

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Senate Amendments**

Sixtieth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED 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 days for professional development activities.

17 2. a. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development  
18 activities under subsection 1, a school district may require that its teachers  
19 attend the North Dakota education association instructional conference and  
20 may pay teachers for attending the conference, provided attendance is  
21 verified.

22 b. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development  
23 activities under subsection 1, a school district may consider attendance at the  
24 North Dakota education association instructional conference to be optional,

1 elect not to pay teachers for attending the instructional conference, and  
2 instead direct any resulting savings toward providing alternate professional  
3 development opportunities.

4 c. For purposes of this section, a "day for professional development activities"  
5 means:

6 (1) Eight hours of professional development activities, exclusive of meals  
7 and other breaks, conducted within a single day; or

8 (2) Two four-hour periods of professional development activities, exclusive  
9 of meals and other breaks, conducted over two days.

10 3. If a school district offers a four-hour period of professional development activities,  
11 as permitted in subdivision c of subsection 2, the school district may schedule  
12 instruction during other available hours on that same day and be credited with  
13 providing one-half day of instruction to students. The provisions of this subsection  
14 do not apply unless the one-half day of instruction equals at least one-half of the  
15 time required for a full day of instruction, as defined in this section.

16 ~~3.~~ 4. A school district may not require the attendance of teachers in school or at any  
17 school-sponsored, school-directed, school-sanctioned, or school-related activities  
18 and may not schedule classroom instruction time nor alternate professional  
19 development activities on any day that conflicts with the North Dakota education  
20 association instructional conference.

21 ~~4.~~ 5. A full day of instruction consists of:  
22 a. At least five and one-half hours for elementary students, during which time  
23 the students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving  
24 curricular instruction; and  
25 b. At least six hours for high school students, during which time the students are  
26 required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving curricular instruction.

27 ~~5.~~ 6. If a school's calendar provides for an extension of each schoolday beyond the  
28 statutorily required minimum number of hours, and if the extensions when  
29 aggregated over an entire school year amount to more than eighty-four hours of  
30 additional classroom instruction during the school year, the school is exempt from  
31 having to make up six hours of instruction time lost as a result of weather-related

1 closure. In order to make up lost classroom instruction time beyond the six hours,  
2 the school must extend its normal school calendar day by at least thirty minutes.  
3 ~~6.~~ 7. A school that does not qualify under the provisions of subsection ~~3~~ 6 must extend  
4 its normal schoolday by at least thirty minutes to make up classroom instruction  
5 time lost as a result of weather-related closure.  
6 ~~7.~~ 8. If because of weather a school must dismiss before completing a full day of  
7 instruction, the school is responsible for making up only those hours and portions  
8 of an hour between the time of early dismissal and the conclusion of a full day of  
9 classroom instruction.