

Date: January 11, 2019

Title: 2019-20 School Calendar Submissions

The school calendar forms for the 2019-20 submission cycle are now available.

There are two forms: The *School Calendar Form – General* and the *School Calendar Form – Distributed Learning*. In accordance with the *School Act*, boards must make their proposed calendars public by February 28, 2019 and submit their calendars to the Ministry by **March 31, 2019**.

Starting this year, school district staff will submit their calendars through a new web-based submission process. This new submission process allows school district staff to access school calendar forms and completion instructions, and upload their completed school calendar forms via a web-based submission portal at: <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/education-training/school-calendar-update-application/>.

To ensure your school district meets the submission deadline, **please share this information with school district staff, including your district's calendar coordinator**. This notification is being sent *only* to Superintendents, so it is important that Superintendents share this information with school district staff.

As you may recall, the hours of instruction for the 2015-16 to 2018-19 school years were reduced to accommodate additional non-instructional time for the implementation of the new curriculum. For the 2019-20 school year, the hours of instruction are no longer reduced. As outlined in the School Calendar Regulation, boards are required to offer the following hours of instruction in the 2019-20 and subsequent school years: **853 hours for Kindergarten, 878 hours for grades 1 to 7, and 952 hours for grades 8 to 12**. For your reference, the School Calendar Regulation is available on the BC Laws website at: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/314_2012.

The Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, plans to designate one existing non-instructional day in the 2019-20 school year for the purpose of enhancing First Nations student outcomes. This non-instructional designation allows the Province to fulfill one of its commitments under the British Columbia Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA). School districts will be notified once the School Calendar Regulation has been updated to reflect this non-instructional designation.

If you have any questions about the school calendar submission process, please call Tracie Horne, Legislative Coordinator, at the Legislation, Policy and Governance Branch by telephone at (250) 387-8037 or by email at educ.schoolcalendars@gov.bc.ca.
