

SCHOOL YEAR AND SCHOOL DAY

Background

The school year and school day must maximize student learning and ensure quality instructional time. To facilitate bussing and other shared services, most schools follow a standard school year calendar. The Board annually establishes a calendar for the following year; however, it may develop a school year calendar that considers two to three years to facilitate long range planning for staff, students and parents. The Board may also consider alternate school year calendars.

Procedures

1. Discretion to develop the school year calendar is limited by joint bussing with four (4) other Divisions.
2. The Superintendent or designate shall prepare annually a proposed school year calendar that considers at least the next following year.
3. When constructing calendars, the Superintendent or designate will consult with school administration, staff and other stakeholders. Feedback gathered will be considered to the extent possible given the constraints of working with other school division's calendars.
4. A school year shall include a Christmas/winter break of at least two full weeks to equal at least 14 days including weekends. A split week to begin a holiday or to end a holiday is acceptable; however, both beginning and ending midweek should be avoided.
5. Two non-instructional days may be used for parent-teacher conferences. If conferences occur primarily in the evening or outside of regular school hours and include approximately the equivalent time as an instructional day, the employer may provide time-in-lieu.
6. Students in grades 1-6 shall have a minimum of one recess per instructional day.
7. All students shall have mid-day break of at least 30 minutes.

Reference: Section 18,19,33,51,52,53,60,197,205,222 Education Act
Base Instruction Funding Grades 1-12, Section 1.2, Funding Manual
ECS Base Instruction Funding, Section 1.1, Funding Manual