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3 **INSTRUCTION**

4  
5 School Year Calendar and Day

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7 School Calendar

8 The Board annually shall establish the dates for opening and closing classes, teacher in-services,  
9 the length and dates of vacation, and the days designated as legal school holidays. The school  
10 calendar shall have a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days or at least the minimum aggregate  
11 hours required by the State of Montana of pupil instruction. When proposing to adopt changes to  
12 a previously adopted school term, school week, or school day, the Trustees shall: (a) negotiate the  
13 changes with the recognized collective bargaining unit representing the employees affected by the  
14 changes; (b) solicit input from the employees affected by the changes but not represented by a  
15 collective bargaining agreement; and (c) from the people who live within the boundaries of the  
16 school district.

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18 Commemorative Holidays

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

22  
23 School Fiscal Year

24 Except as provided by the Board of Trustees, a school year of student instruction shall consist of  
25 at least the following minimum aggregate hours:

- 26 a) 360 hours for a kindergarten program;
- 27 b) 720 hours for grades 1 through 3;
- 28 c) 1,080 hours for grades 4 through 12; and
- 29 d) 1,050 hours may be sufficient for graduating seniors.

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

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34 In addition, seven (7) pupil instruction-related (PIR) days may be scheduled for the purposes of:

- 35 1. Staff orientation;
- 36 2. Staff professional development (minimum of three (3) days); and
- 37 3. Parent/teacher conferences.

1 The Board of Trustees has established an Advisory Committee to develop, recommend, and  
2 evaluate the school districts yearly professional development plan. Each year the Board of  
3 Trustees shall adopt a Professional Development Plan for the subsequent school year based on  
4 the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.

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6 School Day 9-12

- 7 1. All full-time High School students are required to enroll in a minimum of five (5) classes  
8 (2.5 credits) each semester.  
9 2. Full-time freshmen, sophomores and juniors are required to be in attendance for seven (7)  
10 periods. Seniors are required to be in attendance for five (5) periods.  
11 3. Building administrative teams may waive numbers 1& 2 above to meet the unique needs  
12 of students.

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14 Legal References:

15 § 20-1-301, MCA	School fiscal year
16 § 20-1-302, MCA	School day and week
17 § 20-1-303, MCA	Conduct of School on Saturday or Sunday prohibited – exceptions
18 § 20-1-304, MCA	Pupil-instruction-related day
19 § 20-1-306, MCA	Commemorative exercises on certain days
20 § 20-9-311, MCA	Calculation of Annual Number Belonging (ANB)
21 10.55.701, ARM	Board of trustees
22 10.65.101, 103, ARM	Pupil-instruction-related days
23 10.55.714, ARM	Professional Development
24 10.55.906, ARM	High School Credit

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26 Policy History:

27 Adopted on:	July 1, 2000
28 Revised on:	June 8, 2015
29 Revised on:	July 15, 2019
30 Revised on:	September 28, 2020