

Book
Policy Manual
Section
800 Operations
Title
School Calendar
Code
803
Status
Recommendation for 1st READ
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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 180 student days or 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours of instruction at the secondary level. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[10\]](#)

The Board reserves the right to alter the school calendar when it is in the best interests of the school district, including cases of emergency, in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

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, **in accordance with law**. 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 ~~number of days per week~~ **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.**
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.

DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The Superintendent or designee shall document alterations to the school calendar and any temporary provisions established in response to a designated emergency in accordance with law, regulations, guidance from the PA Department of Education **or and** Board policy.[\[15\]](#)

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 133](#)

[2. 24 P.S. 1501](#)

[3. 24 P.S. 1502](#)

[4. 24 P.S. 1503](#)

[5. 24 P.S. 1504](#)

[6. 24 P.S. 1505](#)

[7. 24 P.S. 1506](#)

[8. 22 PA Code 11.1](#)

[9. 22 PA Code 11.2](#)

[10. 22 PA Code 4.4](#)

[11. 24 P.S. 520](#)

[12. 24 P.S. 520.1](#)

[13. 24 P.S. 1501.3](#)

14. Pol. 006

15. Pol. 805

Pol. 204

Pol. 804