

SENATE FILE NO. SF0082

Summer vacation preservation act.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Brennan, French and Rothfuss and
Representative(s) Andrew, Angelos, Banks,
Olsen, Penn, Rodriguez-Williams, Slagle and
Trujillo

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; modifying the duties of the
2 state board of education in approval of alternative
3 scheduling for a school year; reducing the minimum number
4 of class days required for public schools; reducing the
5 number of professional development days for public schools
6 as specified; requiring the school year to begin after
7 Labor Day and recess prior to Memorial Day except as
8 specified; and providing for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-2-304(b)(viii), 21-4-301 and
13 21-13-307(a)(ii)(intro) are amended to read:

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1 **21-2-304. Duties of the state board of education.**

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3 (b) In addition to subsection (a) of this section and
4 any other duties assigned to it by law, the state board
5 shall:

6

7 (viii) Approve or disapprove alternative
8 scheduling for school districts requesting to commence a
9 school year before Labor Day, to recess a school year after
10 Memorial Day or to operate for fewer than ~~one hundred~~
11 ~~seventy-five (175)~~ one hundred sixty-five (165) days in a
12 school year, but no schedule shall be approved which
13 reduces the minimum pupil-teacher contact time defined by
14 the state board. The state board shall establish by rule
15 for grades kindergarten through twelve (12) minimum
16 pupil-teacher contact time requirements, which may include
17 instruction outside of the physical classroom through
18 virtual education or other equivalent methods the state
19 board deems appropriate;

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21 **21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all**
22 **children; minimum school year.**

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1 Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of
2 each school district in the state shall at all times be
3 equally free and accessible to all children resident
4 therein of five (5) years of age as of August 1, or
5 September 15 if pursuant to an approved request under W.S.
6 21-3-110(a)(xxxviii), of the year in which they may
7 register in kindergarten as provided in W.S. 21-4-302(b)
8 and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to
9 regulations of the board of trustees. Each school year
10 shall commence after Labor Day and recess not later than
11 Memorial Day in the immediately succeeding calendar year
12 unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the
13 state board. Each school district shall operate its schools
14 and its classes for a minimum of ~~one hundred seventy-five~~
15 ~~(175)~~ one hundred sixty-five (165) days each school year
16 unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the
17 state board. Prior to submission of a proposed alternative
18 schedule to the state board, the board of trustees shall
19 hold at least two (2) advertised public meetings within the
20 district, at which the board shall present the proposed
21 alternative schedule and respond to public questions and
22 comments. Any school district operating under an
23 alternative schedule shall annually evaluate the

1 effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the educational
2 goals and purposes for which the schedule was adopted.

3

4 **21-13-307. Eligibility to share in distribution of**
5 **money from foundation account; mandatory financial**
6 **reporting.**

7

8 (a) Each district which meets the following
9 requirements is eligible to share in the distribution of
10 funds from the foundation account:

11

12 (ii) Operated all schools for a term of at least
13 ~~one hundred eighty five (185)~~ one hundred seventy days
14 (170) days or the number of days or equivalent hours
15 authorized under an alternative schedule approved by the
16 state board during the previous school year. If the school
17 term of any school in a district was less than ~~one hundred~~
18 ~~eighty five (185)~~ one hundred seventy days (170) days or
19 less than the total number of days authorized under an
20 alternative schedule approved by the state board, the
21 amount allotted per average daily membership (ADM) under
22 W.S. 21-13-309 for the school shall be in proportion to the

1 length of the term the school actually operated, unless
2 caused by closures of schools:

3

4 **Section 2.** The modifications to the school year and
5 operation days of schools contained in section 1 of this
6 act shall be effective school year 2025-2026 and each
7 school year thereafter.

8

9 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2025.

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11

(END)