

**Policy AF: School Day**

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 05/22/2000 | Last Revised Date: 11/16/2015 | Last Reviewed Date: 11/16/2015

**School Day**

It shall be the policy of this district to provide sufficient instructional time for students to attain mastery of specific learner objectives at all instructional levels. Said time shall be allocated and protected to provide student engagement rates (time-on-task) which are sufficient to provide mastery. In order to insure that adequate instructional time is provided, the board directs the superintendent and his staff to incorporate the following directives into all instructional plans for the district:

1. The school year shall consist of a minimum of 180 teaching days, (330 minutes of instruction per day). Two of the days may be 60% days provided that there are 198 minutes of actual instruction or testing, and the remainder of each day is used for staff development or other related activities.
2. The district superintendent may close any school because of an emergency prevailing in the school district. All such schools so closed shall operate for the required full time after being reopened during the scholastic year. (MS Code 37-13-65)
3. The scheduled academic instructional time shall be protected from undue interruption and delays.
4. Days on which extra-curricular activities prevent the completion of 330 minutes of academic instruction shall not be counted as one of the minimum 180 teaching days.
5. Each child in kindergarten is to be engaged in learning center activities for a minimum of 100 minutes per day.

Twenty (20) days of actual teaching in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled school work shall constitute a scholastic month. The number of hours of actual teaching which shall constitute a school day shall be determined and fixed by the School Board of the Jackson County School District at not less than five (5) hours nor more than eight (8) hours.

1. **School Day** – That portion of the calendar day, which includes the teaching day, intermissions, and any additional hours (time) included in the employee contract. School day defines the normal working day for employees.
2. **Teaching Day** – A day in which a minimum of 330 minutes of instruction and/or evaluation and/or district approved group testing is provided.
3. **ACADEMIC PERIOD** – A portion of the school day set aside for a designed teaching activity. At the secondary level, academic periods must consist of at least 50 minutes for seven academic periods, or for school on a 4 x 4 schedule, the academic period must be of such length to insure that a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered, except for remedial instructional programs, dual enrollment/dual credit, correspondence courses, MS Virtual Public School courses, and innovative programs authorized by the State Board of Education.

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The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard for this policy is standard 13.