

Board Memorandum

March 17, 2025

To: Henderson County Board of Education

From: Kasey Farmer Wolfe, DPP

Subject: Reduce Student Instructional Days from 175 to 174

In accordance with 702 KAR 7:140 and KRS 158.070 a traditional student instructional year means at least one thousand sixty-two (1,062) hours of instructional time for students is delivered in no less than one hundred seventy (170) student attendance days.

Henderson County Schools current calendar reflects 175 student (attendance) instructional days. **I am respectfully requesting that, beginning in 2025-2026 school year, the number of student instructional days be reduced by one day.**

Rationale: Professional Development Needs

Henderson County Schools is focused on a Built to Last model. Additional time for both Certified and Classified Professional Development is necessary for HCS to keep up with professional development training needs across the district in addition to the demands of current and future initiatives and growth in all content areas.

- Of the district's 32 new teachers, 18 are either alternative or emergency certified. That means that 56% of all of our first year teachers are not certified in the area in which they are teaching. It is imperative that HCS provide these teachers with stronger support and more content area training in addition to safety and classroom management.
- HCS Classified staff deserves the best training and support possible. Professional best practice dictates that classified staff should receive training in

behavior management, first aid, and safety. Currently 49.8% of HCS full time staff are classified employees. HCS does not have an in-person training day for classified staff nor do the classified staff attend school staff meetings due to their limited work hours.

Current Certified	Proposed Certified
Students: 175 instructional days CERTIFIED Teachers: 175 student instructional days 1 Opening Day 1 Closing Day 4 Professional Development Days 4 Holidays (Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day) TOTAL 185 teacher contract days	Students: 174 instructional days CERTIFIED Teachers: 174 student instructional days 1 Opening Day 1 Closing Day 5 Professional Development Days 4 Holidays (Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day) TOTAL 185 teacher contract days

Current Classified				
	181 contract days	182 contract days	183 contract days	180 contract days (Bus)
Student Days	175	175	175	175
Opening	1	1	1	0
Closing	1	1	1	0
Professional Development	0	1	2	1
Holidays	4	4	4	4
Total	181	182	183	180

Proposed Classified				
	181 contract days	182 contract days	183 contract days	180 contract days (Bus)
Student Days	174	174	174	174
Opening	1	1	1	Either 1
Closing	1	1	1	Or 1
Professional Development	1	2	3	1
Holidays	4	4	4	4
Total	181	182	183	180