

Sixtieth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1270

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, Aarsvold, Herbel, R. Kelsch

Senators Flakoll, Hacker

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-06-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to professional development days for teachers.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-06-04. School calendar - Length.**

- 7 1. During each school year, a school district shall provide for a school calendar of at  
8 least one hundred eighty days, apportioned as follows:
- 9 a. One hundred seventy-three full days of instruction;
  - 10 b. Three holidays listed in subdivisions b through j of subsection 1 of section  
11 15.1-06-02 and selected by the school board in consultation with district  
12 teachers;
  - 13 c. Up to two full days during which parent-teacher conferences are held or which  
14 are deemed by the school board to be compensatory time for parent-teacher  
15 conferences held outside regular school hours; and
  - 16 d. Two full days, or the hourly equivalent of two full days, for professional  
17 development activities that are approved by an institution of higher education.
- 18 2. a. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development  
19 activities under subsection 1, a school district may require that its teachers  
20 attend the North Dakota education association instructional conference and  
21 may pay teachers for attending the conference, provided attendance is  
22 verified.
- 23 b. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development  
24 activities under subsection 1, a school district may consider attendance at the

North Dakota education association instructional conference to be optional, elect not to pay teachers for attending the instructional conference, and instead direct any resulting savings toward providing alternate professional development opportunities.

3. A school district may not require the attendance of teachers in school or at any school-sponsored, school-directed, school-sanctioned, or school-related activities and may not schedule classroom instruction time nor alternate professional development activities on any day that conflicts with the North Dakota education association instructional conference.

4. A full day of instruction consists of:

- a. At least five and one-half hours for elementary students, during which time the students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving curricular instruction; and
- b. At least six hours for high school students, during which time the students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving curricular instruction.

5. If a school's calendar provides for an extension of each schoolday beyond the statutorily required minimum number of hours, and if the extensions when aggregated over an entire school year amount to more than eighty-four hours of additional classroom instruction during the school year, the school is exempt from having to make up six hours of instruction time lost as a result of weather-related closure. In order to make up lost classroom instruction time beyond the six hours, the school must extend its normal school calendar day by at least thirty minutes.

6. A school that does not qualify under the provisions of subsection 3 must extend its normal schoolday by at least thirty minutes to make up classroom instruction time lost as a result of weather-related closure.

7. If because of weather a school must dismiss before completing a full day of instruction, the school is responsible for making up only those hours and portions of an hour between the time of early dismissal and the conclusion of a full day of classroom instruction.