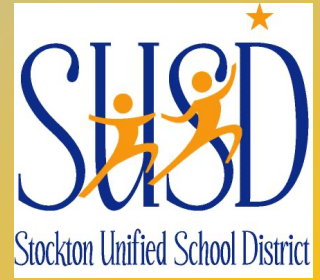




# *Ask Dr. Rodriguez*



## Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Edition #27 2023-24 School Year – Week of March 11, 2024

Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.

- 1. Hi, I want to know why Stockton doesn't have junior high and why aren't any sports being offered to middle school children. My children school doesn't offer any extracurricular activities such as soccer, football, cheer, wrestling, volleyball etc. like in other districts. Why?**

Over a decade ago, the district made the decision to transition to all K-8 schools. This move was based on extensive research and consideration of the benefits that K-8 schools offer to students. By combining elementary and middle school grades within one school, we aim to provide a more cohesive and supportive educational environment for our students. This model fosters stronger connections between students, teachers, and families, promoting continuity in learning and social development throughout their formative years.

Regarding sports offerings for middle school children, I understand your concern about the lack of extracurricular activities such as soccer, football, cheer, wrestling, and volleyball at your children's school. While our schools do not offer these specific sports as standalone programs, we do provide opportunities for middle school students to engage in intramural sports through our after-school program.

The after-school program includes various sports activities throughout the year, such as basketball in the fall, soccer in the winter, and now volleyball. These programs are designed to promote physical activity, teamwork, and healthy competition among students. They also offer a chance for students to develop valuable skills and build friendships outside of the traditional classroom setting.

I encourage you to consider enrolling your child in the after-school program to take advantage of these sports opportunities. Our program provides daily practices and competitions every other week, giving students a chance to participate actively and enjoy the benefits of organized sports. If you have any further questions or would like more information about our after-school program and sports offerings, please feel free to contact your school site. We are committed to providing the best possible educational experience for all students in Stockton, and we appreciate your feedback and engagement in our community.

- 2. When will the return-to-work dates be released for SPPA (24-25 school year)?**

The SPPA return to work dates are developed by Human Resources and will be available by the end of March.

**3. Is there still room in the Spring Break program? I need to work still.**

To ensure staff to student ratio, it is important that we know attendees in advance, therefore, registration for Spring Break Camp has officially closed. However, on a limited case by case basis, we may be able to accommodate late registration depending on staffing. If you are in great need for a safe location for your child, please reach out to your school site to inquire. Our Spring Break Camps operate from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at participating sites and are designed to keep the spirit of exploration and wonder alive during the break. Our programs offer breakfast, lunch, and a super snack to all students enrolled. The staff leads a dynamic blend of activities, excursions, and hands-on learning experiences to make your child's spring break memorable and engaging.

Spring Break Camp highlights:

1. **Creative Workshops:** From arts and crafts to theater and music, your child will have the chance to unleash their creativity in a fun and supportive environment.
2. **Field Trips:** We have exciting field trips planned to local attractions and educational destinations, allowing your child to discover new places and interests.
3. **Outdoor Adventures:** Nature walks, gardening, and outdoor games will connect your child with the beauty of the spring season.
4. **Reading Adventures:** Our reading sessions will transport your child to fascinating worlds through books, fostering a love for reading.
5. **Cooking Fun:** We'll explore culinary delights with kid-friendly cooking sessions, encouraging teamwork and a taste for new flavors.
6. **Themed Days:** Each day can have a unique theme, ensuring your child experiences a wide range of enriching activities.

**Program Details**

- Dates: March 18, 2024 - March 21, 2024
- Hours: 8:00 am- 5:00 pm
- Location: Participating TK-8 sites.
- Grade Levels: TK-8

**4. I am a staff member, and it feels like students are becoming more extreme towards us such as assaults. What are our options?**

We take all staff assaults seriously. If a staff member is assaulted, they should notify their administrator who will contact the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for a potential criminal investigation. A staff member may make the report themselves directly to DPS by calling 209-933-7085. For transparency, we worked with DPS to review data for the last two years. For the 2022-2023 school year, we had 10 reported staff assaults, and for 2023-2024 school year to date we have had 9 reported staff assaults. The incidents range in the severity of assaults and the student consequence. Site administration conducts their own parallel investigation to determine student consequences, in addition to possible criminal charges.

**5. I tried to sign up for the upcoming CSM training for Monday and I was told it was full. Will I have a chance to attend another safety training?**

We are excited to share that we filled and expanded to 48, from 40 spots, for our Emergency Preparedness and Response to Targeted Violence training hosted for campus

security staff. As a result of the strong interest, we will be offering additional training dates in the summer.

**6. I need the link to the kindergarten registration. Can you provide it to me?**

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration began February 13, 2024. For **Kindergarten eligibility**, your child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2024. For **Transitional Kindergarten (TK) eligibility**, your child must turn five years old between September 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025.

Students currently enrolled in a Stockton Unified School District preschool program meeting eligibility requirements for TK or Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year do not automatically roll over. You are required to enroll your student with Central Enrollment for TK or Kindergarten.

**Enrollment Options:**

- [Online Application Link, click here](#)
- [How to create your ParentVue account click here](#)
- In Person: visit Central Enrollment: 1800 South Sutter Street, Stockton CA 95206

**Required documents:**

1. Valid Parent or Legal Guardian Photo ID (State ID or Driver's License, Passport, Employee ID)
2. Proof of Child's Age: (Birth Certificate, Passport, Baptism Certificate, other Birth Record or Proof of Age)
3. Current Proof of Address:
  - Two bills dated within 30 days, **or**
  - A rental agreement dated within 30 days **AND** one current mail dated within 30 days, **or**
  - Two pieces of correspondence from a governmental agency dated within 30 days.
4. Your Child's original immunization record

**Recommended Documents:**

- Your child's physical examination record
- Your child's oral health immunization record

**7. I see that you approved for 6 unions out of 9 to get the retention bonus. My question is will substitute teachers be getting the retention bonus as well since we are part of the STA Union?**

STA and the District have tentatively agreed on an MOU to give certificated substitutes a \$2,500 retention bonus in two parts as noted below:

The District shall pay a One-Time Retention Bonus of \$2,500 to STA bargaining unit substitutes in two installments as follows:

a. The first installment (\$1500) shall be paid to substitutes who, as of June 30, 2024, have cumulatively worked a minimum of 108 days in SUSD during the 2023-2024 school year and were in paid status upon ratification of this agreement. The installment above will be delivered no later than end-of-August payroll, 2024.

Excluded substitutes:

- As of June 30, 2024, any who worked fewer than 108 days in SUSD during the 2023-2024 school year;
- Any who worked in SUSD during the 2023-2024 school year, but before ratification of this agreement ended employment with the District through resignation, dismissal, or any other means;
- All substitutes who received a 2023-2024 school year signing bonus or retention bonus through any other agreement language besides this MOU

8. **Last week you stated STA members would be receiving their portion in a separate check before March 29th. However, when I talked to payroll today, they stated "The payroll department has not received any new information on this matter all we know is employees will be paid no later than the 29th of March. If you have direct deposit, it will be deposited separately into your bank account." Do you have any clarity on this?**

All eligible STA members will receive the first portion of their retention bonus on March 25, 2024. If the employees have direct deposit set up, this check will be processed this way as well. If the employee does not have direct deposit, the check will be mailed to their address on file on March 25, 2024.

9. **My elementary child/children are coming home every day with head lice! I have reported the situation to the school office. I was told Nothing can be done because it's the districts protocol. In the meantime as the parent I have to keep washing, cleaning, disinfecting and checking my child/children's hair on a daily. It frustrates me as the parent that I'm trying to do the upmost to keep my child/children from getting head lice not including the rest of the things work etc.. I do. Clearly the problem is at school! My child/children Don't stay at other peoples houses, they come home straight from school home. This is concerning! I feel that children at school should get checked at least once a month due to health cleanliness and preventing the spreading. The parents permission could be asked if that's going to be an issue. As a parent of Elementary school and High school children, I would like to know what is being done or can be done about this situation?**

The district policy states and follows evidence-based practice supported by the CDC.

Children found with live head lice shall be referred to the parent for treatment and temporarily excluded from school. Data does not support school exclusion for nits.

According to the CDC, head lice usually spread from head-to-head (or hair-to-hair) contact with a person with head lice. Head lice can also spread by sharing combs, hats, clothes, hair clips, scarves, or other personal items that come in contact with a person's head. Head lice are more likely to spread among children during sleepovers, play dates, and family gatherings and are less likely to spread at school.

CDPH recommends the combination of treatment with lice-killing products and nit combing. Check the hair of everyone in your household to see if they have head lice. • Over-the-counter products and medications prescribed by a doctor are available to treat head lice. Not all products kill nits, and retreatment is often needed 7-10 days after the first treatment, when nits hatch and more head lice are found. Follow the label directions carefully. Only treat people who have head lice. Do not leave the product on for a longer time than recommended – it will not kill lice faster. Each person with head lice needs a complete treatment. Do not split a single box of shampoo between people. Everyone in the home with head lice needs to be treated the same day. • Important: Comb the hair in-between treatments to remove nits. Use a metal (not plastic) nit comb that has long teeth – several brands are available at your local pharmacy. Hair should be combed every 2-3 days for two weeks or until nits are no longer found. The goal is to remove any nits that can hatch new lice. It is easier to comb wet hair that has been parted into small sections. Each section of hair should be combed from root to tip. If lice or nits are found, wipe or rinse the comb before using it again. Sometimes it may seem that the treatment used has failed when actually: 1) the substance on the hair shaft was misidentified as nits (i.e., dandruff, styling products, etc.), 2) treatment instructions were not properly followed, or 3) re-infestation with head lice has occurred.

According to American Academy of Pediatrics, “Screening for nits alone is not an accurate way of predicting which children or adolescents are or will become infested, and screening for head lice has not been proven to have a significant effect on the incidence of head lice in a school community over time” (Nolt et al., 2022 p.10). “Because of the lack of evidence of efficacy, routine classroom or school wide screening should be discouraged” (Nolt et al., 2022 p.10). Therefore, we do not conduct lice screening on a regular basis.

**10. When will the Instructional Calendar for 2024-2025 be available?**

The 2024-2025 Instructional Calendar has already been determined and approved. You can find it at the following [link](#). For ease I have also included an image of the calendar.

# STOCKTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2024-2025

### Instructional Calendar

**180-Day Schedule**

*Dr. Michelle Rodriguez*  
Superintendent

Board Approved  
April 4, 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fall Break: Oct. 7 - 11  
Thanksgiving Break: Nov. 25 - 29  
Winter Break: Dec. 23 - Jan 3  
Spring Break: Mar. 17 - 21  
Teacher PD Days: July 29, Sept 19-20, Jan 24

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

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

First Day of School 08/01/24  
Last Day of School 05/29/25

Trimester 1 10/31/24 58 days  
Trimester 2 02/21/25 60 days  
Trimester 3 05/29/25 62 days

1st Qtr. Ends 10/04/24 44 days  
2nd Qtr. Ends 12/20/24 43 days  
3rd Qtr. Ends 03/14/25 46 days  
4th Qtr. Ends 05/29/25 47 days

P-1 Ends 12/13/24 82 Days  
P-2 Ends 03/21/25 134 Days

Instructional Days Per Month	
July	0
August	22
September	18
October	18
November	14
December	15
January	18
February	18
March	16
April	21
May	20
June	0

180

- Regular School Day
- School Break or Vacation
- Holiday
- Teacher Non-Contact Day
- Teacher PD Non-Contact Day