

Sugar-Salem School District No. 322

INSTRUCTION

2205

Harvest Break

The purpose of Harvest Break is to provide a period of time out of school so that students may work to help local farmers harvest their crops. Traditionally this has fallen during the last part of September and the first part of October. This break benefits many farmers who must hire part time help for a short period of time and then release them after the harvest is over.

Over one hundred Sugar Salem High School students generally work on farms during the harvest break and would miss school if it were in session. School being in session would cause negative consequences.

First, those students would miss the educational process and learning they find while attending. The help they get from their teachers while in attendance is invaluable.

Second, students in attendance are what generate the funding provided by the state to operate the school district. When school is in session and attendance is low, less funding comes from the state. If school is out of session those days are not counted as days for student attendance and there is no loss of funding.

Therefore, it is the policy of Sugar Salem School District to provide a period of two weeks when school is not in session for Harvest Break. This break will take place at the optimal harvest time and will begin the last week of September or the first week of October, depending that year's calendar and the needs of local area farmers.

This time period will be set and will not be moved unless there is a frost which kills the potato plants on, or before, the twenty first day before the first scheduled day of Harvest Break.

In the case of a killing frost, the Superintendent will declare an emergency and will notify the Chairman of the Board of Trustees who will call an emergency meeting to decide on whether or not to change the dates of Harvest Break. This emergency meeting will take place in person and as soon as is practicable.

If it decided, by board action, to change the dates of Harvest, the Superintendent will notify the patrons by:

- Sending out a mass email to all patrons and employees with emails in the system.
- Sending out a mass text message to all patrons within the text notification system.
- Notifying the local newspapers and television stations.
- Placing notification on the district marquee.
- Changing the district calendar and emailing it out to all patrons and staff.

Policy History:

Adopted on: November 2013

Revised on: