

SCHOOL DAY

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

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.

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.

In establishing the daily instructional schedule, 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.

Prior to implementing a block schedule program in which secondary students attend class for fewer school days, the Board shall consult with the certificated and classified employees of the school in a good faith effort to reach agreement and shall also consult with parents/guardians of the students who would be affected by the change and the community at large. Such consultation shall include at least one public hearing for which the Board has given adequate notice to the employees and to the parents/guardians of affected students. (Education Code 46162)

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 school district 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 Board of Trustees 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.

First through Eighth Grades

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 through 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 through 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 through 8, both noon intermissions and recesses shall be excluded. (Education Code 46115)