive relationships, and navigate challenges. They also connect students and families with resources that support academic success and personal well-being.

Students and families are encouraged to contact their school counselor for assistance with:

- Academic planning
- Course selection
- Scheduling
- College & career exploration
- Personal concerns
- Conflict resolution
- Community resources

Counselors are here to listen, provide guidance, and help every student reach their full potential.

General Information

Special Programs Available

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to meeting the diverse needs of every learner. A variety of programs and services are available to support students' academic, language, social, emotional, and individual learning needs.

These programs may include:

Title I – Provides additional academic support and resources to help students achieve success.

Bilingual Education – Supports students as they develop English proficiency while building academic skills.

Special Education – Provides specially designed instruction and services for eligible students with disabilities.

Gifted Education – Offers enriched learning opportunities that challenge and extend student learning.

Section 504 Services – Provides accommodations and supports for eligible students with disabilities to ensure equal access to learning.

McKinney-Vento (Students in Transition) – Provides educational support and services for students experiencing homelessness or housing instability to help ensure school stability and academic success.

If you have questions about these programs or believe your child may qualify for additional services, please contact your school's administration, counselor, or special programs staff for more information.

Honors Courses-Advanced Learning Opportunities

Honors courses provide students with opportunities to engage in challenging and enriching learning experiences that encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and a deeper understanding of course

content. These courses are designed for students who are ready to embrace greater academic challenges while developing the skills and confidence needed for future success.

Honors courses foster curiosity, creativity, collaboration, and perseverance while preparing students for advanced coursework in high school, including Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), dual credit, and other college and career readiness opportunities. Through these experiences, students build strong study habits, strengthen their academic foundation, and develop the knowledge and skills needed to achieve their goals.

Students and families interested in Honors course opportunities should contact their school counselor or school administration for information about course offerings and placement criteria.

Courses available:

Honors English 7

Honors Social Studies 7

Honors Science 7

Honors Math 7

Honors English 8

Honors Social Studies 8

Honors Science 8

High School Alg. 1-8th only

Honors Art 8

High School Algebra 1 Credit

Eighth-grade students have the opportunity to enroll in Algebra I to fulfill their required mathematics course. Successful completion of Algebra I allows students to earn high school credit while meeting New Mexico's graduation requirement for Algebra I.

This course is designed for students who are ready for increased academic challenge and provides an opportunity to begin earning high school credit while in middle school. Students build a strong mathematical foundation that prepares them for future advanced coursework in high school.

While Honors 7th Grade Math is recommended to help prepare students for the rigor of Algebra I, it is not required. Students and families who have questions about Algebra I placement or course recommendations are encouraged to speak with their school counselor or mathematics teacher.

Health Education

As part of the eighth-grade curriculum, all students participate in a one-semester Health Education course for high school credit. This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions that support their physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Through engaging learning experiences, students explore topics that promote healthy lifestyles, personal responsibility, positive relationships, and lifelong wellness. Health Education encourages students to make responsible choices, build healthy habits, and develop the skills needed for success in school and everyday life.

Parents and guardians will be notified in advance of any instruction for which state law or district policy provides review or opt-out opportunities.

Skyward Student & Family Access

Maintaining accurate student information helps us provide the best possible support for every student and communicate effectively with families. We encourage parents and guardians to notify the school as soon as possible whenever important information changes, including:

- Home, mailing, or email address
- Home, work, or mobile phone number
- Parent or guardian contact information
- Custody or guardianship arrangements
- Medical information, health concerns, or healthcare provider
- Emergency contact information
- Plans to withdraw or transfer to another school

Keeping this information up to date helps us communicate with families, respond quickly in an emergency, and provide the best possible support for your child throughout the school year.

Grades

Skyward is an important tool that helps students and families stay connected throughout the school year. Through Skyward, families can view grades, attendance, assignments, report cards, schedules, and other important student information. Regularly checking Skyward encourages meaningful conversations about learning, celebrates progress, and helps students stay on track toward their goals.

To access Skyward, visit www.hobbsschools.net, select the Parents tab, and click Check Grades. Usernames are your student's last name followed by their full first name with no spaces or capital letters (example: *smithjohn*), and the password is your student's identification number. If you need assistance accessing your account, your school's office is happy to help.

Students are encouraged to review their grades and attendance regularly and to save or print a copy of their class schedule before the start of each semester.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to student success. The New Mexico Attendance for Success Act emphasizes early intervention and strong partnerships between schools and families to support student success.

At Hobbs Municipal Schools, we believe that being present each day helps students build strong relationships, actively participate in learning, and take advantage of the academic and extracurricular opportunities that make the middle school experience meaningful. Every school day provides new opportunities to learn, grow, and connect with others.

When attendance concerns arise, we partner with students and families to identify barriers, provide timely support, and help every student remain engaged, connected, and successful.

What Is an Absence?

An absence occurs when a student is not present for a class period or the school day, whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

Students who participate in approved school-sponsored activities or interscholastic extracurricular events are considered to be participating in an extension of the school day rather than being absent. Students are encouraged to complete any missed assignments within the timelines established by their teachers.

To help students balance academic responsibilities with extracurricular opportunities, participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is limited to 15 missed class periods per semester.

Understanding Attendance Levels

Regular attendance supports student success. Hobbs Municipal Schools monitors attendance throughout the school year to identify students who may benefit from additional support. The following attendance levels help schools and families work together to address concerns early and keep students engaged in learning.

Percentages are based on the number of days enrolled by the number of days absent.

Satisfactory Attendance - missed less than 5% of school (<1 day per month)
At Risk (individualized prevention) - missed 5% - 9.99% of school (1+ days per month)
Moderate Chronic Absence (early intervention) - missed 10% - 19.99% of school (2-3 days per month)
Severe Chronic Absence (intensive support) - missed 20% or more of school (4+ days per month)

Attendance Records

Families are encouraged to review their student's attendance regularly through Skyward and notify the school office if they believe an attendance record is incorrect or needs to be updated.

Interventions and Supports

At Hobbs Municipal Schools, we believe that every student benefits from being present, engaged, and connected to school. To support regular attendance, our schools use a four-tiered system that provides the right level of support at the right time. As a student's attendance needs change, so does the level of partnership and support available. Our goal is always to work collaboratively with students and families to remove barriers, strengthen positive attendance habits, and help every learner experience success.

Tier 1 – Supporting Every Student (*Students missing less than 5% of school days*)

Our focus is on creating a welcoming, student-centered school community where students feel connected,

engaged, and excited to learn. Throughout the year, schools encourage positive attendance habits, maintain regular communication with families, and reinforce the importance of being present each day.

Tier 2 – Building Partnerships (*Students missing 5–9.99% of school days*)

If attendance begins to decline, school staff partner with students and families to better understand the student's unique circumstances. Together, we identify strategies that encourage regular attendance, strengthen engagement, and help students stay connected to learning.

Tier 3 – Providing Additional Support (*Students missing 10–19.99% of school days*)

When additional support is needed, students and families work with school staff to develop an individualized plan that promotes attendance and academic success. This may include regular check-ins, attendance goals, meetings with families, and connections to school counselors, social workers, or other resources that support the student's well-being.

Tier 4 – Working Together for Student Success (*Students missing 20% or more of school days*)

For students experiencing significant attendance challenges, the school, family, and support staff work together to develop a comprehensive plan that addresses barriers to attendance and connects students with additional school and community resources. Throughout this process, we remain committed to maintaining open communication, providing ongoing support, and helping every student reconnect with learning and achieve success.

Closed Campus

To help provide a safe and secure learning environment, Hobbs Middle Schools operate as closed campuses. Students are expected to remain on campus throughout the school day, including during lunch, unless they are checked out through the school office by a parent, guardian, or other authorized adult. If a student needs to leave campus during the school day, the checkout procedures established by the school must be followed. For the safety of all students, students who are not enrolled at the school may not visit campus during the school day unless prior approval has been granted by the principal or school administration.

Home Language Survey and Language Assessments

As part of the enrollment process, all students complete a Home Language Survey. This survey helps Hobbs Municipal Schools identify students who may benefit from additional language support services.

If the survey indicates that a language other than English is spoken in the home, students may participate in language assessments to determine their English language proficiency. Students whose home language is Spanish may also be assessed to determine their Spanish language proficiency. These assessments measure listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and help the school identify the most appropriate instructional supports and language program for each student.

If you have questions about the Home Language Survey, language assessments, or multilingual services, please contact your school's administration or multilingual education staff.

Extracurricular Activities

Clubs and Organizations

Clubs and most organizations are open to anyone who is interested in joining. However, a few clubs/organizations have standards that must be met and maintained in order for a participant to receive any value from the organization. Special groups interested in organizing a club should first meet with the principal. The following clubs and organizations may be available at Hobbs Middle Schools*:

- Art
- Band
- Choir
- Student Council
- Cheerleaders (8th grade only)
- National Junior Honor Society
- Newspaper
- Science Olympiad
- 21st Century Afterschool Program

*(Opportunities may vary by campus)

School Dances and Social Activities

School-sponsored social activities provide students with opportunities to build friendships, celebrate accomplishments, and strengthen school spirit. Participation is a privilege, and students are expected to follow school expectations and the Student Code of Conduct. Additional information regarding dances and other events will be shared by each campus throughout the school year.

Eligibility

Participating in extracurricular activities is an important part of the middle school experience. Athletics, fine arts, clubs, and other school-sponsored activities help students build leadership, teamwork, responsibility, and school pride while creating meaningful connections with their school community. To help students succeed both in the classroom and beyond, participation in extracurricular activities includes academic and attendance expectations that encourage students to make learning their first priority.

Participation in extracurricular activities is both a privilege and a responsibility. Students who represent Hobbs Middle Schools are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, positive behavior, and responsible decision-making at school, during activities, and while representing the district. Participation is subject to district eligibility requirements and the expectations outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

Academic Eligibility

Students participating in extracurricular activities must maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale and have no failing grades (F's) during the semester grading period immediately preceding participation, in accordance with district eligibility requirements.

Attendance

Participation in extracurricular activities reflects a commitment to both learning and school involvement. To be eligible to participate in a scheduled activity or event, students attend at least four class periods on the day of the activity. For activities held on non-school days, students are expected to be present on the last scheduled school day before the event.

Students are also expected to attend school on the day following an extracurricular activity. When special circumstances arise, families are encouraged to communicate with the school principal.

Family Partnership

Families play an important role in supporting student participation. Written parent or guardian permission is required before a student participates in any school-sponsored activity held away from campus. The school will provide the necessary permission forms.

Students who miss class while representing Hobbs Municipal Schools are responsible for communicating with their teachers and completing any missed assignments within the timelines established by their teachers.

Student Information & Health Services

Student Identification Cards

Each middle school student receives a school identification (ID) card as a member of the Hobbs Municipal Schools community. Student ID cards help promote a safe and secure learning environment, provide access to school activities and events, and help school staff quickly identify students throughout the school day.

Students are expected to wear or carry their ID card each day and present it when requested by school staff or when attending school-sponsored activities. If an ID card is lost, damaged, or no longer usable, a replacement card is available for a \$5.00 fee.

Emergency Medical Release Form

The safety and well-being of our students is a top priority. To help us respond quickly in the event of an illness or emergency during the school day, families are asked to complete an Emergency Medical Release Form each year. This form authorizes school personnel to obtain appropriate medical care if a parent or guardian cannot be reached.

Families are encouraged to update emergency contact and medical information whenever changes occur so that school staff always have the most current information available. Forms are available through the school office.

Secondary School Medication Policy

HEALTH Illness and Accidents at School: If your child becomes ill or has an accident at school, you will be notified as soon as possible. Students need to be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine

before returning to school. It is important that all information on the enrollment card be accurate and complete. Parents should notify the school when there is any change in the enrollment information. Your child will not be sent home without prior arrangements. To protect your child and other students from the dangers associated with blood borne pathogens (AIDS - Hepatitis B); parents will be notified to bring a change of clothing if their child gets blood on clothing. Medication Policy: Only Health Care Practitioner prescribed medication will be given during the school day and only when absolutely necessary for a student to remain in school.

Parents may visit the school and give the medication if they so desire. If the medicine is to be given/supervised by a school employee, certain steps will need to be followed in order to ensure maximum safety for all concerned:

1. A medication form signed by the doctor and parent must be completed and presented to the school along with the medicine to be given. You may pick up this form at the school office or get a copy from your local doctor. The parent will be responsible for bringing and picking up the medication. Medicine will not be accepted nor sent home with the student.
2. In addition, medication (including samples from the doctor) must be labeled by the doctor or pharmacist with your child's name, name of medication, dosage and the time the medication is to be given. Medication without proper labeling or packing will not be accepted. For example: medication cannot be sent to school in "baggies" for any reason.
3. NO over the counter medicine will be accepted by the school. This includes aspirin, Tylenol, cough syrup, nonprescription inhalers, etc. Should the child need any of the above during the school day, either the parent will have to come to school and administer the medicine or the labeling described in #2 above must be followed for the school to administer the medication.
4. Students may carry and self-administer health care practitioner prescribed asthma treatment medication and anaphylaxis emergency treatment medication if certain conditions are met. Please see your school nurse.
5. The parent signature on medication authorization form authorizes the school nurse to contact the prescribing provider with any questions or concerns regarding medication. Medication required for school sponsored activities, such as field trips, must meet all the above rules and requirements. We appreciate your cooperation, and hope you will feel free to call the school nurse if you have any concerns.

Additional Student Services

Placement in Alternative Learning Programs

Hobbs Municipal Schools provides alternative learning opportunities for students whose educational needs are best met in a different learning environment. Placement in an alternative program is made in collaboration with school administrators, families, and, when appropriate, the student, in accordance with district policy and applicable due process requirements.

Summer Learning Opportunity

Summer Academy provides students with additional opportunities to strengthen academic skills, recover learning, and prepare for future success. Participation may be recommended by school staff or requested by families based on individual student needs.

Schedule Changes

Student schedules are available through Skyward before the start of each school year. Schedule changes are generally limited to correcting scheduling errors, such as duplicate courses, missing required classes, or incorrect placements. Students who believe their schedule contains an error should contact their school counselor as soon as possible.

Out-of-Zone Enrollment

Families interested in requesting an out-of-zone placement should visit the Hobbs Municipal Schools website or contact the district office for current procedures, deadlines, and eligibility requirements.

Technology Use

Technology is an important part of teaching and learning in Hobbs Municipal Schools. Students are expected to use district technology resources responsibly, ethically, and in support of learning. Appropriate use of technology helps create a safe, respectful, and productive digital learning environment for everyone.

Students and families are required to review and acknowledge the Technology Acceptable Use Agreement each school year. The complete policy, including expectations for device use, internet access, digital citizenship, and technology safety, is available on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website.

Failure to follow the Technology Acceptable Use Agreement may result in the loss of technology privileges and other consequences consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Nutritional Services

Hobbs Municipal Schools believes that nutritious meals support student learning, health, and well-being. Breakfast and lunch are provided free of charge to all middle school students each school day.

Students use their school identification (ID) card to receive meals and help ensure accurate meal service. If a student forgets or loses an ID card, school staff will assist them in receiving their meal.

Some campuses may offer second servings, snack bar items, or other à la carte options for an additional charge. Availability and pricing may vary by campus.

Student Resources & School Expectations

Student Records and Privacy (FERPA)

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of student educational

records. Student records are maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable state and federal laws.

Parents and guardians have the right to review their child's educational records and request corrections as provided by FERPA. Eligible students also have these rights upon reaching the age established by FERPA.

Questions regarding student records or FERPA rights may be directed to your school's administration. Additional information is available in Board Policy and on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website.

Student Expression

Hobbs Municipal Schools encourages students to express their ideas, opinions, and perspectives in respectful and responsible ways. We believe that thoughtful communication, active listening, and respectful dialogue are important parts of learning and citizenship.

Students may express their views individually or as part of approved student activities, provided their expression does not disrupt the educational environment, interfere with the rights or safety of others, or conflict with district policies. School-sponsored meetings, assemblies, and student organizations must be approved and conducted in accordance with school procedures.

Parent Rights & Required Notifications

Throughout the school year, Hobbs Municipal Schools provides families with important notices required by federal and state law. These include information regarding:

- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Technology Acceptable Use
- Title IX
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
- Non-Discrimination
- Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), if applicable
- Other annual district notifications

Complete policies and required notices are available on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website or by contacting your child's school.

Nondiscrimination

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning environment where every student is treated with dignity, respect, and fairness. The district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, age, disability, or any other protected status as provided by law.

Students, families, and staff share a responsibility for creating a school community that values respect, belonging, and positive relationships. Questions regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the district office. Additional information is available on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website.

Sexual Harassment

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where every student is treated with dignity and respect. Sexual harassment and other forms of harassment are not tolerated and are prohibited by district policy.

Any student who experiences or witnesses sexual harassment is encouraged to report the concern as soon as possible to a teacher, counselor, principal, or another trusted school employee. Reports will be addressed promptly and in accordance with district policy and applicable law.

Additional information regarding the district's harassment and nondiscrimination policies is available on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Textbooks and instructional materials are valuable learning resources that support student success throughout the school year. Students are expected to care for all district-issued materials and return them in good condition, allowing for normal wear and tear.

If a textbook or other instructional material is lost or damaged, students or families should notify the teacher or school as soon as possible. Families may be responsible for the cost of lost or damaged materials in accordance with district procedures.

Some classrooms may provide additional instructional materials or classroom sets of textbooks for student use during the school day. The use of these resources may vary by teacher or campus.

Dress Code & Student Appearance

At Hobbs Municipal Schools, we believe that student dress and appearance should contribute to a safe, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment. Students are encouraged to wear clothing that allows them to participate comfortably in learning and school activities while demonstrating respect for themselves and others.

The dress code is designed to promote student safety, minimize distractions, and maintain a positive learning environment. School administrators may address attire or appearance that creates a safety concern, substantially disrupts the educational environment, or does not meet dress code expectations. Students are expected to comply with Board Policy JCDB and the following dress code guidelines:

Footwear

- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Wheeled shoes (Heelies) are not permitted.

Clothing

Students may not wear:

- Pajamas or house shoes
- Clothing that exposes the midriff
- Tube tops or halter tops
- Shirts with straps less than 2 inches wide

- Sleeveless shirts with excessively low arm openings unless worn over another garment
- Transparent or see-through clothing
- Mini-skirts
- Shorts or other garments that are excessively short or otherwise inappropriate for school

Appropriate Fit

- Clothing should be worn at the waist.
- Oversized or excessively baggy pants are not permitted.
- Mesh, sheer, and see through garments must be worn over an opaque layer.
- Clothings with holes or tears that expose skin between the waist and the knee must be worn with appropriate coverage underneath.
- Body piercing will not be allowed other than in the ear and nose

Messages and Images

Students may not wear clothing or accessories that:

- Promote or advertise alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, drugs, gangs, or illegal activity
- Display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or images
- Promote violence, hate groups, or other disruptive organizations

Accessories

The following are not permitted:

- Hats, caps, hoodies, or other head coverings (unless approved for religious, medical, or school-sponsored purposes)
- Chains or accessories that pose a safety concern
- Raised spikes or similar items that could create a safety hazard

Grooming

Student appearance, including hairstyles and grooming, should not create a disruption to the learning environment or pose a health or safety concern.

Final Statement

School administrators reserve the right to address attire or appearance that is unsafe, substantially disruptive to learning, or inconsistent with Board Policy JCDB.

Questions regarding the dress code should be directed to the school administration.

USE OF PERSONAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES BY STUDENTS

Personal Wireless Communication Devices can create a disruption to the learning environment, distract students from the primary purpose of education and can be used to threaten other students.

In accordance with Hobbs Municipal Schools Board Policy, students are prohibited from using a wireless communication device during instructional hours; which includes lunch and passing periods.

Teachers may permit use of Personal Wireless Communication Devices for specific learning activities

(e.g. research, educational apps, timers)

DEFINITIONS

A. Personal Wireless Communication Device means a portable electronic device capable of transmitting or receiving voice, text or data, including but not limited to: cellular phone, smartphone, or smartwatch; tablet computer; laptop computer; gaming device, smartglasses or headphones. Personal Wireless Communication Devices that are visible or can be heard during the school day shall be considered to be in violation of this policy.

While students are not prohibited from possessing personal electronic devices, the personal electronic devices must be stored in designated locations during instructional hours and should not be visible. Personal Wireless Communication Devices are to be kept in the student's backpack, locker, purse or designation locations.

Personal Wireless Communication Devices Guidelines allow uses for educational purposes should be at the request of a classroom teacher.

B. Camera, texting, and testing protocols

It is never appropriate to take candid pictures of other people without their knowledge and consent or to post and share them for public viewing.

There are certain testing and assessment situations where the presence of electronic devices poses a serious threat to test security. In those situations, students will be asked to surrender all electronic devices to a proctor at the beginning of the test session. They will be returned at the end of the test session. Use of Personal Wireless Communication Devices is a common method of cheating. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

Use of Personal Wireless Communication Devices in this manner can result in the device being confiscated and the student receiving discipline per the Student Code of Conduct.

C. Enforcement and liability

Campus staff and administrators are authorized and required to enforce this policy. Campus staff shall refer students who violate this policy to the appropriate building administrator for enforcement of this policy.

The District shall not be liable or responsible for the loss, damage, or theft of any Personal Wireless Communication Device at school or at school sponsored activities.

Consequences for Violation

- 1st Offense: Verbal warning and Personal Wireless Communication Device placed in designated area for the remainder of the period or day.

- 2nd Offense: Personal Wireless Communication Device placed in designated area for the remainder of the period or day. Lunch D-Hall or classroom consequence assigned, written referral to administration, and parent/guardian may be notified.
- 3rd Offense and beyond: Progressive discipline (office referral) determined by administration.

(Note: If you claim you do not have a Personal Wireless Communication Device, parent verification is needed.)

Emergencies:

In an emergency, students should notify staff so that the office phone can be utilized. Parents who need to reach their student during school hours should contact the main office.

Safe, Respectful, and Inclusive Schools

Bullying, Harassment, and Hazing

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where every student can learn, grow, and thrive. Bullying, harassment, hazing, and other behaviors that threaten the safety or well-being of students are not tolerated.

The following Board policy outlines the district's expectations, reporting procedures, and response to incidents of bullying, harassment, and hazing.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Purpose

The effective education of our students requires a school environment in which all students feel safe and secure. The Board of Education is committed to maintaining an environment conducive to learning in which all students are safe from bullying, violence, threats, name-calling, intimidation, and unlawful harassment in the physical, traditional, or digital, cyber environment. The Board of Education finds that practices known under the term “hazing” are dangerous to the physical and psychological welfare of students, are prohibited in connection with all school activities.

Further, the Hobbs Municipal Schools reserves the right to respond to conduct prohibited by this policy when committed by persons not directly subject to the authority of the School District (e.g. parents, school patrons, community members, vendors, etc.) by reporting such conduct to local law enforcement because it is disruptive to the functions of the School and may violate NMSA 1978 Section 30-20-13.

Please see Board Policy JCDAD for definitions, confidentiality and sanctions.

Reporting Procedures

1. It is the express policy of the Board to encourage students who are victims of such physical or verbal misconduct, harassment on the basis of protected characteristics, or hazing to report such claims and/or conduct to the principal, assistant principal, or to the Superintendent.
2. Students or their parents may report such conduct to the school principal, assistant principal, or the Superintendent.

3. Any employee who, as a result of personal observation or a report,, has reason to believe that a student is a victim of conduct prohibited by this policy, whether the conduct is by another student, another employee, or other person subject to the authority of the District, shall notify his or her principal, assistant principal, or the Superintendent, of such observation or report in writing within twenty-four (24) hours.
4. No person shall knowingly make a false charge, or give false information in the investigation, of a possible violation of this policy.

Investigation

1. All reports of conduct in violation of this policy shall be promptly investigated by the school principal or his/her designee. Where violations of criminal law may have occurred, the principal, in consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee shall report the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Principals who receive complaints of violation of this policy shall investigate such complaints, and shall report the complaints, the scope and elements of their investigations, the findings of their investigations, and actions they propose to take, if any, to the Superintendent for approval within ten (10) school days of receipt of such complaints. The Superintendent will respond to such submissions within five (5) school days, approving the proposal or directing further or different action.
3. In assessing the existences of a violation of this policy and the appropriate discipline, the principal or designee shall consider the nature and extent of the conduct, the age of the student(s) involved, the context in which the alleged conduct occurred, and any prior history of conduct prohibited by this policy on the part of the violator.

Title IX Requirement

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal assistance." Hobbs Schools employees are required to inform the Title IX Coordinator, of any instance they observe regarding sexual discrimination or sexual harassment. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the Civil Rights Act of 1964
The District Title IX Coordinator is: **Godswill Barrah**, Deputy Superintendent Teaching and
Learning 1515 E. Sanger Hobbs, NM Phone: 575-433-0100
email: barrahg@hobbsschools.net

In compliance with regulations implementing Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1973, and applicable state laws, the Board of Education prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, military or veteran status, national origin, sex, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or past or present physical or mental disability. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, direct or indirect demands or requests for sexual favors, sexual comments, gestures or other physical actions of a sexual nature when:

- submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's educational success;

- submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for educational decisions affecting such individual; or such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment.

Smoking/Tobacco Usage

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and tobacco-free learning environment for all students and staff. The use or possession of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), vaping devices, or other nicotine products is prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at school-sponsored activities in accordance with district policy and state law.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Substance Abuse Policy

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and drug-free learning environment where every student has the opportunity to learn and thrive. The possession, use, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances, unauthorized medications, or other prohibited substances is not permitted on school property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored activities.

The possession or use of drug paraphernalia is also prohibited. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable law. When appropriate, the district will also work with students and families to connect them with available support services and resources.

Student Safety

The safety and well-being of every student is a priority at Hobbs Municipal Schools. In rare emergency situations where a student's behavior presents an immediate risk of serious harm to themselves or others, trained staff may respond in accordance with district policy and applicable state law. Additional information regarding the district's restraint policy is available on the Hobbs Municipal Schools website.

Weapons

The safety of our students and staff is a top priority. To help maintain a safe learning environment, students may not possess, carry, store, or use weapons or weapon replicas on school property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored activities.

Weapons include firearms, knives, or any object designed or intended to cause bodily injury, as well as replicas of these items. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable state and federal law. In cases involving firearms, the district will comply with the requirements of the Gun-Free Schools Act and all applicable laws.

Student Searches

Hobbs Municipal Schools respects students' privacy while maintaining a safe and secure learning environment. When school administrators have reasonable suspicion that a student possesses prohibited or illegal items, they may conduct a search of the student, the student's belongings, locker, vehicle, or other school property in accordance with district policy and applicable law.

Searches are conducted to help protect the safety and well-being of students, staff, and the school community.

Additional information is available in Board Policy JCAB.

Crisis Management and Emergency Response

The safety and well-being of our students and staff is our highest priority. Each Hobbs Municipal School maintains a comprehensive Crisis Management Plan designed to guide staff and students in responding safely and effectively during emergencies.

If an emergency occurs, families will receive timely information and instructions through school and district communication systems, as well as local emergency agencies when appropriate. To help ensure the safety and security of everyone on campus, families are asked not to come to the school until directed to do so by school or emergency officials.

If you have questions following an emergency, please contact your school's office for additional information.

Cooperation with Law Enforcement

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for all students and staff. When student behavior involves a potential violation of state or federal law, the district may work in partnership with local, state, or federal law enforcement agencies in accordance with district policy and applicable law.

When appropriate, parents or guardians will be notified as soon as reasonably possible regarding situations involving law enforcement and their student.

The district also partners with community agencies and organizations to help connect students and families with resources and support services when appropriate.

Student Code of Conduct

At Hobbs Municipal Schools, we believe that every student deserves a safe, respectful, and supportive learning environment where they can learn, grow, and succeed. Positive behavior, mutual respect, and personal responsibility help create a school community where everyone feels valued and has the opportunity to thrive.

The Student Code of Conduct is designed to establish clear expectations for student behavior while promoting accountability, responsibility, and positive decision-making. Our goal is to work in partnership with students and families to address concerns, restore relationships when appropriate, and support students as they learn from their experiences.

Most behavior concerns are resolved through communication, problem-solving, and collaboration between students, families, teachers, and administrators. When behavior disrupts learning, threatens the safety of others, or violates district expectations, school staff will respond fairly and consistently in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, Board policy, and applicable state and federal law.

Behavioral expectations are organized into three levels based on the nature and severity of the behavior:

Behavior Level	Description
Class I	Minor behaviors that interfere with learning, classroom procedures, or school expectations.
Class II	More serious or repeated behaviors that impact learning, school operations, or the safety and well-being of others.
Class III	Major behaviors involving significant safety concerns, violence, weapons, illegal substances, or other serious violations of district policy or law.

Depending on the circumstances, disciplinary responses may include student conferences, parent conferences, restorative practices, detention, on-campus suspension, off-campus suspension, alternative placement, long-term suspension, expulsion, or other consequences consistent with district policy.

Explanation of Disciplines

On-Campus Suspension (OCS)

On-Campus Suspension (OCS) provides students with an opportunity to reflect on their behavior while continuing to complete academic work in a supervised school setting. During OCS, students are removed from their regular classes and assigned schoolwork for a period of 10 school days or fewer.

During On-Campus Suspension

Students:

- Attend OCS during the regular school day.
- Continue working on assigned classwork.
- May practice for extracurricular activities outside the regular school day.
- May not participate in or attend extracurricular activities or other school-sponsored events during the suspension.

Out of school-Suspension

Out of school-Suspension removes a student from school for a period of 10 school days or fewer when a more serious disciplinary response is necessary.

During out of school Suspension

Students:

- May not be on any Hobbs Municipal Schools campus without prior approval from the principal or the principal's designee.
- May not practice for, participate in, or attend extracurricular activities or other school-sponsored events during the suspension.
- Are responsible for completing missed assignments.

Students will have the same number of school days to complete make-up work as the number of days they were suspended. Work completed within the established timeline will receive full credit. Any exceptions must be approved by the principal or the principal's designee.

Student Discipline and Due Process

Hobbs Municipal Schools is committed to addressing student behavior in a fair, consistent, and respectful manner. Before disciplinary action is assigned, students are provided appropriate due process consistent with district policy and applicable law.

Short-Term Suspension and Other Disciplinary Actions

Before a short-term suspension, on-campus suspension, or other significant disciplinary consequence is assigned, students will generally:

- Be informed of the alleged violation.
- Have the opportunity to hear the information supporting the concern.
- Be given an opportunity to share their perspective before a decision is made.

Parents or guardians will be notified as soon as reasonably possible regarding suspensions or other significant disciplinary actions. In situations involving an immediate threat to the safety of students, staff, or the learning environment, a student may be removed from school while the matter is being addressed. Students assigned On-Campus Suspension (OCS) or Off-Campus Suspension (OSS) are expected to complete assigned coursework. Make-up work will be provided in accordance with district procedures and may receive full credit when completed within established timelines.

Long-Term Suspension

A long-term suspension is the removal of a student from school for more than ten (10) school days. Students and families are entitled to the due process protections outlined in Board Policy JCA, including written notice of the allegations, an opportunity for a hearing, and the right to appeal as provided by district policy.

Additional Information

Complete disciplinary procedures, hearing requirements, appeals, and due process protections are available in **Board Policy JCA** and related Board policies.

Working Together for Student Success

Thank you for taking the time to review the Hobbs Municipal Schools Student & Family Guide. Our goal is to build strong partnerships with students and families to create safe, welcoming, and engaging schools where every learner can thrive.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or need support, please reach out to your child's teacher, counselor, or school administrator. We are committed to working together to help every student learn, grow, and succeed.

We look forward to a great school year!

2026 - 2027 Calendar

Hobbs Municipal Schools

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

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

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

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

Network Wednesday							Vacation/Holiday							Professional Learning							Start/Stop of School							Combo Remote/Professional Learning							Remote Learning						
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Fall Semester 08.03 - 08.05 Staff Professional Learning 8.06 1st day of class 9.7 Holiday 10.02 End of 1st 9 weeks 10.05 Start of 2nd 9 weeks 10.12 Holiday 11.03 Holiday TBD Lea County In-Service 11.23 - 11.27 Thanksgiving 12.18 End of 2nd 9 weeks 12.21 - 01.06 Christmas Holiday	Yearly Totals 183 School Days 8 Professional Learning 90 Days 93 Days 02.15 & 03.29 Snow Days	Spring Semester 12.21 - 01.06 Christmas Holiday 01.04 - 01.06 Staff Professional Learning 1.07 1st day of class 1.18 Holiday 2.15 Holiday 3.12 End of 3rd 9 weeks 3.15 Start of 4th 9 weeks 03.22 - 03.26 Spring Break 3.29 Staff Professional Learning 4.16 Holiday 5.28 Last day of class
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