

2025-2026

CALENDAR HANDBOOK

HIGGINS EDUCATION CENTER



HIGGINS EDUCATION CENTER

1030 W. Higgins Road • Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169-4200 • (847) 755-6640

SCHEDULE - ACADEMY SOUTH

Period	Regular	Early Release
1	9:10 - 9:58	9:10 - 9:48
2	9:58 - 10:46	9:48 - 10:24
3	10:46 - 11:34	10:24 - 11:01
4	11:34 - 12:22	11:01 - 11:38
5a	12:22 - 12:47	11:38 - 12:16
5b	12:47 - 1:12	11:38 - 12:16
6	1:12 - 2:00	12:16 - 12:53
7	2:00 - 2:48	12:53 - 1:30
8	2:48 - 2:58	1:30 - 1:40

SCHEDULE - NEW ENDEAVORS

Period	Regular	Early Release
1	8:00 - 8:25	8:00 - 8:19
2	8:25 - 9:13	8:19 - 8:56
3	9:13 - 10:01	8:56 - 9:33
4	10:01 - 10:49	9:33 - 10:10
5	10:49 - 11:37	10:10 - 10:47
6	11:37 - 12:02	10:47 - 11:06
7	12:02 - 12:50	11:06 - 11:43
8	12:50 - 1:38	11:43 - 12:20
9	1:38 - 1:48	12:20 - 12:30

ACADEMY SOUTH

Academy - South students are provided therapeutic support each week through group and individual counseling. Academy - South's school psychologists are available each school day to provide additional support as needed. During group sessions, students will discuss a variety of topics such as anger management, problem solving, problem identification, school improvement, social skills training, and goal setting.

One of the primary goals of the program is the reintegration of the student into the home school environment whenever appropriate. The IEP team reviews each student's progress at conferences, which are scheduled as often as needed, but no less than once a year.

Reintegration may be recommended on a part-time or full-time basis. If no progress has been made towards reintegration, alternatives are considered. In addition, the program includes the following goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment that promotes and facilitates academic excellence and social-emotional growth.
- Help students develop positive adult and peer relationships.
- Promote positive behavior through the Positive Peer Culture program.
- Support students' emotional needs to facilitate effective classroom learning.
- Provide support to parents to promote academic achievement and school attendance.

Academy - South utilizes Positive Peer Culture model or "PPC." Positive Peer Culture is an intrinsic treatment and behavior management system. PPC is not a point system. Most problem behaviors are dealt with in the classroom and progress is documented through a level system and group meetings. The goal of PPC is to increase positive behaviors and assist

students in achieving their identified goals. The basic philosophy of PPC is based on 3 principles:

- Adolescents respond to peers more readily than to adults.
- By helping others, one learns to help oneself.
- People will not change their negative behavior if they are comfortable with it. Being challenged, motivates change.

NEW ENDEAVORS

The mission of New Endeavors is to establish a positive and supportive learning community in which the students will develop the academic, emotional and life skills to be successful in life beyond high school. We will facilitate the growth of positive peer and adult relationships, appropriate social skills, and the acceptance of personal responsibility for behaviors and choices. We expect that all members of the learning community will facilitate student transition into productive and constructive adulthood.

New Endeavors students will:

- Develop individual strengths
- Develop communication and social skills necessary to transition into the workplace or post-secondary education and training.
- Participate in a comprehensive educational program.
- Maintain a safe learning environment that promotes and facilitates academic excellence.
- Help students develop positive adult and peer relationships.
- Promote positive behavior through the Positive Peer Culture program.
- Support students' emotional needs to facilitate effective classroom learning.
- Provide support to parents to promote academic achievement and school attendance.



If you require assistance visiting our school, please contact the main office at (847) 755-6640



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

AUGUST 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Teacher Institute Day (No Classes)	8 Teacher Institute Day (No Classes)	9
10	11 IHSA Fall Sports Begin Opening Day of School	12	13	14 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19 Student Early Dismissal	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Student Early Dismissal	29	30
31				Parent Open House 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.		



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day (No School)	2 Student Early Dismissal	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Student Early Dismissal	17	18 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	19	20
21	22 End of 6-Week Grading Period	23	24	25 First Generation College Workshop at PHS 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	26	27
28	29	30 Student Early Dismissal Directions College and Career Fair (Special Ed College & Career Night) at Harper College 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.				



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

OCTOBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day (No School)	14 Teacher Institute Day (No Classes)	15	16 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Incoming Freshman Testing
26	27	28 Student Early Dismissal	29	30	31	



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

NOVEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Daylight Saving Time Ends	3	4	5 End of 12-Week Grading Period	6 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	7 IHSA State Soccer Student Early Dismissal	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day (School in Session)	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Student Early Dismissal	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Non-Attendance Day (No School)	27 Thanksgiving Day (No School)	28 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)	29
30						



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Student Early Dismissal	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	12	13
14	15	16	17 Final Exams	18 Final Exams	19 Final Exams End of First Semester Winter Vacation begins at close of school	20
21	22	23	24 Winter Vacation (No School)	25	26	27
28	29	30 Winter Vacation (No School)	31			



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				Winter Vacation (No School)		
4	5 Teacher Institute Day (No Classes)	6 First Day of Classes Second Semester	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Student Early Dismissal	14	15	16 D211 Honors Choir at CHS 7:30 p.m.	17
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)	20	21	22 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	23	24
25	26	27 Student Early Dismissal	28	29	30	31



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Student Early Dismissal	11	12	13 D211 Honor Orchestra at HEHS 7:00 p.m.	14
15	16 Presidents' Day (No School)	17	18 End of 6-Week Grading Period	19 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	20	21
22	23	24 Student Early Dismissal	25	26	27	28



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Student Early Dismissal College Night at PHS 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	6	7 D211 Honors Band Concert at FHS 3:00 p.m.
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins	9	10 Student Early Dismissal	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	20 Spring Vacation begins at close of school	21
22	23	24	25 Spring Vacation (No School)	26	27	28
29	30 Opening Day of School After Vacation	31 Student Early Dismissal				



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Non-Attendance Day (No School)	4
5	6	7	8	9 End of 12-Week Grading Period	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	17	18
19	20	21 The Future Begins Today Fair at Harper College 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	22	23 D211 Senior Job Fair at SHS	24	25
26	27	28 Student Early Dismissal	29	30		



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 AP Testing	7	8 Student Early Dismissal	9
10	11	12	13 AP Testing Graduation NOW Arena 7:30 p.m.	14 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19	20 Final Exams	21 Final Exams	22 Final Exams Last day of school	23
24	25 Memorial Day (No School)	26	27	28	29	30
31						



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 1st Semester Summer School Begins	4	5 No Summer School	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 No Summer School	13
14	15	16	17	18 Board of Education Meeting 6:30/7:30 p.m.	19 Juneteenth National Freedom Day No Summer School	20
21	22	23	24 1st Semester Summer School Ends	25 2nd Semester Summer School Begins	26 No Summer School	27
28	29	30				



United States Department of Education
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 No Summer School	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 No Summer School	11
12	13	14	15	16 2nd Semester Summer School Ends	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

HIGGINS EDUCATION CENTER

1030 W. Higgins Road • Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-4200

Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 125
Schaumburg, Illinois

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211

Jessica Orstead
Program Director



Dr. Judith Campbell
Superintendent

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Higgins Education Center

1030 W. Higgins Rd.
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169-4200
cntr.d211.org

Main Number
(847) 755-6640



STAFF - HIGGINS EDUCATION CENTER

Staff	Role	Email
Jessica Orstead	Program Director	jorstead@d211.org
Caitlin Bourgaize-Saunderson	Psychologist	cbourgaizeaunderson@d211.org
Brian Lazzaro	Psychologist	blazzaro@d211.org
Jessica Petritis	Psychologist	jpetritis@d211.org
Pace Rhodes	Psychologist	prhodes@d211.org
Kali Zanona	Psychologist	kzanona@d211.org
Tegan Boland	Teacher	tboland@d211.org
Peter Capra	Teacher	pcapra@d211.org
Francis Deneufbourg	Teacher	fdeneufbourg@d211.org
Paul DuMelle	Teacher	pdumelle@d211.org
Joseph Garofalo	Teacher	jgarofalo@d211.org
Ryan Jacobsen	Teacher	riacobsen@d211.org
Lauren Lombardo	Teacher	llombardo@d211.org
Brandon Moore	Teacher	bmoore@d211.org
Thomas Rentner	Teacher	trentner@d211.org
Laura Rovelstad	Teacher	lrovelstad@d211.org
Derek Schmidt	Teacher	dschmidt@d211.org
Daniel Sullivan	Teacher	dsullivan@d211.org