Billings School District 2

INSTRUCTION

School Year Calendar, School Day, and Commemorative Holidays

School Calendar

The Board shall set the number of hours in a school term, the length of the school day, and the number of school days in a school week. The Board shall establish the dates for opening and closing schools, the times and dates for teacher in-service programs, the length and dates of vacations, and the days designated as legal school holidays.

Pupil Instruction and pupil-instruction-related days shall not be conducted on the following holidays:

(a) New Year's Day (January 1);
(b) Memorial Day (last Monday in May);
(c) Independence Day (July 4);
(d) Labor Day (first Monday in September);
(e) Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in November);
(f) Christmas Day (December 25);
(g) State and national election days when the school building is used as a polling place and the conduct of school would interfere with the election process at the polling place.

When these holidays fall on Saturday or Sunday, the preceding Friday or the succeeding Monday shall not be a school holiday.

School Day

The District shall provide the number of hours of pupil instruction required by Montana law. The Board suggests, but does not require, that a school year of student instruction consist of at least 360 aggregate hours of kindergarten and all other preschool programs; 720 hours for grades 1 through 3; 1080 hours for grades 4 through 12. 1,050 hours for graduating seniors. In addition, seven (7) pupil instruction-related days may be scheduled.

Commemorative Holidays

The Administration shall develop for Board approval appropriate exercises shall develop for Board approval appropriate exercises the purpose of which shall be to educate students regarding the commemorated person or occasion on the following designated commemorative days:

(a) Lincoln's Birthday (February 12);
(b) Washington's Birthday (February 22);
(c) Arbor Day (last Friday in April);

(d) Flag Day (June 14);
(e) Citizenship/Constitution Day (September 17);
(f) American Indian Heritage Day (fourth Friday in September);
(g) Columbus Day (October 12);
(h) Pioneer Day (November 1);
(i) Freedom Week (last full week of September), to educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of the United States and the values on which the United States was founded;
(j) other days designated by the legislature or governor as legal holidays.

Saturday School

In emergencies, including during reasonable efforts of the Board to make up aggregate hours of instruction lost during a declaration of emergency by the Board under Section 20-9-806, MCA, pupil instruction may be conducted on a Saturday when it is approved by the Board.

Pupil instruction may be held on a Saturday at the discretion of a District and as approved by the Board for the purpose of providing additional pupil instruction beyond the minimum aggregate hours of instruction required in Section 20-1-301, MCA, provided student attendance is voluntary.

School Holidays

Legal References:	§ 20-1-301, MCA	School fiscal year
	§ 20-1-302, MCA	School day and week
	§ 20-1-304, MCA	Pupil-instruction-related day
	§ 20-1-305, MCA	School holidays
	§ 20-1-306, MCA	Commemorative exercises on certain days
	10.55.701, ARM	Board of Trustees
	10.65.101-03, ARM	Pupil-Instruction-Related Days

Policy History:

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