


DAILY  
PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 5, the 339th day of 2018. There are 26 days left in the year.



TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Dec. 5, 1994, Republicans chose Newt Gingrich to be the first GOP speaker of the House in four decades.

ON THIS DATE

In 1776, the first scholastic fraternity in America, Phi Beta Kappa, was organized at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.

In 1782, the eighth president of the United States, Martin Van Buren, was born in Kinderhook, New York; he was the first chief executive to be born after American independence.

In 1791, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart died in Vienna, Austria, at age 35.

In 1792, George Washington was re-elected president; John Adams was re-elected vice president.

In 1848, President James K. Polk triggered the Gold Rush of '49 by confirming that gold had been discovered in California.

In 1901, movie producer Walt Disney was born in Chicago.

In 1932, German physicist Albert Einstein was granted a visa, making it possible for him to travel to the United States.

In 1933, national Prohibition came to an end as Utah became the 36th state to ratify the 21st Amendment to the Constitution, repealing the 18th Amendment.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$4.8 million  
12-16-18-25-32-41

Mega Millions: \$226 million  
28-31-41-42-50-4 x3

Powerball: \$200 million  
10-11-47-55-58-PB 26-x2

Win for Life: Dec. 3  
17-29-38-45

Pick 4: Dec. 4  
• 1 p.m.: 9-3-1-6  
• 4 p.m.: 6-3-2-8  
• 7 p.m.: 2-6-4-2  
• 10 p.m.: 5-0-4-9

Pick 4: Dec. 3  
• 1 p.m.: 3-7-1-3  
• 4 p.m.: 3-6-2-2  
• 7 p.m.: 0-3-7-2  
• 10 p.m.: 7-3-3-4

ROAD REPORT

Numbers to call:  
• Inside Oregon: 800-977-6368.  
• Outside Oregon: 503-588-2941.

NEWSPAPER LATE?

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If you are not on a motor route, delivery should be before 5:30 p.m. If you do not receive your paper by 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, please call 541-963-3161 by 6 p.m.

If your delivery is by motor carrier, delivery should be by 6 p.m. For calls after 6, please call 541-975-1690, leave your name, address and phone number. Your paper will be delivered the next business day.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I've never been poor, only broke. Being poor is a frame of mind. Being broke is only a temporary situation."

— Mike Todd, American movie producer (1907-1958)

# Requirement shouldn't cause change at Baker

■ Baker District Superintendent is confident Kate Brown's 180-day school year request in budget proposal won't mean five-day school weeks

**By Jayson Jacoby**  
WesCom News Service

Baker School District Superintendent Mark Witty is confident Gov. Kate Brown's call to require a 180-day school year will not force Baker and other districts that have a four-day week to switch to a five-day week schedule.

Oregon doesn't mandate a minimum number of school days.

Brown, in a budget and priorities plan released last week, proposed boosting the state's education budget by \$800 million and using some of that money to help districts reach the 180-day threshold.

Baker School District is one of about 70 of the state's 197 districts that use a four-day week. The Burnt River, Pine Eagle and North Powder

districts also employ a four-day week.

Baker School District students are slated to be in class for 147 days during the current school year.

Oregon does require students to spend a minimum number of hours in class — 900 for elementary and middle school students and 990 for high school students (966 hours for seniors).

Baker, in switching from a five-day to a four-day week in 2012, complied with the minimum hour requirements by extending the length of the school day.

Witty said he has talked to state officials who understand the circumstances facing school districts that have four-day weeks, most of which are in rural areas east of the Cascades.

He doesn't believe Brown's proposal is intended to force districts such as Baker to add at least 33 days to its school year, which would essentially require reverting to a five-day week.

"I don't think it's going to be a mandate," Witty said. "I do not believe the Legislature would put something through that does not allow flexibility at the local level."

"My view is the Legislature certainly realizes local control is absolutely a function of local school boards."

Witty said the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, of which he is a member, has taken a position that the state should continue to allow local school boards to decide on such fundamental matters as class schedules.

At this point, with no specific proposal from the state regarding district's with four-day weeks, it's not clear what changes Baker and other districts would need to make, Witty

said.

"We're just in the beginning phases," he said.

Witty said he supports the intent of Brown's proposal — to increase the amount of time Oregon students spend in class — so long as the state gives districts money to pay for the additional instruction time.

Brown's budget plan proposes to do that, as well as to fully fund a program designed to reduce high school dropout rates by expanding technical education programs such as the Baker Technical Institute.

Oregon voters created the program when they approved Ballot Measure 98 in the 2016 general election.

Overall, Witty said Brown's education budget proposal is "positive" and "the most aligned that I've seen in my career" with the goals of the Oregon School Boards Association and the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators.

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