



June 20, 2025

Dear Wayland-Cohocton Families,

I'm writing to inform you that due to the **extreme heat expected next Monday, June 23, and Tuesday, June 24**, we will move to **half-day schedules** on both days. This decision is not made lightly, and it comes after careful consideration of new state legislation regarding maximum classroom temperatures and our responsibility to ensure student safety.

Under the updated guidance, classrooms must remain below **88°F**, with additional precautions and mitigating strategies required once temperatures reach **82°F**. Unfortunately, without widespread cooling systems in place, full-day sessions in many of our buildings would exceed those thresholds. At the same time, the **New York State Education Department** mandates a **minimum of 2.5 hours of instruction** per day for attendance to count—meaning we **must hold at least a half-day** of school to meet state requirements.

We fully understand and acknowledge the **hardship this change places on families**, particularly in arranging supervision and adjusting daily routines. **If we had any other viable options, we would absolutely consider them.** Please know that this decision reflects our commitment to balancing **state compliance** with the **health and well-being of our students and staff.**

What this means for next week (Monday through Thursday):

- **PreK - 3 students** will dismiss at **11:30 AM.**
- **PreK - 4 students** will dismiss at **11:30 AM.**
- **Elementary students** will attend school from **9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.**
- **Middle School students** will attend school from **7:30 AM to 12:00 PM.**

- **Additionally on Monday, 6/23 - 8th grade French** students (ONLY) will need to stay throughout the afternoon to take the World Language Checkpoint A Exam as this exam is for graduation credit. They will be taking the exam in the MS Media Annex, which is temperature controlled.
- **Tuesday, 6/24 - 8th Grade** Moving Up Ceremony start time will be moved from 1:15 pm to 10:15 am.
- **Wednesday, 6/25 - 8th Grade** Seabreeze Regal Eagle Trip is still on; they will depart school at 9:45. Return time is 5:00 - parents are responsible for picking students up.
- **High School students** will report for Regents Exams as scheduled.
- There is no school for students on **Friday, June 27th**.
- **Breakfast** will still be provided during the shortened school day.
- **Bagged lunches** will also be provided to anyone interested in them.

We apologize in advance for this disruption and thank you for your continued support and understanding. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your building principal or the district office directly.

Respectfully,

Eileen Feinman
Superintendent
Wayland-Cohocton Central School District