

ACADEMIC CALENDAR/YEAR/DAY

State law requires the district to set a district start date and establish an academic calendar that provides for a minimum of 1,044 hours of actual pupil attendance between July 1 and June 30. Districts may choose to adopt:

1. A traditional academic calendar that provides for a minimum of 174 days with a minimum academic day of 3 hours and a maximum academic day of 7 hours.
2. A calendar of less than 174 days that provides for a minimum academic day of 4 hours and a maximum academic day of 8 hours.
3. A calendar of 142 days (4 days per week) that provides for a minimum academic day of 4 hours and a maximum academic day of 8 hours.

For the purposes of determining the length of an academic day, the district defines an hour as time that students are under the guidance and direction of teachers in the teaching process. The length of the academic day may vary by building or grade level subject to recommendation by the superintendent and approval by the Board. The specific daily opening and closing time for individual schools may vary to facilitate the scheduling of the district's transportation program.

The Board recognizes the relationship between attendance and student achievement and directs the superintendent to develop an academic calendar designed to improve student achievement, exceeding the minimum requirements if necessary. The academic calendar will include sufficient time for high-quality professional development. The superintendent will present the proposed academic calendar for the next year to the Board no later than March. The presentation will include an explanation of how the calendar relates to improving student achievement, how the proposed calendar assists the district in meeting its Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) goals and the budget recommendations necessary to support the proposed calendar.

In accordance with Missouri law, the Board will post notice of and hold a public meeting to discuss and vote on the district's start date if that proposed date is earlier than ten calendar days prior to the first Monday in September. An affirmative vote of a majority of the Board is required to set a start date more than ten calendar days prior to the first Monday in September. The Board will adopt an academic calendar not later than May 1. Upon Board approval of the academic calendar, the superintendent will distribute copies to the staff and appropriately notify parents/guardians and students.

The academic calendar will include six make-up days for possible loss of attendance due to inclement weather as defined in state law. If the district uses these six make-up days and still does

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not meet the minimum attendance requirements, it shall be required to make up no more than half the number of days canceled in excess of six days.

Days that the district's schools are closed for reasons other than inclement weather will be made up in accordance with state law, as recommended by the superintendent and approved by the Board.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted:

Revised:

Cross Refs: EBC, Emergency Plans/Safety Drills

Legal Refs: ' ' 160.011, .041, 163.021, 171.031 - .033, RSMo.

Phelps Co. R-III School District, Edgar Springs, Missouri