

Maricopa Unified School District Board Policy

Instruction

Year-Round Schedules

BP 6117

The Governing Board believes that a year-round school schedule could benefit the district and its students by providing continuous instruction and reducing learning loss in students over extended vacations, allowing timely interventions to improve academic achievement, and alleviating overcrowding in schools through efficient use of school facilities. The Board shall consider the feasibility of establishing year-round schedules based on current and projected enrollments, facility needs, and instructional needs.

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

Before approving a year-round program in any district school, the Board shall consult in good faith, in an effort to reach agreement with certificated and classified employees of the school, parents/guardians of students who would be affected by the change, and the community at large. Such consultation shall include at least one public hearing. (Education Code 37616)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)
(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

When the Board is considering a year-round schedule for any school, the Superintendent or designee shall submit to the Board a comprehensive proposal that, at a minimum, shall address the schedule to be operated, the number of tracks the school will have, any needed facilities modifications, a communications system for notifying off-track families of school activities and developments, and how the ethnic and socioeconomic composition of the school will be maintained within each track.

If the Board determines to operate a year-round program in a manner that would require any student to enroll, the Superintendent or designee shall publish, not later than November 1 of the school year preceding the commencement of the program, notice of the district's intention to operate the program. Such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district, or if there is no such newspaper, then in any newspaper of general circulation that is regularly circulated in the district. The notice shall be published once each week for three successive weeks or, if the newspaper is regularly published once a week or more often, at least three times with at least five days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting the publication dates. (Education Code 37611)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

On the Board's order, or upon a sufficient petition by the public to the County Superintendent of Schools after the above notice of intention is given by the district, an election shall be called to determine whether to permit a year-round program to be operated. (Education Code 37612)

Each year-round school shall offer 180 days of instruction per school year, except for any school year in which the district and employee organization(s) agree to have fewer days of instruction pursuant to the authorization in Education Code 46201.2. (Education Code 37620)

(cf. 1431 - Waivers)
(cf. 6112 - School Day)

Each school operating on a year-round schedule shall be closed for all students and employees on regular school holidays. (Education Code 37619)

(cf. 6115 - Ceremonies and Observances)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually submit a report to the Board regarding each district school operating a year-round schedule. The report shall include results of the school's academic assessments and how they compare with those of other schools, necessary facilities maintenance or repairs, and costs incurred or saved on account of operating a year-round schedule at the school.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)
(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)
(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)

Assignment to Year-Round Tracks

The Superintendent or designee shall establish an unbiased process for determining assignment of students to tracks based on the following criteria:

1. Students of the same family shall be placed in the same group or track unless one or more of such students are enrolled in a special education class or unless the parent/guardian requests that the students be placed in different groups. (Education Code 37617)
2. Assignment based on ability level shall be minimized except when necessary to accommodate special education needs or other specialized programs.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

After assignment based on the above priorities, remaining students shall be chosen on a lottery basis when the number of students requesting a particular track exceeds spaces available. Second preferences shall be accommodated to the extent possible.

The Superintendent or designee shall give parents/guardians adequate notice regarding their child's schedule.

Any parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with the track assignment of his/her child may appeal the assignment to the Superintendent or designee within five business days, stating why a different track is more appropriate for his/her child. The Superintendent or designee shall respond to the parent/guardian within five business days. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

Once students are assigned to a track, priority shall be placed on keeping students on the same track each year unless the parent/guardian requests a change.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17017.5 Approval of applications; year-round education program

17017.6 Substantial enrollment, high school districts

17017.7 Priority for funding new construction

17071.40 Exemption from increase in school building capacity

17088.3 Qualifications for lease; submission of year-round multitrack educational program study

37202 Equity length of term, exceptions

37220-37223 Saturdays and holidays

37600-37644 Continuous school programs

37670-37672 Multi-track year round scheduling

41420 Minimum number of instructional days per year

42250.1 Funding for air conditioning

46200-46206 Incentives for longer instructional day and year

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

855 Testing period

884 Primary language testing period

14030 School housing standards for multitrack programs

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education, Multitrack Year-Round Education:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/fa/yr>

National Association for Year-Round Education: <http://www.nayre.org>

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