

Administrative Procedure 130

SCHOOL YEAR

Background

It is desirable to have a school year that is standardized. The Board will specify the essential dates for each school year.

Procedures

1. Standard School Year

- 1.1 The Board will determine by March 1 of each year the essential dates of the school year which begins in the Fall of that year and the following two (2) years.
- 1.2 Dates will be struck which are consistent with the following:
 - 1.2.1 Teachers and other designated staff will commence duty a minimum of two (2) days prior to the arrival of students.
 - 1.2.2 Classes will commence approximately the last week of August or the first week of September, in order to appropriately balance semesters.
 - 1.2.3 A Fall Break in November of one (1) week duration will be provided.
 - 1.2.4 A Christmas Break of at least two (2) weeks duration will be provided.
 - 1.2.5 A Spring Break of one (1) week duration will be provided, commencing on the last Monday of March and continuing through the week.
 - 1.2.6 Easter Monday may be an operational/instructional day unless it falls within Spring Break.
 - 1.2.7 The last operational day in a school year will be the last Friday in June or two days after the final Provincial examination.
 - 1.2.8 The last two (2) operational days will be workdays for teachers and other designated staff, with no students in attendance.

- 2. In an atypical calendar year applying the standard dates indicated in section 1 may create a shortfall in the required hours of school operation for the school year. In this case the Board will vary the prescribed outline of the school year in order to meet the requirements of Alberta Education.

3. Non-Standard School Year

- 3.1 The Board will consider a request for a school to follow a non-standard school year on an annual basis, if the proposal has:
 - 3.1.1 Educational merit,
 - 3.1.2 Parental support, and

- 3.1.3 Economic feasibility.
- 3.2 The Principal will submit to the Superintendent by February 15 the proposed dates for the non-standard school year which begins in the fall of that year.
- 3.3 The non-standard school year will contain all the statutory holidays and professional days established for the standard school year.
- 3.4 The number of instructional days in the non-standard school year must not vary from the standard school year by more than three (3) days.
- 3.5 The Superintendent may ask the Principal to survey all parents with children attending said school, regarding the proposed non-standard calendar.
 - 3.5.1 The survey must have an eighty percent (80%) or higher approval parental rating, from seventy percent (70%) of families to be considered a valid proposal.
- 3.6 The decision of the Board to approve or deny a non-standard school year will be made prior to March 1.
- 3.7 The Board will honour the Operating Agreement(s) as approved for Alternative Program(s).

Reference: Section 18,19,33,51,52,53,60,197,205,222 Education Act
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12