# **Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind** INSTRUCTION

# School Calendar, Length of School Year, and Required School Vacations

2100

## School Calendar

Subject to §§ 20-1-301 and 20-1-308, MCA, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement covering the employment of affected employees, the trustees of a school district shall set the number of hours in a school term, the length of the school day, and the number of school days in a school week. When proposing to adopt changes to a previously adopted school term, school week, or school day, the trustees shall: (a) negotiate the changes with the recognized collective bargaining unit representing the employees affected by the changes; (b) solicit input from the employees affected by the changes but not represented by a collective bargaining agreement; (c) and from the people who live within the boundaries of the school district.

The Board establishes as policy that the administration of the Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind shall:

1. Develop and submit for Board approval a yearly school calendar having not less than 180 or more than 186 instructional days.

#### **School Calendar Considerations**

- 2. Such yearly Yearly calendar may be adjusted to coincide with the school calendar adopted by Great Falls School District #1.
- 3. Require that all children residing in the school cottages go to their respective homes or to other destinations specified by their parents or guardians for all residential closings during the year.

### School Year

At least the minimum number of aggregate hours must be conducted during each school fiscal year. The minimum aggregate hours required by grade are:

- (a) 720 hours for grades kindergarten through 3;
- (b) 1,080 hours for grades 4 through 11; and
- (c) 1,050 hours may be sufficient for graduating seniors.

The minimum aggregate hours, described above, are not required for any pupil demonstrating proficiency pursuant to 20-9-311(4)(d), MCA.

In addition, five (5) pupil instruction-related days may be scheduled for the following purposes:

- 1. Pre-school staff orientation for the purpose of organization of the school year;
- 2. Staff professional development programs (minimum of three (3) days);
- 3. Parent/teacher conferences: and
- 4. Post-school record and report (not to exceed one (1) day, or one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) day at the end of each semester or quarter).

The Board of Trustees has established an advisory committee to develop, recommend, and evaluate the school district's yearly professional development plan. Each year the Board of Trustees shall adopt a professional development plan for the subsequent school year based on the recommendation of the advisory committee.

Policy History:

Adopted on: 10-14-92

Revised on: