

Monroe County Schools

News Release

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For immediate release - August 9, 2005

Monroe County students in Peterstown Elementary and Mountain View School will start back to school on August 29th. Fifth graders and 9th graders at Peterstown Middle and James Monroe, respectively, will also report on August 29th. On August 30th, grades 6-8 at Peterstown Middle and 10-12 at James Monroe will join their classmates.

Teachers and staff will report on August 23, 2005, 8:30 a.m. at James Monroe High School. There are three days of staff development scheduled at the beginning of the school year.

Kindergarten students won't start until September 7, since their teachers make home visits during their first week back at school. Head Start and Pre-School Special Needs students will work with their programs prior to starting.

James Monroe High School freshmen are receiving a letter next week indicating the orientation to be held on August 29, 2005, at the high school. Transportation will be provided for students although it is hoped that parents will attend as well to give them an opportunity to learn about the high school curriculum, programs, and the school day.

Monday, September 5, 2005, will be the first holiday, Labor Day. West Virginia law requires five days throughout the school year that will be called Instructional Support and Enhancement days. Monroe County has scheduled these ISE days on October 10, December 23, February 20, April 7, and June 8. These are days that students will be out of school, but may have an opportunity to attend parent conferences or the like on the days listed as the school

announces. The rest of the day is to be used for staff development and the faculty senate meeting. Schools will announce to parents prior to those dates, any parent conferences scheduled.

State law still requires that students make up days missed due to inclement weather. However, this year's calendar has a spring break in it that cannot be taken away by missed days. Students will be out of school April 7-14 because of the ISE day on April 7. However, this means that our traditional Thanksgiving break has been curtailed. Students will attend Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week in order to provide the full week of spring break.

The last day for students is scheduled for June 7, 2006. A back to school newspaper supplement will be mailed out prior to school starting, which will have calendar information as well as contact numbers, required policies and the like available for review.

Principals will be in their schools by August 17. New students who haven't enrolled may visit the schools after that date to enroll. Parents uncertain about bus schedules need to call the Transportation Department at 772-3061.