

SUBJECT: SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL DAY**School Calendar**

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the preparation of a school calendar to be presented to the Board for adoption.

School Day

The school day shall be set by the Superintendent with approval of the Board.

Education Law Sections 3204(4) and 3604(7)(8)
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 175.5

Adopted: 6/25/09

Instruction

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS: EXTRAORDINARY CONDITION
DAYS/STUDENT ATTENDANCE****Days of Session**

School districts must be in session for all students, including students with disabilities, for not less than one hundred eighty (180) days. Included in the one hundred eighty (180) days are days on which attendance is taken; days on which Regents examinations, State Assessments or local examinations are given; and days on which Superintendent's Conference Days are held.

Legal Holidays

District officials may not schedule days of session on a Saturday or a legal holiday except Election Day, Washington's Birthday and Lincoln's Birthday (however, driver education classes may be conducted on a Saturday).

Legal holidays include: New Year's Day; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Lincoln's Birthday; Washington's Birthday; Memorial Day; Flag Day (second Sunday in June); Independence Day; Labor Day; Columbus Day; Election Day; Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day.

Length of School Day

The minimum length of the school day for purposes of generating state aid is 2.5 hours for half-day kindergarten, 5.0 hours for full-day kindergarten through grade 6, and 5.5 hours for grades 7 through 12. These hours are exclusive of the time allowed for lunch. If the School District establishes a school calendar in excess of one hundred eighty (180) required days, the excess days need not comply with the mandated daily time requirements.

Extraordinary Conditions

The length of the school day requirement does not apply if schools open late or close early due to extraordinary circumstances beyond their control. Similarly, because of circumstances beyond its control, the School District may lose whole days of instruction due to emergency school closings.

Pursuant to Education Law Section 3604(7), if the Commissioner of Education finds that the schools of the District were not in session for one hundred eighty (180) days because of extraordinarily adverse weather conditions, impairment of heating facilities, insufficiency of water supply, shortage of fuel, lack of electricity, natural gas leakage, unacceptable levels of chemical substances, or the destruction of the school building either in whole or in part, the Commissioner is authorized to excuse up to five (5) days under certain circumstances.

For the District to receive such a "waiver" from the Commissioner, the Commissioner must find that those "lost days" of instruction could not have been made up by using, for the secondary grades, all scheduled vacation days which occur prior to the first scheduled Regents examination day in June;

(Continued)

Instruction

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS: EXTRAORDINARY CONDITION
DAYS/STUDENT ATTENDANCE (Cont'd.)**

and, for the elementary grades, all scheduled vacation days which occur prior to the last scheduled Regents examination day in June. Scheduled vacation days that may be used include days of religious observance associated with Passover, Easter and other religious holidays. Only Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are excluded from days that may be used for this purpose.

Requests for excusal must be made in writing to the State Education Department at the close of the school year. If scheduled vacation days and days waived by the Commissioner are insufficient and the School District still remains one (1) or more days short of the one hundred eighty (180) days, the District may schedule additional sessions after Regents examinations, through June 30, to satisfy the length of session requirement.

In the event that only one (1) building in the District will be short the required days of session because of some extraordinary condition, the day(s) for only that building must be made up by using all scheduled vacation days before an excusal can be given.

The rescheduling/make up of "lost days" of instruction will take into consideration collective bargaining agreements as may be applicable.

A declaration of a State of Emergency by the Governor due to adverse weather conditions does not authorize the school districts affected to operate an annual session of less than one hundred eighty (180) days.

Reporting

Pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations Section 155.17(h), each Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education as soon as possible whenever the emergency plan or building-level school safety plan is activated and results in the closing of a school building in the District; and shall provide such information as the Commissioner may require. School districts within a Supervisory District shall provide such notification through their District Superintendent, who shall be responsible for notifying the Commissioner. Such information need not be provided for routine snow emergency days.

Education Law Sections 3210, 3602(4), 3604(7), and 3604(8)
General Construction Law Section 24
General Municipal Law Section 92-c
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR)
Sections 155.7 and 155.17 and Part 175

Adopted: 6/25/09

2009

8420

Instruction

SUBJECT: OPENING EXERCISES

The Board directs the administration to include the Pledge of Allegiance as part of the opening exercises in all the schools. Under certain circumstances, such as religious conviction, individuals may be excused from this requirement as a protection of their Constitutional rights.

Education Law Section 802

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 108.5

Adopted: 6/25/09

Instruction

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT STUDY FOR TRANSFER CREDIT

Independent study, for credit, will be available to meet the individual needs of students in grades 9 through 12. The Principal, after consultation with relevant faculty, may award transfer credit for work done through independent study. The decision should be based on whether the student's record indicates that the work is consistent with New York State commencement level learning standards and is of comparable scope and quality to that which would have been done in the school awarding the credit. Credit shall be granted only for courses in the approved curriculum.

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 100.5(d)(5)(i)(b)

Adopted: 6/25/09

Instruction

SUBJECT: HOME TUTORING (HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION)

Resident children attending public or nonpublic schools who are unable to attend school because of physical, mental or emotional illness or injury as substantiated by a licensed physician are eligible to be instructed at home or in a hospital by an appropriately certified teacher provided by the School District. These students will be provided with such instruction in accordance with New York State Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations.

Procedures for students requiring home tutoring shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Education Law Sections 1604(20), 1709(24), 3202 and 4401
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 175.21

Amended:
1st reading: 8/19/14
2nd reading: 8/27/14
Adopted: 9/10/14

Adopted: 6/25/09

Instruction

SUBJECT: FIELD TRIPS

The Board of Education recognizes that field trips are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the schools.

For purposes of this policy, a field trip shall be defined as any journey by a group of students away from the school premises, under the supervision of a teacher, which is an integral part of an approved course of study and conducted for the purpose of affording a first-hand educational experience not available in the classroom.

Field trips are a part of the curriculum of the schools, and student conduct and attendance on field trips are governed by the same rules that govern regular classroom activities. The School System shall obtain written parental/guardian permission for students going on school-sponsored field trips.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures for the operation of a field trip activity. Field trip support shall be determined annually by the Board during its budget deliberations. Regardless of the fiscal support for field trips, the rules of the School District for approval and conduct of such trips shall apply.

The Superintendent/designee may cancel previously approved field trips due to extenuating circumstances.

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3410 -- Code of Conduct on School Property
#5720 -- Transportation of Students
#7310 -- School Conduct and Discipline
District Code of Conduct on School Property

Adopted: 6/25/09

Instruction

SUBJECT: TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Under certain conditions, as noted in this policy statement, opportunities for non-school student tours may be made known to Iroquois Central School students.

- a) Any literature concerning the tour to be distributed among Iroquois students or staff is to be reviewed and approved by the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall advise the Board concerning the general nature of the proposed trip, and if there be no objection from the Board, the Superintendent may proceed to authorize distribution of any such literature.
- b) Programs or presentations to promote the tours shall not be conducted on school premises during the school day. Use of facilities after the school day is subject to the permission of the Superintendent.
- c) Iroquois Central Schools shall assume no liability or responsibility for the conduct or itinerary for such tour, and the agent sponsoring the tour shall submit a letter to the District, clearly relieving the District of any such liability or responsibility. Such non-school tours are to be in no way associated with the Iroquois Central Schools except that the Board of Education may authorize limited advertisement of such educational tours to the student body and staff. Any literature approved for distribution, as provided in paragraph (a) hereof, shall clearly indicate that the trip is not school-sponsored, and that the District shall not be liable for any occurrence during the tour.

Instruction

SUBJECT: HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOLING)

The School District will attempt to cooperate with parents who wish to provide home instruction for their children. The child who is educated at home should receive an education in a manner consistent with an educational plan and at least substantially equivalent to that given to students of like age and attainments in the local public schools. The required subjects should be taught in a competent, systematic, and sequential manner, specifically in relation to the required courses as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulation Section 100.10.

Primary responsibility for determining compliance with Commissioner's Regulations addressing home instruction rests with the Superintendent of Schools of the school district in which a home-instructed student resides.

Provision of Services to Home-Instructed Students

They are not awarded a high school diploma. A high school diploma may only be awarded to a student enrolled in a registered secondary school who has completed all program requirements set by the Board of Regents, the school or the District.

a) Extracurricular Participation

They are *not* eligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Commissioner's Regulations mandate that only students enrolled in the public school are allowed to participate in interscholastic sports. Further, the District *does not* permit home-instructed students to participate in any extracurricular activities.

b) Textbooks and Materials

The District is not required to loan available textbooks and other materials (e.g., library materials, microscopes, computer software, movie projectors) to home-instructed students. However, the School District *shall provide* home-instructed students with such textbooks and materials.

c) Health Services

The School District is *not required* to furnish health services.

d) Remedial Programs

The District *is not responsible* for providing remedial programs.

(Continued)

Instruction

SUBJECT: HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOLING) (Cont'd.)e) Career and Technical/Gifted Education

The District is *not permitted* to provide Occupational and Vocational Education programs (career and technical education) nor programs for the Gifted to home-instructed students.

f) Special Education Services

Solely for the purpose of Education Law Section 3602-c, home-instructed students with disabilities are deemed to be students enrolled in and attending a nonpublic school, which enables them to receive special education services, as well as to be included for computation of state aid for such education by the District.

The Committee on Special Education (CSE) will develop an Individualized Education Services Program (IESP) for the student. The IESP shall be developed in the same manner and with the same content as an IEP. The Board of Education will determine a location where special education services are to be provided to a home-instructed student. This location may, but is not required to be, in the student's home.

g) Use of School Facilities

Students instructed at home shall not be allowed to use school facilities, except as provided for community organizations in Policy #3280 -- Use of School Facilities, Materials and Equipment.

Education Law Sections 3204, 3205, 3210(2), 3212(2), 3240-42, 3602-c and 4402

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Sections 100.10, 135.4(c)(7)(ii)(b)(2) and 200.2(a)

Instruction

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

The School District endorses Community Service Projects as a requirement for graduation. The benefits of a community Service Project include providing an opportunity for students to develop a wide range of personal, intellectual, academic, and social skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, negotiations, communication, planning and evaluation. The focus should be to help students become effective employees, colleagues, citizens, and leaders.

The community service options shall include a wide variety of organizations representing diverse views from which students may choose including, but not limited to, charitable, educational, civic and social organizations. Students will also be allowed to select organizations of their own choice and/or develop their own projects subject to approval from applicable faculty and administration. A student will not be required to provide community service to an organization whose message conflicts with his/her personal views. The required number of hours and working conditions shall be reasonable, and reflect sufficient time frames for completion of the Community Service Project. Beginning with the class of 2007, the required number of community service hours shall be thirty-two (32) total hours.

Before a Community Service Project opportunity is undertaken, it must receive approval by participating agency, group or individual where the activity will take place and the designated school personnel. Community Service Projects will include a requirement that students, upon completion of the project, submit documentation on the appropriate form or on letterhead of the volunteer agency.

Community service hours will be maintained by the Student Support Services department for the purpose of transcript documentation. Class advisors will be responsible for monitoring student progress toward completion of the service learning requirement and regulation for guidelines will be developed by the Superintendent of Schools.