

School Calendars



Requirements for Kentucky School Calendars

Kentucky School calendar requirements are set in statute and regulation. This information may be found in **Section 2** of the Pupil Attendance Manual [here](#).

New School Calendar Rules Beginning with the 2018-19 School Year

Due to changes in [KRS 158.070](#), effective June 29, 2017, school districts will need to follow several new provisions when planning the Original calendar for 2018-19 as follows:

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, the superintendent must recommend for approval of the local board a calendar committee, following the committee makeup that is listed in new Section (2) (b).

[KRS 158.070](#) (d) "School district calendar committee" means a committee consisting of:

1. One (1) school district principal;
2. One (1) school district office administrator other than the superintendent;
3. One (1) member of the local board of education;
4. Two (2) parents of students attending a school in the district;
5. One (1) school district elementary school teacher;
6. One (1) school district middle or high school teacher;
7. Two (2) school district classified employees; and
8. Two (2) community members from the local chamber of commerce, business community, or tourism commission;

The committee will propose the Original calendar options for the 2018-19 school year, and all Original school calendars thereafter. This committee must review, develop, and recommend school calendar options for the superintendent to present to the local board, per new Section (2) (a).

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, a local board may adopt a variable instructional school year calendar with the first student day starting no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26, but student days can be no longer than 420 minutes. The school year shall still meet the 1,062 student instructional hour requirement. (Revised Section 9)

KRS 158.070 (2) (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, and each year thereafter, the local board of education, upon recommendation of the local school district superintendent, shall annually appoint a school district calendar committee to review, develop, and recommend school calendar options.

(b) The school district calendar committee, after seeking feedback from school district employees, parents, and community members, shall recommend school calendar options to the local school district superintendent for presentation to the local board of education. The committee's recommendations shall comply with state laws and regulations and consider the economic impact of the school calendar on the community and the state.

(c) Prior to adopting a school calendar, the local board of education shall hear for discussion the school district calendar committee's recommendations and the recommendation of the superintendent at a meeting of the local board of education.

(d) During a subsequent meeting of the local board of education, the local board shall adopt a school calendar for the upcoming school year that establishes the opening and closing dates of the school term, beginning and ending dates of each school month, student attendance days, and days on which schools shall be dismissed. The local board may schedule days for breaks in the school calendar that shall not be counted as a part of the minimum school term.

(e) For local board of education meetings described in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this subsection, if the meeting is a regular meeting, notice shall be given to media outlets that have requests on file to be notified of special meetings stating the date of the regular meeting and that one (1) of the items to be considered in the regular meeting will be the school calendar. The notice shall be sent at least twenty-four (24) hours before the regular meeting. This requirement shall not be deemed to make any requirements or limitations relating to special meetings applicable to the regular meeting.

(f) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, and each year thereafter, a local school board of education that adopts a school calendar with the first student attendance day in the school term starting no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 may use a variable student instructional year. Districts may set the length of individual student attendance days in a variable student instructional schedule, but no student attendance day shall contain more than seven (7) hours of instructional time unless the district submitted and received approval from the commissioner of education for an innovative alternative calendar.