

INSTRUCTION

1 School Year Calendar and Day

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3 School Calendar

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5 Subject to §§ 20-1-301 and 20-1-308, MCA, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement
6 covering the employment of affected employees, the trustees of a school district shall set the
7 number of hours in a school term, the length of the school day, and the number of school days in
8 a school week. When proposing to adopt changes to a previously adopted school term, school
9 week, or school day, the trustees shall: (a) negotiate the changes with the recognized collective
10 bargaining unit representing the employees affected by the changes; (b) solicit input from the
11 employees affected by the changes but not represented by a collective bargaining agreement; (c)
12 and from the people who live within the boundaries of the school district.

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14 Commemorative Holidays

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16 Teachers and students will devote a portion of the day on each commemorative holiday
17 designated in § 20-1-306, MCA, to study and honor the commemorated person or occasion.
18 The Board may from time to time designate a regular school day as a commemorative holiday.

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20 Saturday School

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22 Pupil instruction may be held on a Saturday at the discretion of a school district for the
23 purpose of providing additional pupil instruction, provided that: (a) Saturday school is not a
24 pupil instruction day and does not count toward the minimum aggregate hours of pupil
25 instruction; and (b) student attendance is voluntary.

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27 Friday School

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29 Pupil instruction may be held on a Friday at the discretion of a school district for the
30 purpose of providing additional pupil instruction, provided that: (a) Friday school is not a pupil
31 instruction day and does not count toward the minimum aggregate hours of pupil instruction;
32 and (b) student attendance is voluntary.

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34 School Fiscal Year

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36 At least the minimum number of aggregate hours must be conducted during each school fiscal
37 year. The minimum aggregate hours required by grade are:

- 38 a) A minimum of 360 aggregate hours for a kindergarten program;
- 39 b) 720 hours for grades 1 through 3;
- 40 c) 1,080 hours for grades 4 through 12; and
- 41 d) 1,050 hours may be sufficient for graduating seniors.

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43 The minimum aggregate hours, described above, are not required for any pupil demonstrating
44 proficiency pursuant to 20-9-311(4)(d), MCA.

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INSTRUCTION

- 1 In addition, seven (7) pupil instruction-related days may be scheduled for the following
 2 purposes:
- 3 1. Pre-school staff orientation for the purpose of organization of the school year;
 - 4 2. Staff professional development programs (minimum of three (3) days);
 - 5 3. Parent/teacher conferences; and
 - 6 4. Post-school record and report (not to exceed one (1) day, or one-half (½) day at the end of
 7 each semester or quarter).

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 9 The Board of Trustees may establish an advisory committee to develop, recommend, and
 10 evaluate the school district’s yearly professional development plan.

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12	Legal References:	§ 20-1-301, MCA	School fiscal year
13		§ 20-1-302, MCA	School day and week
14		§ 20-1-303, MCA	Conduct of School on Saturday or Sunday prohibited - exceptions
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16		§ 20-1-304, MCA	Pupil-instruction-related day
17		§ 20-1-306, MCA	Commemorative exercises on certain days
18		§ 20-9-311, MCA	Calculation of Annual Number Belonging
19	(ANB)		
20		ARM 10.55.701	Board of Trustees
21		ARM 10.65.101-103	Pupil-Instruction-Related Days
22		ARM 10.55.714	Professional Development
23		ARM 10.55.906	High School Credit
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25 Policy History:

26 Adopted on: February 2007

27 Reviewed on:

28 Revised on: April 15, 2008, November 15, 2011, January 2016, March 2020

29 *Note: Revisions included lines 12-16, lines 27-30(change from days to aggregate hours), and a
 30 better
 31 clarification of lines 34-37.*

32 *Note: Revisions included the addition of “Saturday School” and the legal reference of 20—
 33 303, MCA.*

34 *January 2016 revision note: Added paragraph with option to establish an advisory committee
 35 Added Friday school.*