

**Instruction**

**School Day**

The Board of Trustees 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)

The Superintendent or designee shall schedule class periods giving consideration to course requirements and curricular demands, availability of school facilities, the age and attention span of students, and legal requirements.

The schedule for elementary schools shall include at least one daily period of recess of at least 20 minutes in length in order to provide students with unstructured but supervised opportunities for physical activity.

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

In establishing the daily instructional schedule for the intermediate school, the Board allows 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.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

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 schoolday

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 Minimum day - continuation schools  
46180 Opportunity schools (minimum day)  
46190-46192 Adult school (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  
51222 Physical education, instructional minutes  
52326 Minimum school day for regional occupational center and programs

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

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: March 23, 1987

Policy Revised: September 26, 2005; February 27, 2006; November 4, 2013