



Moberly School District No. 81

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Office of the Superintendent

February 8, 2019

Dear Spartans,

Wow! We are having quite a winter and have now experienced 9 school cancellations for the 2018-19 school year. It is only February 8, which means we may have more inclement weather before spring warms our bodies and spirits again. As you know, the District takes the safety of students and staff very seriously. Careful consideration is given prior to making a decision on whether or not to cancel school. Due to the high number of cancellations this year, there have been some questions regarding how they impact our school calendar. Hopefully the information below helps!

Sincerely,

Dr. Miller

What is the last day of school for the Moberly School District in the 2018-19 school year?

May 23, 2019

Do Moberly School District cancellations impact our school calendar for the rest of the year?

No.

Will we have to make up days during Spring Break, on other out of school dates, or after the last day of school?

No.

Other school districts are having to add school days to their calendar. Why does Moberly not have to do this?

Four years ago, the Moberly School District began creating a calendar that includes the maximum number of make-up days required by law. Due to this calendar choice, our last day of school is not impacted by weather cancellations. Some other districts also include make-up days in their calendar and some do not. All school districts in Missouri follow the same rules when creating a school district calendar, but there is flexibility in how districts meet the requirements.

The number of scheduled days and the length of the school day all plays a part in these calculations. Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) provides technical guidance on [calendar construction](#) and [inclement weather make up requirements](#).

Does following a calendar that includes the maximum number of make-up days required by Missouri law mean we could go to school more days than required?

Yes. If the Moberly School District had no inclement weather cancellations by the end of this school year, we would have gone to school 2 more days than the traditional school calendar.

What is the average number of school cancellations in the Moberly School District each year?

In the previous 5 years (not including 2018-19), the District has averaged 3.2 cancellations a year.

Why does the District choose to use a calendar that includes the maximum make-up days and a set end date?

By having a set end date, it helps both families and the district. For families of students and staff, summer plans can confidently be made without concern for changes to school schedule.

For the District, we are able to set summer school, cleaning, and construction schedules in advance, which allows for greater efficiency.