



# Denver Public Schools EL8 - School Year Calendar Monitoring Report

November 2022

Board policy is indicated in **bold** typeface throughout.

I hereby present my monitoring report on your Executive Limitations policy EL-8, "School Year Calendar" according to the schedule set out. I certify that the information contained in this report is true, and represents compliance with all aspects of the policy unless specifically stated otherwise.

Signed *Alex Nanni*, Superintendent

Date 11/30/2022

## Policy Statement:

**The Superintendent will prepare and adopt a district calendar for future school years that provides for the number of instruction and contact hours/days determined by the Colorado Department of Education and include the dates for all staff professional learning programs and planning days that best meet the instructional needs of students.**

**Accordingly, the Superintendent will:**

- 1. Take reasonable steps to allow for public input from parents, families and teachers, students, and other staff;**
- 2. Take reasonable steps to publish the calendar in a manner accessible to all parents/families/guardians of students enrolled in schools using the district-adopted calendar;**
- 3. Give adequate and timely notice to students, parents/guardians, and staff of no less than 30 days of any change in the calendar, except for emergency closings or other unforeseen circumstances;**
- 4. Implement a school calendar that complies with the legal requirements for instructional hours and contact days and is consistent with the number of days set forth in the district's negotiated agreements with employee associations.**

**Adopted: [October 21, 2021]**

**LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-1-112 (school year and national holidays)**

**C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(n) (Board duty to determine number of instructional/contact hours/days)**

**C.R.S. 22-33-102 (1) (definition of academic year)**

**C.R.S. 22-33-104 (1) (compulsory attendance law)**

**C.R.S. 22-44-115.5 (fiscal emergency)**

**Monitoring Method:**

**Monitoring Data:**  
**Monitoring Frequency: Annually**

**Definitions:**

- **Instructional hours** - Pursuant to 1 CCR 301-39-2.06 (et seq.), at the start of each school year, each school within a district must be scheduled to provide for the minimum number of hours of planned teacher-pupil instruction and teacher-pupil contact during the school year as listed below:
  - Secondary schools: 1,080 hours (middle, junior high or high school)
  - Elementary schools: 990 hours
  - Half-day Kindergarten: 450 hours • Full-day Kindergarten: 900 hours
  - Colorado Preschool Program (CPP): 360 hours

**EL.8 Reasonable Interpretation**

The school year calendar is an important tool for DPS to determine professional learning days for teachers and staff and holidays for families and the number of contact days for students as required by state statute. I understand that I must adopt a district calendar for future school years in order to meet the instructional needs of students. I also understand and commit to having our calendars reflect the various religious holidays so that teachers and staff would be mindful during planning district, school and afterschool programs.

Accordingly, I agree to:

1. Take reasonable steps to allow for public input from parents, families and teachers, students, and other staff;
2. Take reasonable steps to publish the calendar in a manner accessible to all parents/families/guardians of students enrolled in schools using the district-adopted calendar;
3. Give adequate and timely notice to students, parents/guardians, and staff of no less than 30 days of any change in the calendar, except for emergency closings or other unforeseen circumstances;
4. Implement a school calendar that complies with the legal requirements for instructional hours and contact days and is consistent with the number of days set forth in the district’s negotiated agreements with employee associations.
5. Develop a calendar that reflects the holidays of other religions so as to be mindful of the impact that scheduled events may have on student attendance and learning.

**Standard - RI Must-haves**

- The standard of measurement for one or more parts of the policy
- The level of achievement on the standard for one or more parts of the policy
- The rationale for the standard of measurement for one or more parts of the policy
- The rationale for the level of achievement on the standard for one or more parts of the policy
- Is the interpretation reasonable?
- Is the data sufficient to support compliance?

**Outcome**

Compliance with Executive Limitation 8 will be achieved for 22/23 when the following measures are in the affirmative and has evidence of such:

Measure	FOS/DR	Timing	Justification
1. There is documented evidence that my team has taken reasonable steps to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Students</li> <li>b. Staff</li> </ul>	District Run Schools (Not charters)	November	Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation

c. Parents d. Families, and e. Teachers			
2. Proof of the published calendar being accessible to all families/parents/guardians and students	District Run Schools (Not charters)	November	Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation
3. Provide evidence of notice of 30 days or more for any changes to the calendar except those which are due to emergency closings or unforeseen circumstances.	District Run Schools (Not charters)	November	Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation
4. Evidence that the calendar complies with all legal requirements.	Family of Schools (all schools)	November	Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation
5. Evidence that the calendar addresses the various religious holidays.	Family of Schools (all schools)	November	Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation

### Aggregation Methodology

I will be successful if I meet 75% of the weighted targets above.

### Evidence of Outcomes Achieved

**Goal:** Demonstrate Compliance with this Executive Limitation

#### September Measures

Measure	Family of Schools/ District Run Schools	Compliant ? YES/NO
1. There is documented evidence that my team has taken reasonable steps to include: f. Students g. Staff h. Parents i. Families, and j. Teachers	District Run Schools (Not charters)	<b>Yes</b>
2. Proof of the published calendar being accessible to all families/parents/guardians and students	District Run Schools (Not charters)	<b>Yes</b>
3. Provide evidence of notice of 30 days or more for any changes to the calendar except those which are due to emergency closings or unforeseen circumstances.	District Run Schools (Not charters)	<b>Yes</b>
4. Evidence that the calendar complies with all legal requirements.	Family of Schools (all schools)	<b>Yes</b>
5. Evidence that the calendar addresses the various religious holidays.	Family of Schools (all schools)	<b>Yes</b>

# Summary

The district is compliant with all aspects of EL-8 within this monitoring report.

The process and final recommendations were shared with the Board of Education during the [Calendar Update on December 15, 2022](#).

1. **Steps to Include Stakeholders:** An internal working group and Calendar Committee (inclusive of DCTA and DSLA) was established to develop the 23-24 and 24-25 calendars. The group engaged in feedback with a number of groups (in person and via survey):
  - a. Teacher and Teacher Leader Advisory Councils
  - b. District Accountability Committee
  - c. MLE District Accountability Committee
  - d. Asian Education Advisory Council
2. **Accessibility:** After the presentation (and approval) of the 23-24 and 24-25 calendars to the Board on December 15, 2022, [DPS Calendars](#) were translated and shared with the DPS community on January 5, 2023. All calendars are posted publicly on the DPS website and translated into the Consent Decree languages.
3. **Modifications:** There have been no modifications made.
4. **Legal Requirements:** The district calendar complies with CDE requirements and commitments outlined in our negotiated agreements with the DCTA and in partnership with the DSLA. See Additional Resources for more information.
5. **Religious Holidays and Key Celebrations:** The district holds a deep commitment of respect to individual religious beliefs and cultural practices. We use this [Religious Holiday Guidance](#) when scheduling Family Conference Day and Professional Learning Days, as well consult this [resource](#) to be mindful of key observances for our communities.

## Additional Resources

Calendar Guardrails & Considerations for the 23-24 and 24-25 school years Calendar Development Process:

<p><b>Instructional Minutes</b> Maximize rigorous and culturally responsive instructional days prior to assessments</p>	<p>Surrounding districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jefferson Co. begins <a href="#">2023-24</a> on August 15 and <a href="#">2024-25</a> on August 14</li> <li>● Aurora begins <a href="#">2023-24</a> on August 8 (August 14 for Pre-K and K)</li> <li>● Cherry Creek begins <a href="#">2023-24</a> on August 14 and <a href="#">2024-25</a> on August 12</li> </ul> <p>School boards required to approve school year of at least 1080 hours of instruction (<a href="#">C.R.S. 22-32-109</a>).</p>
<p><b>Work Calendar Aligned with DTCA Agreement</b></p>	<p>Teacher contract year is 186 days, per DCTA contract (signed August 2022).</p>
<p><b>Professional Development Days Aligned with DTCA Agreement</b></p>	<p>Teacher professional development allocation is 10.5 days, per DCTA contract (signed August 2022).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 4.5 full self-directed teacher planning days</li> <li>● 3 full professional days directed by principal or SSP Department leader</li> <li>● 3 central-offered professional learning days (1 must be Equity-focused)</li> <li>● District may scheduled professional learning days in full or half day increments</li> </ul>
<p><b>Executive Limitation 8 Established by our Board of Education</b></p>	<p>Process for input, adherence to commitments in our negotiated agreements, compliance with legal requirements for instructional time, honoring religious holidays, observation of Election Day as a district wide holiday to increase voter turnout and civic participation throughout the City and County of Denver</p>

**Explanatory notes for preparing a monitoring report**

**Non-compliance:**

N/A

