

EOY Training 2014, Session 2.8 - Amended Calendar Questions and Answers

Q: Can the 5 hour emergency rule still be used for early dismissal, meaning we might be below 1,062?

A: Yes. If you have to dismiss early, KDE will apply time so that will be a full day. It will go towards the 1,062 to make a full day.

Q: What is the difference between a Teacher Equivalent Day and a Planning Day?

A: I continue to use the Commissioner's email due to the legal issues. I don't want to change the language and perhaps change the meaning.

HB 211 (2014) – Calendars and Classified/Certified Contract Fulfillment

HB 211 (2014) as recently enacted by the General Assembly provides flexibility for school districts to adjust school calendars in order to provide 1,062 hours of instruction, or in the event that number of hours cannot be met, request a waiver in order for the last instructional day to occur on June 6, 2014.

HB 211 (2014) further states:

(5) Notwithstanding any other statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, for the 2013- 2014 school year, school district certified and classified personnel shall complete all contract days by participating in instructional activities or professional development or by being assigned additional work responsibilities.

KDE has received several questions about this legislation and how it relates to contract fulfillment of classified and certified staff. This information is being provided as general guidance in response to these concerns. There are a number of options that school districts can utilize to provide time to count toward contract days:

- a) Instructional minutes added to a scheduled day – If a district has added minutes to a regular instructional day in the effort to reach 1,062 instructional hours, added time can count toward a contract day for certified personnel. For example, a district may have had a regular day set at 375 minutes but as of March 15, extended the day to 400 minutes. That extra 25 minutes each day can count toward a regular day. Since regular day was established at 375 minutes, it would take 15 days of extended time to make a contract day.*
- b) Use of banked time previously established in the district – If a district has established a policy that the time in excess of 360 instructional minutes will count toward contract days for certified staff, this is a local decision.*
- c) Work compensatory time – classified staff may be assigned to work additional time that will count toward contract days as long as the total work time for a week is no more than 40 hours. Duties assigned for the compensatory time should be commensurate with the employee's regular job description.*

In addition, districts are encouraged to consult with local legal counsel, prior to making any significant changes to contracts.

Q: When can the Amended Calendar be submitted?

A: 2013-14 Amended Calendars cannot be submitted until after June 6, 2014.

Q: When can the New Year Calendar be submitted?

A: Updated information is available from:

<http://education.ky.gov/districts/enrol/Pages/School-Calendar.aspx>

Q: How does the extra emergency hours (5 hours) figure into banked hours?

A: Emergency hours will not be applied until the calendar is submitted.

Q: Our faculty is closing on a Saturday. Can Closing Day be on a Saturday?

A: Yes

Q: What is the submission link for the school calendars?

A: <http://apps.kde.state.ky.us/login>