

## SCHOOL DAY

The MSAD #11 Board believes that direct contact between teachers and students is essential to student learning and achievement. It is the Board's intent to provide maximum instructional time within the instructional day.

For the purpose of this policy, "instructional day" means a school day during which both students and teachers are present, either in a school or in another setting, and "instructional time" is the portion of the school day that is devoted to the teaching-learning process. Instructional time is not considered to include homeroom periods, opening exercises, recess, lunchtime, passing times, extracurricular activities, and the like.

The number of school days shall meet or exceed the State requirement and be set annually by the Board and included in the school calendar. Abbreviated days to be included for in-service, conferences, etc., shall be kept to a minimum.

A. High School Level (Grades 9-12)

The instructional day shall consist of 4 teaching periods, each 80 minutes in length. Double or continuous laboratory periods, block scheduling, and the like may be approved by the Superintendent. Appropriately conducted study halls, individually scheduled for the needs of the students, shall be recognized as within the instructional day. The school year shall include at least 963 instructional hours.

B. Middle School Level (Grades 6-8)

The instructional day shall consist of 5 hours and 30 minutes, appropriately divided, and scheduled according to the school unit's middle school philosophy. The school year shall include at least 963 instructional hours.

C. Elementary School Level (Kindergarten – Grade 5)

The instructional day for grades kindergarten through grade five shall consist of 5 hours and 30 minutes. The school year shall include at least 963 instructional hours.

D. Pre-Kindergarten

Instructional time for pre-kindergarten shall be 3 hours per session for 4 days/week.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 4801  
Ch. 125 § 6.02-6.04 (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rule)

Adopted: Prior to 1985

Revised: August 7, 1986; February 3, 1994; May 3, 2007; February 4, 2016  
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