

SCHOOL DAY

In accordance with the Public Schools of North Carolina School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual, five and one-half hours (5 ½) of each regular school day shall be given to those activities which relate directly to instruction. Activities which are not directly related to instruction will be held at a time other than during the five and one-half (½) hours designated for instruction. One-half (½) unit courses, cooperative vocational programs, field trips directly related to instruction, study and/or independent study directly related to instruction, and assemblies directly related to instruction may be considered a part of the five and one-half hours (5 ½) of instruction.

While every effort shall be made to protect the integrity of the five and one-half hours (5 ½) in the school day, athletes may be released early, in compliance with the regulations of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

Students may be excused from the five and one-half hours (5 ½) instructional day with the approval of the principal for specified periods of time if there are compelling reasons.

Students shall not be excused from the five and one-half hours (5 ½) instructional day for the purpose of enrolling in another school, except in connection with cooperative or dual enrollment programs with local community colleges or a local university, as specifically authorized by state law, or upon approval of the Superintendent or designee. However, such release of a student shall not obligate the New Hanover County Schools to pay for private school tuition or for any other private educational or related services, to provide transportation of the student in connection with such release or to reimburse parents for any such expenses.

LEGAL REF: Public Schools of North Carolina School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual

CROSS REF: Policy 8500 Release of Students from School Day and Participation In Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Adopted: 04/14/87

Revised: 02/05/91, 06/01/93, 06/18/96, 11/09/10, 11/01/11, 01/07/14

Reviewed: 10/12/17