

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NORTHLAND PINES HS & MS EXTEND THEIR SCHOOL DAY TO MEET HOURS REQUIREMENTS

**EAGLE RIVER, WI** – Administrators at the Northland Pines School District (NPSD) met after the March 11<sup>th</sup> "Snow Day" was announced to verify that the district will meet the state instructional days and hours requirements. Dr. Richie, NPSD District Administrator, stated "We have had three inclement weather days thus far this year. We are required by DPI to have 180 days of school scheduled and we must meet for at least 175 of those days." The district meets the number of days requirements and they also meet the hours requirements of 437 for PreK and 1,050 at the K-6 level. However, they fall short of the required 1,137 hours for grades 7-12.

Administration at Northland Pines have developed a plan which will allow the district to finalize its student & staff school year on the planned date of Friday, June 7, 2013. *The solution will begin on March 25, 2013 and will only impact the middle school and high school students.* The middle school students will have five minutes added to the beginning of their first period. So starting Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> middle school students need to report to school for first bell at 8:15 a.m. and classes will start at 8:20 a.m. instead of 8:25 a.m. High school students will also begin their day five minutes earlier, their end time will be extended by five minutes, and their passing time between classes will be decreased by two minutes. Beginning Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, high school students need to report to their classes by 8:20 a.m. and will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. An adjusted high school bell schedule showing the reduced passing time can be found on the district website: http://www.npsd.k12.wi.us/high/2013AdjustedHSBellSchedule.pdf.

These changes will not have any impact on the bus schedules, elementary students, or the teacher workday. Please remind your middle school and high school students to be on time for their first period class which will begin at 8:20 a.m. starting on Monday, March 25. Dr. Richie added, "We must begin this on March 25<sup>th</sup> to be in compliance with DPI." For questions regarding the new student day please contact your building principal or Dr. Mike Richie, District Administrator, at 715-479-6487 option 1, ext. 1 or <u>mrichie@npsd.k12.wi.us</u>.

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