

**Policy 3234: School Calendar
Comment Log**

30 Day Public Comment Period: September 11, 2017 - October 10, 2017

Action Type
 N: No Response - Negative
 NA: Not Accepted + Positive
 A: Accepted o Neutral

Date	Individual/Organization	Comments	Action/ Type	Rationale
§126-73-5				
2017-10-06 07:43:45	Antonia vaughan Parent Clendenin Wv	Do not add time onto the school day. Do not have school longer than 180 days. School should begin after Labor Day and end by first week of June	N -	School years are bound by the employment term of 48 weeks and may commence on July 1 and end on July 30.
2017-10-08 10:54:18	Jay O'Neal Teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	In 5.4b, it states that when 30+ minutes have been added to the instructional day beyond the state required minimum, "a school has achieved sufficient instructional time to... avoid rescheduling or adding instructional days missed due to necessary school closures." Is this on a school by school basis, or a county basis? My school day (Stonewall Jackson) already runs longer than the required minimum, and therefore I think this would qualify us to not have to make up snow days. However, since not every school in the county runs this long, how do you make sure this policy is equitable across an entire county? Also, what happens if there is no inclement weather one year? For what can the extra time be used?	N-	This policy is intended to be used on a county by county basis. The extra time can only be used for up to five days for inclement weather and up to five days for professional learning for educators when students are not present.
2017-10-09 11:43:04	Kim Teacher	Have we forgotten the saying: Quality over Quantity? I've been a classroom teacher for eight years with Berkeley	N-	No response

	BCS Gerrardstown WV	County. After the third week of May the students are done. Learning is no longer taking place. They have mentally shut down. Try as educators may, by June we are simply babysitting, trying to maintain the chaos that is running rampant in the classroom. Extending the school day will be just as, if not more foolish than going to school past June 1 to reach a magic number. There is countless research that shows students attention and ability to learn are best in the morning. By 2:00 in the afternoon, the children aren paying attention. Adding more time to their day will not increase their knowledge. They have already checked out for the day. And how will this affect buses? Traffic? This has not been thought through- like always.		
2017-10-09 11:53:44	Cristen Simpson Teacher Berkeley County Schools Gerrardstown WV	As a teacher and a parent I am opposed to any policy that would lengthen the school day for our students. In my experience many of our students do not have the attention span needed for a regular day, let alone additional minutes added in. Those minutes may serve to meet a legislative requirement, but in reality they would not contribute to greater success for our children. In addition as a parent I can relate to how these changes may create scheduling nightmares for caregivers who work.	N-	This is a county by county decision and should be made with stakeholder involvement at the local level.
2017-10-09 14:10:16	Wendy Bird Teacher Berkeley County Schools Martinsburg West	Adding minutes on to a school day is not going to fix anything. Some students are on the bus for over an hour as is. Do you want to jeopardize the safety of our children by having them get home at dark in the winter. All of the efforts and work teachers put in on and above their workday is so very unappreciated.	N-	No response
§126-73-6 Employment Term				
2017-10-08 10:54:18	Jay O'Neal Teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	Employment term is defined by working days, yet the proposed changes to the school calendar have to do with minutes. How do you make sure this policy is equitable for all teachers? For example, wouldn't this mean that teachers at some schools (who have added minutes to their calendars) are doing more work (for no extra pay) than	N-	Teachers are contracted by the county in which they work for the minimum employment term, not in minutes or in hours.

		teachers who work at other schools (who have not added the extra time)?		
§126-73-7 Instructional Term				
2017-09-27 15:10:07	Andrea Hasley Teacher Martinsburg WV	With the availability of technology, schools should be able to provide instruction even in inclement weather. The current calendar, with the possibility to add days until the end of June is incredibly inconsiderate to educators. Districts expect teachers to assign work for days but those days are then made up. Its either an instructional day or its not. In addition, if 180 days is so important, why aren high school seniors expected to make up the days?	N-	High school seniors are expected to make up missed instructional days.
2017-10-09 11:43:04	Kim Teacher BCS Gerrardstown WV	Have we forgotten the saying: Quality over Quantity? Ive been a classroom teacher for eight years with Berkeley County. After the third week of May the students are done. Learning is no longer taking place. They have mentally shut down. Try as educators may, by June we are simply babysitting; trying to maintain the chaos that is running rampant in the classroom. Extending the school day will be just as, if not more foolish than going to school past June 1 to reach a magic number. There is countless research that shows students attention and ability to learn are best in the morning. By 2:00 in the afternoon, the children aren paying attention. Adding more time to their day will not increase their knowledge. They have already checked out for the day. And how will this affect buses? Traffic? This has not been thought through- like always.	N-	Repeated comment
§126-73-10 Submission of School Calendar to WVBE for Approval				
2017-10-06 07:43:45	Antonia vaughan Parent Parent Clendenin Wv	Do not add time onto the school day. Do not have school longer than 180 days. School should begin after Labor Day and end by first week of June	N-	Repeated comment