

FULL SCHOOL DAY CONTENT GUIDELINES

The Chief Education Office has created a set of guidelines to help elementary schools create an instructionally sound Full School Day schedule. The following represents the district’s best thinking about how many instructional minutes students should be engaged in the core subjects each day and week.

DAILY GUIDELINES FOR MINIMUM INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES PER SUBJECT

(Note that these are daily AVERAGES. Schools with creative schedules will likely have different distributions across days.)

Subject	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8
Literacy	120 mins	120 mins	90 mins
Math	60 mins	80 mins	80 mins
Science	40 mins	60 mins	60 mins
Social studies	30 mins	40 mins	40 mins
Arts education (music, visual arts, dance, theater)	140 mins	90 mins	120 mins
Physical education			
Intervention / Acceleration			
TOTAL	390 mins	390 mins	390 mins

WEEKLY GUIDELINES FOR MINIMUM INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES PER SUBJECT

Subject	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8
Literacy	600 mins	600 mins	450 mins
Math	300 mins	400 mins	400 mins
Science	200 mins	300 mins	300 mins
Social studies	150 mins	200 mins	200 mins
Arts education (music, visual arts, dance, theater)	700 mins	450 mins	600 mins
Physical education			
Intervention / Acceleration			
TOTAL	1950 mins	1950 mins	1950 mins

Important notes regarding the guidelines:

- Schools should schedule daily intervention time for students who are struggling in core academic subject areas. Students should be identified based on screening and diagnostic data. These students should receive appropriate academic and/or social emotional interventions during these intervention blocks.
- Schools may want to increase the amount of time students engage in specific academic subjects based on their school-wide focus. For example, if the school is focused on increasing students’ conceptual understanding of mathematics, they would want to significantly increase their students’ time on that subject.
- Schools are also encouraged to engage students in literacy and math on a daily basis as research and experience indicates that daily exposure is critical to helping students truly comprehend those subject areas.
- As always, schools are encouraged to think creatively about designing the school day. For example, schools may want to combine similar subjects into double blocks (i.e., explore math and science in a STEM block), embed literacy across all content areas, utilize project-based learning to explore concepts across several subject areas, and/or offer enrichment courses that reinforce learning in core academic areas (e.g., forensics, architecture).

For high schools, content and minute allocations should be guided by the Minimum High School Graduation Requirements policy (Board Report 06-0628-PO2).

Please note that while this is the district’s plan, it may be subject to negotiations with our labor partners.