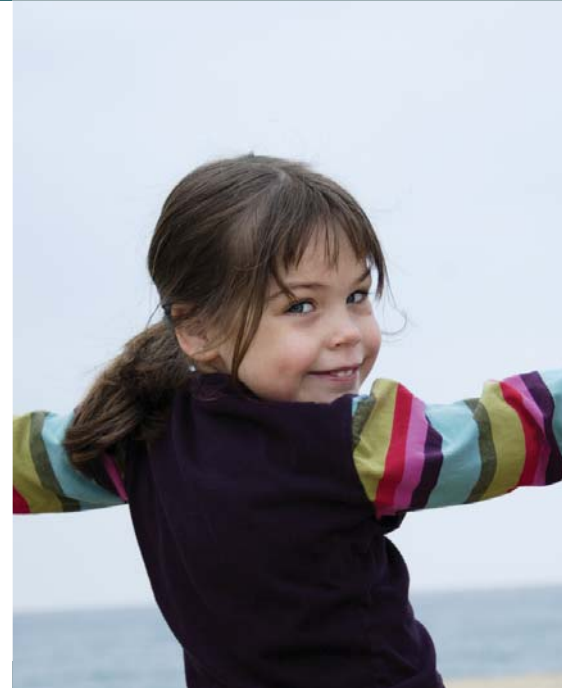


For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9

# SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR OACS SCHOOLS 2009-2010



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## OACS SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR POLICY

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The following policy was adopted by the OACS in April 2000

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1. Provisions made by the Ministry of Education under Regulations 298 and 304 regarding school days and the school year calendar apply to public schools only. Therefore, the calendar issued by the Ministry is **optional** advice for independent schools.
2. The OACS Board recommends that:
  - Each school should provide 1000 hours of scheduled instructional time per school year.
  - Each school should reach the standard of 1000 hours of instructional time per year by finding the right balance of days per year and hours per day to fit its local circumstances, considering such factors as transportation time and other demands on its students.
3. The OACS standard of 1000 hours per year exceeds Ministry requirements by 50 hours. (Ministry requirements are 190 instructional days of 5 hours each). This higher standard is explained in *Time to Learn: The OACS Report on Learning Time, 2000*.
4. For elementary schools, it is recommended that the school board approve a calendar which:
  - a. specifies the number of instructional days to meet the recommended standard of 1000 hours per year;
  - b. designates 5 Professional Activity Days;
  - c. determines the first and last day of the school year on the basis of local factors.
5. For secondary schools, the board should approve a calendar which:
  - a. specifies the appropriate number of instructional days to meet the (OSSD) diploma requirements for credit hours (110 hours per credit);
  - b. designates 5 Professional Activity Days;
  - c. designates up to 10 of the instructional days as examination days;
  - d. determines the first and last day of school on the basis of local factors.
6. This School Year Calendar Policy recommends OACS standards for instructional time. This calendar does not define teacher contracts.

# OACS SCHOOL YEAR PLANNING CALENDAR— 2009-2010

Legend: H – School Holiday      P – Professional Activity Day      SI – Summer Institute      W – Curriculum Writing

Month	# of PA Days	# of Instr. Days	1 <sup>st</sup> Week					2 <sup>nd</sup> Week					3 <sup>rd</sup> Week					4 <sup>th</sup> Week					5 <sup>th</sup> Week				
			M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August			3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
			H																								
September		21		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
								H																			
October	2	19				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
													H													P	P
November		21	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30				
December		14		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
																		H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	
January		20					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
							H																				
February		19	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26					
													H														
March		18	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
													H	H	H	H	H										
April		20				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
						H	H																				
May		20	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
																		H									
June		22		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30		
July						1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30
						H		SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	W	W	W	W	W										
Total	2	194	194 school days are available between Labour Day and June 30 (inclusive).																								

**NOTE:** The 2009-10 calendar provides for 196 possible *school days* between September 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010 inclusive. The OACS recommends that a school board designate up to 10 instructional days as examination days and 5 professional activity days during that time period.

## PLANNING THE LOCAL SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

### a. **Instructional Time**

*Schools days* are all days available for instruction or professional activities.

$$\text{School Days} = \text{Instructional Days} + \text{PA Days}$$

There are 196 school days between September 2009 and June 2010.

The recommended amount of instructional time is:

- For elementary schools: 1000 hours of total instructional time.
- For secondary schools: 110 hours for each one-credit course.

### b. **Examination Days**

Examination days are counted as instructional days. Schools may schedule up to 10 instructional days as examination days.

### c. **Holidays**

The dates we have listed for holidays are the ones that the Ministry of Education has mandated for the public systems, which provide for 10 days off at Christmas and 5 days off at March break. OACS schools should plan their holidays to fit local circumstances. Changing the holidays may change the number of instructional days.

### d. **Professional Activity Days.**

The OACS recommends that each school designate 5 Professional Activity Days during the school year, including the OCSTA convention. OACS also recommends that schools schedule some Preparation Days before the school year. See below for additional suggestions and OACS curriculum days.

### e. **Start of School**

OACS schools should plan their start of school date to fit local circumstances.

## CALENDAR DATES FOR OACS SCHOOLS 2009-2010

Calendar based on school year start date of September 8<sup>th</sup> 2009.

**H – Holiday, P – Professional Activity Day**

2009			
<b>August</b>	31– Sept 4	Mon-Fri	Preparation Days
<b>September</b>	7	Monday	Labour Day (H)
	8	Tuesday	First School Day (Schools may start earlier)
	24-25	Thurs – Fri	OCSAA Conference
<b>October</b>	12	Monday	Thanksgiving Day (H)
	14	Wednesday	OACS Advancement Conference (Woodstock)
	15	Thursday	OACS Advancement Conference (Trenton)
	29-30	Thurs - Fri	OCSTA Convention
	29-30	Thurs - Fri	OACS Office Personnel Convention, HDCH
<b>November</b>	7	Saturday	OACS Governance Conference, HDCH
	11	Wednesday	Remembrance Day
	19	Thursday	Leadership Conference
<b>December</b>	21 – Jan 1	Two Weeks	Standard Christmas Break (H) (10 days)
2010			
<b>January</b>	4	Monday	First School Day
<b>February</b>	15	Monday	Family Day (H)
<b>March</b>	15-19	One Week	Standard March Break (H) (5 days)
	27	Saturday	OACS Learning Conference
<b>April</b>	2	Friday	Good Friday (H)
	5	Monday	Easter Monday (H)
	8	Thursday	Grade 10 Literacy Test
	12	Monday	High School Professional Development Day
	15	Thursday	Employment Notification Date *
	21	Wednesday	Administrative Professionals' Day
<b>May</b>	3-7	Mon – Fri	Ontario Christian Education Week
	7	Friday	OCSAA Spring Conference
	24	Monday	Victoria Day (H)
<b>June</b>	30	Wednesday	Last Instructional Day Possible

\* see page 5, "Contract Dates"

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS

The OACS recommends that schools designate 5 Professional Activity days **during** the school year. Schools should also schedule some Preparation Days before the school year. The dates below are suggestions.

### Preparation Week

Teachers are expected to be available during the week before school and are expected to attend activities organized by the school. These activities may include: sharing student information, review of Ontario Student Records for incoming students, review of school policies and handbooks, planning the year's schedule, curriculum planning, and in-service.

### PA Days – 5 recommended:

1. **OCSTA Convention and OACS Office Personnel Convention**  
The Ontario Christian School Teachers Association (OCSTA) plans a two-day conference. The OACS Office Personnel Convention is held at the same time. This year these conferences will be held on Thursday, October 29 and Friday, October 30.
2. **Flexible PA Days.** Schools may use additional days for OACS Curriculum Conferences, local activities, or OCSTA District Days. See the schedule below for OACS Elementary Curriculum Conferences.
3. **Year End PA Days.** Teachers are expected to take part in the year-end review and to attend professional development activities organized by the school. These activities may include: discussion of students, preparing notes on students for briefing new teachers in September, preparing year-end reports of curriculum covered, curriculum review, and in-service.

## ONTARIO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK

Schools may wish to observe Christian Education Week at the same time as the Provincial Education Week, which is May 3 – May 7, 2010.

## CONTRACT DATES

For any questions relating to contract dates, please see the *Best Practices for Employment Relations in Christian Schools* (October 2008) and the *OACS/OCSTA Personal Manual* (October 2008).

## OACS HIGH SCHOOL EVALUATION PROGRAM

Each OACS high school is evaluated once every six years. There is no cost to the school for this evaluation. Applications for the school evaluation program will be sent in May or June.

### HIGH-SCHOOL EVALUATION SCHEDULE

2009-2010	2010-2011
Unity Christian High School, Barrie	London District Christian Secondary School

## OACS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM (SQAP)

The OACS School Quality Assurance Program encourages school improvement using standards developed by the Canadian Hallmarks Institute (CHI). This program was first offered in 2003 and is now beginning the second round. The schedule for the next two years is as follows:

### SQAP SCHEDULE

2009-2010	2010-2011
Addison	Aylmer
Belleville	Clinton
Cobourg	Prince Albert
Charlottetown	Ruthven
Chatham	Sarnia
Kingston	Strathroy
Lindsay	St. Thomas
Metcalfe	Wallaceburg
Ottawa	Windsor
Peterborough	Wyoming
Renfrew	Woodstock
Williamsburg	

## OACS ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM CONFERENCES

Schools may consider a floating PD day that allows all teachers to attend the OACS Curriculum Conference of their teaching assignment without having the cost of supply teachers. For example, on the Junior Curriculum Conference, the school closes the Grade 4, 5, and 6 classes for that day and sends all the Junior Division teachers to the event. Over the course of the year, each grade level would stay home one day.

Advance notice of this decision must be given to parents to accommodate this arrangement. Often parents enjoy the day alone with one of their children!

<b>OACS ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM CONFERENCES</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Special Education Curriculum Conference</b>	Friday, September 18	Oakville
<b>Junior Curriculum Conference (Grades 4-6)</b>	Monday, November 9	London
	Tuesday, November 10	Hamilton
	Thursday, November 12	Barrie
	Friday, November 13	Kingston
<b>Curriculum Coordinators Curriculum Conference</b>	Friday, January 29	Oakville
<b>Intermediate Curriculum Conference, (Grades 7 &amp; 8)</b>	Monday, February 1	London
	Tuesday, February 2	Hamilton
	Wednesday, February 3	Barrie
	Thursday, February 4	Kingston
<b>IT Coordinators' Curriculum Conference</b>	Thursday, March 25	Oakville
<b>Primary Curriculum Conference, (Grades 1 – 3)</b>	Tuesday, April 6	London
	Wednesday, April 7	Hamilton
	Thursday, April 8	Barrie
	Friday, April 9	Kingston
<b>English Language Learning Curriculum Conference</b>	Tuesday, May, 4	Ancaster
<b>Kindergarten Curriculum Conference, (JK and SK)</b>	Tuesday, May 11	Woodstock
	Thursday, May 13	Bowmanville

Please note that Regional Special Education Meetings will be held at various locations throughout the province. Dates to be announced at the Special Education Curriculum Conference, Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 in Oakville.

## **OACS HIGH SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

The OACS high schools hold an annual Professional Development Day on the second Monday of April. It is organized under the direction of the OACS high school Principals Committee and the Director of Secondary Programs at OACS. The date for the 2009-2010 school year will be Monday, April 12, 2010.

## **OACS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC SCHEDULE**

The OACS High School Athletic Schedule will be confirmed at the Athletic Directors meeting March 26, 2009