

SCHOOL YEAR AND SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

A. School Year.

The school year shall be a minimum of 180 instructional days or, alternatively, the equivalent number of hours as required in the rules of the N.H. Department of Education (see Ed 306.18), plus additional days for teacher in-service and emergency/make-up days.

The school calendar will be established annually as described in paragraph D below.

B. School Closures.

Any days that the schools are closed for emergency reasons and are not designated by the Superintendent as remote learning days (see paragraph C below) will be made up at the end of the school year or during recess periods, as approved by the Board upon the Superintendent's recommendation. Under special circumstances the Board may request an exception to this requirement from the State Board of Education.

In the event schools are closed for excessive days for emergency reasons, the Superintendent may recommend to the School Board a revised schedule that satisfies all Department of Education requirements, but which may amend the number of days in the school year.

C. Remote Learning During Inclement Weather.

If inclement weather makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction, the Superintendent/designee is authorized to designate that day as a remote learning day. Before remote instruction is used as instruction that day for the purpose of satisfying the minimum instructional day/hour requirements of the N.H. Department of Education, the Superintendent shall ensure that a plan exists with procedures to promote and allow for participation by all students in any affected school.

Prior to approving designating a day as a remote instruction day, or any school/district-wide remote instruction that is dependent on technology, the Superintendent/designee will consider the impact that the inclement weather event might have on necessary technology.

Remote instruction will only count toward required instructional days/time when conducted in accordance with N.H. Dept. of Education Rule Ed 306.18. See also Board policy IMBA.

D. School Calendar.

The school calendar will be developed by the Superintendent and submitted to the Board for approval. Any exceptions or revisions to the calendar thereafter must be approved in advance by the Board.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the calendar conforms to the number of actual days of instruction and employment as required by law, board policy, and staff contracts.

To the extent possible, the calendar will be coordinated with the school calendars of the regional special education programs.

Additionally, the calendar must align with the calendar established by any applicable Regional Career and Technical Center Agreements (RCTEA), with exceptions only as allowed under RSA 188-E:1-a, III.

The high school graduation date shall be set no more than 5 school days or 30 instructional hours before the end of the scheduled school year. In the event that the number of days/hours lost to inclement weather exceeds 5 days/30 hours, the Superintendent shall confer with the New Hampshire Department of Education as to whether graduating students will be required to make up the lost days/hours.

Pursuant to RSA 288:4, III, any holiday included in the school calendar that corresponds to a State "legal" holiday shall use the name for such holiday as designated in RSA 288:1. As of 2024, these include: January 1, Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. All schools receiving State funds are required to observe Veteran's Day. Additionally, such names shall be used on any "official" communication, publication, document or calendar.

Legal References:

RSA 188-E:1-a, Regional Career and Technical Education Agreements (RCTEA)

RSA 189:1, Days of School

RSA 189:24, Standard School

RSA 288:1, Holidays

RSA 288:4, School Holidays

N.H. Code Admin. Rules, Ed 306.15, School Year

N.H. Code Admin. Rules, Ed 306.15(f), Remote Learning

N.H. Code Admin. Rules, Ed 306.18, Remote Learning

Legal References Disclaimer: *These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.*

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Second Reading:	April 9, 2002
Adopted:	April 9, 2002
First Reading:	May 25, 2022
Second Reading:	June 8, 2022
Revised:	June 8, 2022
First Reading:	October 26, 2022
Second Reading:	November 16, 2022
Revised:	November 16, 2022
First Reading:	January 22, 2025
Second Reading:	February 12, 2025
Revised:	February 12, 2025
First Reading:	January 28, 2026
Second Reading:	February 11, 2026
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