

School Year Calendar and Day

School Calendar

The Board, upon the Superintendent's recommendation and subject to State regulations, annually establishes the dates for opening and closing classes, teacher institutes and in-services, the length and dates of vacations, and the days designated as legal school holidays. The school calendar shall have a minimum of 185 days to ensure 176 days of actual student attendance.

Legal School Holidays

Listed below are the legal school holidays required pursuant to Section 24-2 of the School Code.

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
President Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	2024 General Election Day
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	Veteran's Day
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving Day
Juneteenth National Freedom Day	Christmas Day
Independence Day	

The Board is authorized to hold school or schedule teachers' institutes, parent-teacher conferences, or staff development on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday; President Abraham Lincoln's birthday; Casimir Pulaski's birthday; Columbus Day; and Veterans' Day, provided that:

- (1) the person or persons honored by the holiday are recognized through instructional activities conducted on that day or, if the day is not used for student attendance, on the first school day preceding or following that day; and
- (2) the Board first holds a public hearing about the proposal and provides notice as required in Section 24-2.

The Board has exercised this authority on President Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, Casimir Pulaski's Birthday, and Veterans' Day.

Except where the Board has exercised its authority on any of the five specific holidays listed above, District employees will not be required to work on legal school holidays. A legal school holiday on which an employee is not required to work will not cause a deduction from an employee's time or compensation nor entitle an employee to compensation where not otherwise contractual.

Commemorative Holidays

Commemorative holidays, which recognize specified patriotic, civic, cultural or historical persons, activities, or events, are regular school days. The commemorative holidays required pursuant to Section 24-2 of the School Code or established by the Board are:

Christa McAuliffe Day	Korean War Veterans' Day
Susan B. Anthony's Birthday	Recycling Day
Vietnam War Veterans' Day	Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans Remembrance Day
September 11th Day of Remembrance	Pearl Harbor Veterans' Day
Indigenous Peoples' Day	Any day appointed by President or Governor

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Reviewed: ~~December 2023~~ January 2026

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The teachers and students ~~shall~~may devote a portion of the school day on each commemorative holiday designated in the *School Code* to study and honor the commemorated person or occasion. The Board may, from time to time, designate a regular school day as a commemorative holiday.

School Day

The Board establishes the length of the school day with the recommendation of the Superintendent and subject to State law requirements. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that observances required by State law are followed during each day of school attendance.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, 5/10-20.~~54~~6, 5/10-20.~~45~~6, 5/10-30, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-~~510. and 5/27-1025.~~~~3, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, and 5/27-20.2.~~

10 ILCS 5/11-4.1, Election Code.

5 ILCS 490/, State Commemorative Dates Act.

23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.420(f).

Metzl v. Leininger, 850 F. Supp. 740 (N.D. Ill. 1994), *aff'd* by 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995).

CROSS REF.: 2.20 (Powers and Duties of the Board, Indemnification), 4.180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5.200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5.330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 6.60 (Curriculum Content), 6.70 (Teaching About Religions), 7.90 (Release During School Hours)

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