

SCHOOL DAY

The Governing Board shall fix the length of the school day subject to the provisions of law. (Education Code 46100)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

The length of the school day shall apply equally to students with disabilities unless otherwise specified in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

In establishing the daily instructional schedule for each secondary school, the Superintendent or designee shall give consideration to course requirements and curricular demands, availability of school facilities, and applicable legal requirements.

The Board encourages flexibility in scheduling so as to provide longer time blocks or class periods when appropriate and desirable to support student learning, provide more intensive study of core academic subjects or extended exploration of complex topics, and reduce transition time between classes.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

SCHOOL DAY (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 8970-8974 Early primary program, including extended-day kindergarten
- 37202 Equal time in all schools
- 37670 Year-round schools
- 46010 Total days of attendance
- 46100 Length of school day
- 46110-46119 Kindergarten and elementary schools, day of attendance
- 46140-46147 Junior high school and high school, day of attendance
- 46160-46162 Alternative schedule - junior high and high school
- 46170 Continuation schools, minimum day
- 46180 Opportunity schools, minimum day
- 46190-46192 Adult education classes, day of attendance
- 46200-46206 Incentives for longer instructional day and year
- 48200 Compulsory attendance for minimum school day
- 48663 Community day school, minimum school day
- 48800-48802 Concurrent enrollment in community college
- 51222 Physical education, instructional minutes
- 51760-51769.5 Work experience education
- 52325 Regional occupational center, minimum day

Management Resources:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION POSITION STATEMENTS

Recess for Elementary School Students, 2006

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENTS

99-03 Physical Education (PE) Requirements for Block Schedules, July 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Extending Learning Time for Disadvantaged Students, August 1995

WEST ED PUBLICATIONS

Full-Day Kindergarten: Expanding Learning Opportunities, Policy Brief, April 2005

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

National Association for Sport and Physical Education: <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe>

State Board of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lr/wr/waiverpolicies.asp>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

WestEd: <http://www.wested.org>

Policy

adopted: July 17, 2001

revised: November 16, 2004

revised: October 8, 2013

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California

SCHOOL DAY**Kindergarten**

Except as otherwise provided by law, the average school day established for kindergarten students shall be at least three hours, including recesses but excluding noon intermissions, but no longer than four hours, excluding recesses. (Education Code 46111, 46114, 46115, 46117)

Recess may be counted as instructional minutes for purposes of determining the maximum school day if teacher supervision occurs.

In any multitrack year-round school operating pursuant to Education Code 37670(a), the kindergarten school day may be up to 265 minutes, excluding recesses. (Education Code 46111)

(cf. 6117 - Year-Round Schedules)

In any district school operating an early primary program pursuant to Education Code 8970-8974, the kindergarten school day may exceed four hours, excluding recess, if both of the following conditions are met: (Education Code 8973)

1. The Governing Board has declared that the extended-day kindergarten program does not exceed the length of the primary school day.
2. The extended-day kindergarten program includes ample opportunity for both active and quiet activities within an integrated, experiential, and developmentally appropriate educational program.

Grades 1-8

Except as otherwise provided by law, the school day for elementary and middle school students shall be:

1. At least 230 minutes for students in grades 1-3, unless the Board has prescribed a shorter school day because of lack of school facilities requiring double sessions, in which case the minimum school day shall be 200 minutes. (Education Code 46112, 46142)
2. At least 240 minutes for students in grades 4-8 (Education Code 46113, 46142)

In determining the number of minutes for purposes of compliance with the minimum school day for students in grades 1-8, both noon intermissions and recesses shall be excluded. (Education Code 46115)

SCHOOL DAY (continued)

Grades 9-12

The school day for students in grades 9-12 shall be at least 240 minutes. (Education Code 46141, 46142)

However, the school day may be less than 240 minutes when authorized by law. Programs that have a minimum school day of 180 minutes include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. Continuation high school or classes (Education Code 46141, 46170)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

2. Opportunity school or classes (Education Code 46141, 46180)

3. Regional occupational center (Education Code 46141, 52325)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

4. Work experience education program approved pursuant to Education Code 51760-51769.5 (Education Code 46141, 46144)

A student in grade 12 who is enrolled in work experience education and is in his/her last semester or quarter before graduation may be permitted to attend school for less than 180 minutes per school day if he/she would complete all requirements for graduation, except physical education courses, in less than 180 minutes each day. (Education Code 46147)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)

5. Concurrent enrollment in a community college pursuant to Education Code 48800-48802 or, for students in grades 11-12, part-time enrollment in classes of the California State University or University of California, provided academic credit will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of enrolled courses (Education Code 46146)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

6. An early college high school or middle college high school, provided the students are enrolled in community college or college classes in accordance with item #5 above (Education Code 46141, 46146.5)

7. Special day or Saturday vocational training program conducted under a federally approved plan for career technical education (Education Code 46141, 46144)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

SCHOOL DAY (continued)

8. Adult education classes (Education Code 46190)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

Students in grade 12 shall be enrolled in at least five courses each semester or the equivalent number of courses each quarter. This requirement shall not apply to students enrolled in regional occupational centers or programs, courses at accredited postsecondary institutions, independent study, special education programs in which the student's individualized education program establishes a different number of courses, continuation education classes, work experience education programs, or any other course of study authorized by the Board that is equivalent to the approved high school course of study. (Education Code 46145)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

Regulation
adopted: October 11, 2004
revised: March 9, 2009
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VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Visalia, California