



Inclement Weather Calendar Waiver Request

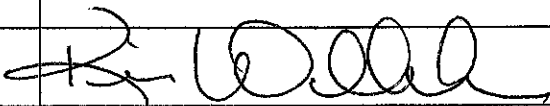
District:	Jonesboro School District
LEA Number:	1608000
Superintendent:	Dr. Kim Wilbanks
Email:	kim.wilbanks@jonesboroschools.net
Contact for Waiver:	Kris Williams
Contact Email:	kris.williams@jonesboroschools.net
Contact Phone:	870-933-5800
Date Received by DESE:	

By submitting this waiver request, the Superintendent certifies that the following requirements have been met:

1. The local board has approved the waiver request and revised calendar.
2. The personnel policy committee (PPC) has approved the revised calendar.
3. The revised calendar has been posted on the district's website.
4. The calendar reflects 1,068 hours of in-person student instruction that will be provided during the 2023-2024 school year.

Further, the Superintendent certifies that the district will input into eSchool, eFinance, or APSCN, all data that affects the ADM of the public school district; and ensures compliance with the required minimum number of school instructional hours.

Topic:	Alternate School Calendar Submission Deadlines
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106(g)(3) regarding calendar submission deadline
Duration Requested:	2023-2024 School Year
Schools, Grades or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To	K-12
PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow the district to transition to an alternate calendar requiring 1,068 hours of student instruction

District:	Jonesboro School District
LEA Number:	1608000
Superintendent:	

I am also requesting that the Division waive Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-213(b), which requires that the official reporting period for attendance shall be quarterly with the actual number of days counted in each period to be no less than forty (40) nor more than fifty (50).



RESOLUTION OF JONESBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Jonesboro School District held at 6:00 p.m. on February 13, 2024, in the boardroom of the district, the board discussed pivoting from a traditional school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year to an alternate school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year.

After full discussion, the following findings and resolution were unanimously approved:

Whereas, the Jonesboro School District has missed day(s) due to inclement weather during the 2023-2024 school year; and

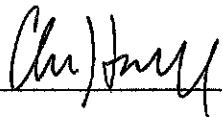
Whereas, the Jonesboro School District calculated that instructional time is already above the minimum of 6 hours (360 minutes) per day throughout the 2023-2024 school year at all campuses; and

Whereas, the Jonesboro School District feels that it would be in its best interest to pivot from a traditional academic calendar to an alternate academic calendar; and


Whereas, the Jonesboro School District will follow the Inclement Weather Make-Up Guidance as published in the Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner's Memo COM-24-066;

Now, therefore, due to the specific reasons cited above, be it resolved that the Jonesboro School Board hereby approves the superintendent to submit an Inclement Weather Calendar Waiver Request to move the 2023-2024 school calendar from a traditional calendar to an alternate calendar.

Dated this February 13, 2024.



ATTEST:





Jonesboro Public Schools

2506 Southwest Square
Jonesboro, AR 72401

E-mail: kris.williams@jonesboroschools.net
Phone: 870-933-5800

TO: Dr. Kim Wilbanks, Superintendent
FROM: Kris Williams, Federal Programs Director
RE: 2023-2024 Alternate School Calendar
DATE: February 1, 2024

On February 8, 2023, the JPS Board approved a traditional 178-day school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. This calendar included 5 snow days as required by the selection of a traditional calendar.

Over the past few years, Arkansas public schools have been allowed to use Alternate Methods of Instruction (AMI) Days when a bad weather day occurred. This enabled the district to count the day as part of the 178-day calendar. When the LEARNS Act was signed into law during the 2023 Legislative Session, the Act prevented schools from being able to utilize AMI Days.

In mid-January 2024, inclement weather caused many schools throughout the state to cancel school for numerous days. JPS was fortunate and only had to cancel school for one day. Due to loss of instructional days across the state, an ADE Commissioner's Memo (COM-24-066) was released on January 25, 2024, giving guidance to school districts on inclement weather make-up days. This memo outlined the process of moving from a traditional 178-day school calendar to an alternate calendar. An alternate calendar allows districts to count instructional minutes, rather than days, to complete a school year. A school year under an alternate calendar equals a minimum of 1,068 instructional hours. This is the equivalent of 360 minutes per day across a 178-day school year. Any additional minutes of instruction can be banked across the school year to make-up for inclement weather days or to provide an early release.

All elementary schools within the Jonesboro School District have 370 minutes of instruction per day and secondary schools have 375 minutes of instruction per day. Utilizing the additional 10 minutes of instruction at the elementary level to calculate the hours of instruction available, JPS accumulates 1,097.6 hours of instruction across 178 student days. This is 4.94 days that would be banked across the school year.

Adopting an alternate calendar for the 2023-2024 school year would mean that April 19, 2024, would no longer be a make-up day. We would still have three additional days banked. If more than three additional days are missed, the days would be added to the end of the school year.

The full Personnel Policy Committee, in a meeting held on January 31, 2024, voted to make the recommendation to the JPS Board to adopt the 2023-2024 Alternate Calendar.

OPTION: A

**JONESBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2023-24 Calendar
Alternate Conversion**

2023

July

M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

4-Independence Day

Student Days

August 14

M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

7-11 -PD/Work Days

14-1st Day of Classes

14- Begin 1st Quarter

Student Days

September 20

M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

4-Labor Day

Student Days

October 8 13

M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

11-End 1st Quarter

12-Begin 2nd Quarter

19-P/T Conf Night

20-PD Day - No students

Student Days

November 17

M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

20-Exchange Day 1

21-Exchange Day 2

20-24-Thanksgiving Break

Student Days

December 11

M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

15- End 2nd Quarter & Sem

18-29-Winter Break

2024 Student Days

January 20

M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

1- New Year's Day

2-PD Day - No Students

3 - Begin 3rd Quarter

15-MLK Day

Student Days

February 20

M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	

19-Exchange Day 3/Pres Day

Student Days

March 6 10

M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

8-End 3rd Quarter

11-Begin 4th Quarter

14-P/T Conf Night

18-22-Spring Break

Student Days

April 21

M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

19- Non-Contract Day

Student Days

May 18

M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

24-End 4th Quarter & Sem

24-Last Student Day

27-Memorial Day

28-Snow Days #5

Student Days

June

M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

HR will develop workday calendars for staff.

Quarters

1st Quarter 42

2nd Quarter 41

3rd Quarter 46

4th Quarter 49

Total Days 178

JPS students receive 370 minutes of instruction per day.

The equals 1,097.6 hours across 178 student days.

The minimum number of hours of instruction on an alternate calendar is 1,068.

JPS will bank over 4 snow days across 178 days of instruction.

The fifth snow day and any additional will be added to the end of the school year.

Legend:

Student day

Non-student day

PD/Work Day

Exchange Day

1st day of Quarter

Last day of Quarter

Snow day

P-T Conference Day