

August 26, 2024

## Blog – Labor Day

Monday, September 2 will be Labor Day, the unofficial end of the summer season. Labor Day became a national holiday in 1894, when it was determined that the first Monday in September would be designated as a day to honor and recognize the men and women who have contributed to the development and achievements of the United States. I am glad that we have a holiday that serves to honor all of our workers, regardless of their position.

The first Labor Day celebrations were held in the early 1880s. The idea was to create a day to honor the working class and their struggles. The first official observance took place in New York City on September 5, 1882, organized by the Central Labor Union. The day was marked by a parade, speeches, and a festive atmosphere, demonstrating solidarity among workers and their allies.

In 1894, the U.S. government officially recognized Labor Day as a federal holiday, partly in response to the Pullman Strike, a major railroad strike that resulted in violence and unrest. To help mend relations between the government and the labor movement, Congress quickly passed legislation making Labor Day a national holiday.

Today, Labor Day is often celebrated with picnics, barbecues, and other leisure activities. While the holiday has become more associated with relaxation and entertainment, it's important to remember its roots and the historical context in which it was established. This is a day to reflect on how important each of our roles are in society. In our schools, I like to remind individuals that each of our roles are important and that my role as the superintendent is not more important than anyone else's role. We all have our role to play in helping our students find success. When we all work together – we help move the District forward. When we don't, everyone suffers. As I start my second year in the Parkview School District, I know from my experience last year that the staff working in our schools are dedicated individuals, who strive to make our schools places where individuals want to work and students want to learn.

I hope that each of you have a great Labor Day weekend filled with family, friends and enjoyment. You each deserve this day - our nation recognized many years ago that your efforts and labor have been essential in our prosperity as a nation. So once again have a great Labor Day weekend, end summer with as much joy as possible and get ready for a new school year filled with promise, excitement, and preparation for a great future.