POLICY
803

BOARD POLICY

School Calendar

POLICY NUMBER	ADOPTED	REVISED	LAST REVIEWED
803	5/20/2002	8/26/2024	11/28/2026

DOCUMENT STATUS
SECOND READING

PURPOSE

The Board recognizes that preparation of an annual school calendar is necessary for the efficient operation of the district and communication with students, staff, parents/guardians and the school community.

AUTHORITY

The Board shall determine annually the days and the hours when the schools will be in session for instructional purposes, in accordance with state law and regulations. This may include, as appropriate, activities qualifying as instructional days or hours under the direction of certified school employees for fulfilling the minimum required days or hours of instruction under law, regulations and state guidance.[1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8][9]

The school calendar shall normally consist of a minimum of [1][2][8][10]

{**X**} 180 student days **or**

{**X**} 900 hours of instruction ~~for full-time PreK-6~~ **at the elementary level** and 990 hours of instruction ~~for secondary grades 7-12~~ **at the secondary level**.

~~{ } 450 hours of instruction for half-day kindergarten programs.~~

~~{ } and prekindergarten programs.~~

The Board reserves the right to alter the school calendar when it is in the best interests of the district, **including in cases of emergency, in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The Board shall take action to establish temporary provisions in cases of emergency, in accordance with law, and shall document such actions with the PA Department of Education when required.**[2][5][6][7][9][11][12][13][14]

~~When an emergency arises, which the Board could not anticipate or foresee, and such emergency results in the district being unable to provide for the in-person attendance of all students during the established length of school days, number of days per week or hours of classes, the Board may establish temporary provisions during the period of emergency.~~

~~During an open regular or special Board meeting, the Board shall take action to identify the emergency and establish the temporary provisions. Such action shall be recorded in the Board minutes for the open meeting and certified with the Secretary of Education in the form prescribed by the PA Department of Education for review or approval. The Board shall enact the temporary provisions in response to the emergency, which may remain in effect for a period of no more than four (4) years.~~[2][5][6][7][9][11][12][13]~~[14]~~

Temporary provisions established in accordance with law may include but are not limited to: [1][2][5][6][7][8][9][12][13] **[15]**

1. Keeping schools in session such days and hours as the Board deems necessary, which shall include maintaining the requirement for a minimum of 180 student days or 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours of instruction at the secondary level.
   ~~{ } 450 hours of instruction for half-day kindergarten programs.~~
   ~~{ } and prekindergarten programs.~~
2. Reducing the length of time of daily instruction for courses and classes.
3. Implementing remote and other alternative methods of delivering instruction under the direction of certified school employees.

Each year, prior to finalizing the school calendar, the Board must discuss the use or potential use of flexible instructional days and remote or virtual instructional days at a public Board meeting.[7] [14]

DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Superintendent **or designee** shall annually prepare a school calendar for Board consideration.

The Superintendent or designee shall document alterations to the school calendar and any temporary provisions in accordance with law, regulations, guidance from the PA Department of Education and Board policy.[7][14] **[15]**

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Legal Footnotes

[1] 24 P.S. 133
LEGAL REFERENCE

[2] 24 P.S. 1501
LEGAL REFERENCE

[3] 24 P.S. 1502
LEGAL REFERENCE

[4] 24 P.S. 1503
LEGAL REFERENCE

[5] 24 P.S. 1504
LEGAL REFERENCE

[6] 24 P.S. 1505
LEGAL REFERENCE

[7] **24 P.S. 1506**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[8] **22 PA Code 11.1**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[9] **22 PA Code 11.2**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[10] **22 PA Code 4.4**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[11] **24 P.S. 520**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[12] **24 P.S. 520.1**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[13] **24 P.S. 1501.3**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[14] **Pol. 14**
POLICY REFERENCE
Referenced policy is not available in this policy book.

[15] **Pol. 805 — Emergency Preparedness and Response**
POLICY REFERENCE