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601.2.1 School Year

Policy

The school year calendar shall outline the start and end dates for teachers and students, professional learning and preparation days for teachers, holiday and other designated breaks, and parent-teacher interview dates.

Regulations

1. Each school year shall provide for a minimum of 1000 hours of instruction for high school students and a minimum of 950 hours of instruction for students in grades 1 through 9.
2. Each school year shall normally:
 - 2.1. provide for five days for teachers prior to the date students begin attending;
 - 2.2. have students begin classes on the day following Labour Day;
 - 2.3. provide for a two week Christmas break that begins after the last Friday prior to Christmas Eve;
 - 2.4. provide for a Family Day break on the Tuesday and Wednesday following Family Day;
 - 2.5. provide for a ten day Easter break beginning on Good Friday;
 - 2.6. provide for an afternoon and a morning for parent teacher interviews in the fall, and a morning for parent teacher interviews in the spring.
3. Breaks from instruction and days assigned for professional learning, preparation, or parent-teacher interviews will be common for all schools, when possible.
4. An instructional day is any day in which all students are expected to be in attendance for all or part of the day and includes:
 - 4.1. normal school days with students in attendance;
 - 4.2. Fridays;
 - 4.3. Mondays to Thursdays in which part of the day is used for parent-teacher interviews; and
 - 4.4. examination days at the secondary level.

5. Examinations shall be scheduled so as to minimize loss of classroom instruction.
 - 5.1. Provincial assessments shall be administered as per the provincial schedule.
6. Each school year calendar requires Board approval prior to implementation.
7. Calendars for employee groups shall be determined after the school year calendar is approved.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

School Act: 56, 97