

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 283

SECTION/FILE: 602

DATE OF ADOPTION: 9/30/75

REVISED: 03.27.06; 3/10/2026

TITLE: Organization of School Day and School Calendar

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for a timely determination of the school calendar and school day.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is important to parents, students, employees, and the general public to have advance knowledge of the school calendar and school day to effectively plan for the school year.

III. CALENDAR RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The school calendar shall be adopted annually or biannually by the school board. It shall meet all provisions of Minnesota statutes pertaining to minimum number of school days and other provisions of law. The school calendar shall establish student days, workshop days for staff, provide for emergency closings and other information related to students, staff and parents.

[NOTE: The annual school calendar must include at least 425 hours of instruction for a kindergarten student, 935 hours of instruction for a student in grades 1 through 6, and 1,020 hours of instruction for a student in grades 7 through 12, not including summer school. The school calendar for all-day kindergarten must include at least 850 hours of instruction for the school year. If a voluntary prekindergarten program is offered by St. Louis Park Public Schools a prekindergarten student must receive at least 350 hours of instruction for the school year. A school board's annual calendar must include at least 165 days of instruction for a student in grades 1 through 11 unless a four-day week schedule has been approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.126. A school board's annual school calendar may include plans for up to five days of instruction provided through online instruction due to inclement weather. The inclement weather plans must be developed according to Section V., below.]

[NOTE: To the extent the school board offers K-12 teachers the opportunity for more staff development training under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.40, subdivisions 7 and 7a, or Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.41, subdivisions 4 and 4a, St. Louis Park Public Schools shall adopt as its school calendar a total of 240 days of student instruction and staff development, of which the total number of staff development days equals the difference between the total number of days of student instruction and 240 days. The school board may schedule additional staff development days throughout the

calendar year.]

- B. Except for learning programs during summer and flexible learning year programs, ~~the school district~~ **St. Louis Park Public Schools** will not commence an elementary or secondary school year before Labor Day, except as provided in Section III.B.1. or III.B.2. Days devoted to teacher’s workshops may be held before Labor Day.
1. ~~The school district~~ **St. Louis Park Public Schools** may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day to accommodate a construction or remodeling project of \$400,000 or more affecting a school district school facility.
 2. **St. Louis Park Public Schools** may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day if **St. Louis Park Public Schools** has agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.30, 123A.32, or 123A.35 with a school district that qualifies under Section III.B.1.
 3. ~~The school district~~ **St. Louis Park Public Schools** may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day if ~~the school district~~ **St. Louis Park Public Schools** agrees to the same schedule with a school district in an adjoining state.

[NOTE: The 2025 Minnesota legislature enacted the following:

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.40, paragraph (a), or other law to the contrary, for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years only, a school board may vote to begin the school year on September 1 or later. Nothing in this section limits a district's authority to begin the school year on any day before Labor Day under section 120A.40, paragraph (b).]

- C. Employee and advisory groups shall be provided an opportunity to participate in school calendar considerations through a meet and confer process.

IV. SCHOOL DAY RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing a schedule for the student day, subject to review by the school board. All requirements and provisions of Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Department of Education Rules shall be met.
- B. In developing the student day schedule, the superintendent shall consider such factors as school bus schedules, cooperative programs, differences in time requirements at various grade levels, effective utilization of facilities, cost effectiveness, and other concerns deserving of attention.
- C. Proposed changes **to the length of** ~~in~~ the school day shall be subject to review and approval by the school board.

V. E-LEARNING DAYS

A. An “e-learning day” is a school day where a school offers full access to online instruction provided by students’ individual teachers due to inclement weather.

B. A school district may designate up to five e-learning days in one school year.

C. An e-learning day is counted as a day of instruction and included in the hours of instruction pursuant to Section III.A., above.

D. A school board may adopt an e-learning day plan after consulting with the exclusive representative of the teachers. The e-learning day plan developed by St. Louis Park Public Schools will include accommodations for students without Internet access at home and for digital device access for families without the technology or with an insufficient amount of technology for the number of children in the household. The plan must also provide accessible options for students with disabilities.

E. St. Louis Park Public Schools must notify parents and students of its e-learning day plan at the beginning of each school year.

F. When an e-learning day is declared by St. Louis Park Public Schools, notice must be provided to parents and students at least two hours prior to the normal school start time that students will need to follow the e-learning day plan for that day.

G. On an e-learning day, each student’s teacher must be accessible both online and by telephone during normal school hours to assist students and parents.

H. When St. Louis Park Public Schools declares an e-learning day, it must continue to pay the full wages for scheduled work hours and benefits of all school employees for the duration of the e-learning period. During the e-learning period, school employees must be allowed to work from home to the extent practicable, be assigned to work in an alternative location, or be retained on an on-call basis for any potential need.

- Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 120A.40 (School Calendar)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.41 (Length of School Year; Days of Instruction)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.415 (Extended School Calendar)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.42 (Holidays)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subds. 7 and 7a (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subds. 4 and 4a (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.11, Subd. 9 (Revenue for Results-Oriented Charter School)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.41, Subd. 7 (Distribution of School Aids; Appropriation)
- Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 425 (Staff Development)