

SENATE BILL No. 339

By Committee on Education

1-15

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring
2 school districts to provide at least 30 minutes of daily recess time for
3 students in grades kindergarten through five; designating such time as
4 part of the school term; amending K.S.A. 72-3115 and repealing the
5 existing section.

6

7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 New Section 1. For each school day that exceeds five hours in
9 duration, each school district shall provide a minimum of 30 minutes of
10 daily organized recess within the school day for all students in grades
11 kindergarten through five. Notwithstanding such minimum daily
12 requirement, school districts should provide at least 60 minutes of such
13 recess. Any such recess may be supervised by licensed or unlicensed
14 school personnel.

15 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-3115 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-
16 3115. (a) Subject to the other provisions of this section, a school term
17 during which public school shall be maintained in each school year by
18 each school district organized under the laws of this state shall consist of
19 not less than 186 school days for ~~pupils~~ *students* attending kindergarten or
20 any of the grades one through 11 and not less than 181 school days for
21 ~~pupils~~ *students* attending grade 12.

22 (b) Subject to a policy developed and adopted by the board of any
23 school district, the board may provide for a school term consisting of
24 school hours. A school term provided for in a policy adopted under this
25 subsection shall consist of: (1) For ~~pupils~~ *students* attending kindergarten,
26 not less than 465 school hours in each school year; and (2) for ~~pupils~~
27 *students* attending any of the grades one through 11, not less than 1,116
28 school hours in each school year; and (3) for ~~pupils~~ *students* attending
29 grade 12, not less than 1,086 school hours in each school year. Each board
30 of education ~~which~~ that develops and adopts a policy providing for a
31 school term in accordance with this subsection shall notify the state board
32 of education thereof on or before September 15 in each school year for
33 which the policy is to be in effect.

34 (c) Subject to a plan developed and adopted by the board of any
35 school district, the board may schedule the school days required for a
36 school term provided for under subsection (a), or the school hours required

1 for a school term provided for in a policy adopted under subsection (b), on
2 a trimestral or quarterly basis. Each board of education—~~which that~~
3 develops and adopts a plan providing for the scheduling of the school days
4 or school hours of the school term on a trimestral or quarterly basis shall
5 submit the plan to the state board of education for approval prior to
6 implementation. The plan shall be prepared in such form and manner as
7 the state board ~~shall require~~ *requires* and ~~shall be~~ submitted at a time or
8 times ~~to be~~ determined and specified by the state board.

9 (d) Subject to a policy developed and adopted by the board of any
10 district as an adjunct to the district's disciplinary policy or as a part of the
11 district's school improvement plan, the board may schedule school days in
12 addition to the school days scheduled for a school term provided for under
13 subsection (a), or school hours in addition to the school hours scheduled
14 for a school term provided for in a policy adopted under subsection (b), or
15 both such additional school days and school hours for ~~pupils~~ *students* who
16 are in need of remedial education or ~~who are~~ subject to disciplinary
17 measures imposed under the district's disciplinary policy. Any school day
18 or school hour scheduled for a ~~pupil~~ *student* under a policy adopted under
19 this subsection may be scheduled on weekends, before or after regular
20 school hours, and during the summer months. Inexcusable absence from
21 school on any school day or during any school hour by any ~~pupil~~ *student*
22 for whom additional school days or school hours have been scheduled
23 under a policy adopted under this subsection shall be counted as an
24 inexcusable absence from school for the purposes of K.S.A. 72-3121, and
25 amendments thereto.

26 (e) If the board of any school district, or its designee, shall determine
27 that inclement weather will cause hazardous driving conditions, the board,
28 or its designee, may close any or all of the schools within the district. The
29 amount of time ~~pupils~~ *students* have been in attendance when such
30 determination is made shall be considered a school day of a school term or
31 shall be considered the number of school hours for ~~pupils~~ *students* to be in
32 attendance at school in a day, whichever is applicable. Consonant with the
33 other provisions of this section, a board may schedule any number of days
34 or hours in excess of the regularly scheduled school days or school hours
35 ~~which that~~ the board determines will be necessary to compensate for those
36 school days or school hours that schools of the district will remain closed
37 during the school term due to hazardous driving conditions. If the number
38 of days or hours schools remain closed due to hazardous driving
39 conditions exceeds the number of days or hours scheduled by the board to
40 compensate for such school days or school hours, the excess number of
41 days or hours, not to exceed whichever is the lesser of: (1) The number of
42 compensatory days or hours scheduled by the board; or (2) five days or the
43 number of school hours regularly scheduled in five days, that schools

1 remain closed due to such conditions shall be considered school days or
2 school hours.

3 (f) The state board of education may waive the requirements of law
4 relating to the duration of the school term upon application for ~~such a~~
5 waiver by a school district *pursuant to subsection (e)*. Such waiver may be
6 granted by the state board of education upon: (1) Certification by a board
7 that, due to the persistence of inclement weather, hazardous driving
8 conditions have existed in the school district for an inordinate period of
9 time; and (2) a determination by the state board that the school district
10 cannot reasonably adjust its schedule to comply with statutory
11 requirements. Such waiver shall not exempt a school district from
12 providing a school offering for ~~each pupil which~~ *student that* is
13 substantially equivalent to that required by law.

14 (g) Time reserved for parent-teacher conferences for discussions on
15 the progress of ~~pupils~~ *students* may be considered part of the school term.

16 (h) Time reserved for staff development or inservice training
17 programs for the purpose of improving staff skills, developing competency
18 in new or highly specialized fields, improving instructional techniques, or
19 curriculum planning and study may be considered part of the school term
20 for an aggregate amount of time equal to the amount of time in excess of
21 the school term ~~which is~~ scheduled by a board of education for similar
22 activities.

23 (i) *The time required for organized recess pursuant to section 1, and*
24 *amendments thereto, shall be considered part of the school term.*

25 (j) Boards of education may employ noncertificated personnel to
26 supervise ~~pupils~~ *students* for noninstructional activities.

27 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 72-3115 is hereby repealed.

28 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
29 publication in the statute book.