

*Existing policy, adopted 5/20/14 not reflective of PA 19-195, PA 22-47 and PA 22-145.
Recommended replacement follows for comparison.*

Instruction

School Calendar

The school calendar shall show the beginning and ending of school dates, legal and local holidays, orientation meeting days, number of teaching days, vacation periods, and other pertinent dates providing for at least 182 school days for students.

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board of Education a school calendar that meets all statutory requirements.

The calendar recommended to the Board may include the operation of schools on state holidays providing a suitable nonsectarian educational program is held to observe the holiday, except for those holidays that occur in December and January.

The Board of Education may declare a holiday in the schools under its jurisdiction when good reason exists.

To benefit children, families, and school staff in their planning, multiple year school calendars are preferable to single year school calendars.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 1-4 Days designated as legal holidays
 10-15 Towns to maintain schools
 10-16 Length of school day
 10-29a Certain days to be proclaimed by Governor.
 Distribution and number of proclamations.
 10-261 Definitions.
 10-161 Establishment of graduation date.
 10-233j Student possession and use of telecommunication devices.

P.A. 19-195: An Act Concerning the Establishment of a Firm Graduation Date and the Date When a School District May Commence School Sessions

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(Background Information for Policy Review Committee)

Previous law established that a local or regional board of education must wait until at least April 1st to set a firm high school graduation date that provides at least 180 days of school which is the minimum required number of days. Prior to April 1st, the board was permitted to set a firm graduation date no earlier than the 185th day noted in the school calendar the board adopted for that year.

This Act allows a board to establish, at any time in the school year, a firm graduation date no earlier than the 180th day of the board-adopted school calendar for that year.

The legislation also specifies that school boards can set their calendars to begin school on any day before or after Labor Day (the first Monday in September).

The effective date of this legislation is July 1, 2019.

Policy Implications

Policy #6111, "School Calendar" has been revised to reflect this new legislation and it follows for your consideration. This is considered a recommended, "good practice" policy for inclusion in a district's policy manual.

Optional policy to consider.

Instruction

School Calendar

The school calendar shall show the beginning and ending dates of school, legal and local holidays, meeting days, number of teaching days, vacation periods, and other pertinent dates.

The Board of Education may operate schools on state holidays providing a suitable nonsectarian educational program is held to observe the holiday, except for those holidays that occur in December and January.

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board of Education a school calendar that will meet the requirements of the law as well as the needs of the community, students, and personnel.

The Board of Education may declare a holiday in the schools under its jurisdiction when good reason exists.

Note: *A Board of Education for a school that has been designated as a low achieving school pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of C.G.S. 10-223e may increase the number of actual school sessions during each year, and may increase the number of hours of actual school work per session in order to improve student performance and remove the school from the list of schools designated as a low achieving school maintained by the State Board of Education.*

The Board of Education may use the RESC developed and approved uniform regional school calendar.

The Board of Education may establish for any school year a firm high school graduation date which is no earlier than the one hundred eightieth day noted in the school calendar originally adopted by the Board for that school year.

The Board of Education may develop and adopt its own school calendar to begin school on any day before or after Labor Day.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 1-4 Days designated as legal holidays.
 10-15 Towns to maintain schools
 10-29a Certain days to be proclaimed by governor. Distribution and
 number of proclamations.
 10-261 Definitions.
 10-16l Establishment of graduation date.
 10-66q Development and adoption of uniform regional school calendar.
 Report.
 PA 22-47 An Act Concerning Children's Mental Health
 PA 22-128 An Act Establishing Juneteenth Independence Day as a Legal
 Holiday

Policy adopted:

rev 7/22

rev 3/24