

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 13

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility/Certain Systems. (Local)

Sponsors: Representatives Howard and Setzer (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

January 31, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY TO LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS LOCATED IN CATAWBA COUNTY AND DAVIE COUNTY IN ADOPTING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR.

Whereas, the local boards of education for the local school administrative units located in Catawba County and Davie County should be able to schedule school opening and closing dates for any school in their respective units to coincide with the opening and closing dates of Catawba Valley Community College or Davidson County Community College; and

Whereas, school calendar flexibility would benefit all students in the local school administrative units of Catawba County and Davie County who are enrolled in classes through Catawba Valley Community College or Davidson County Community College by allowing them to align their fall and spring semesters with the fall and spring semesters at their respective community college; and

Whereas, school calendar flexibility would allow local school administrative units and community colleges in Catawba County and Davie County to meet the workforce development needs in their respective counties more effectively than the current structure by helping high school and college students develop the skills necessary for business and industry; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-84.2(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) Opening and Closing Dates. – Local boards of education shall determine the dates of opening and closing the public schools under subdivision (a)(1) of this section. ~~Except for year round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26, and the closing date for students shall be no later than the Friday closest to June 11. On a showing of good cause, the State Board of Education may waive the requirement that the opening date for students be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and may allow the local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the Monday closest to August 19, to the extent that school calendars are able to provide sufficient days to accommodate anticipated makeup days due to school closings. A local board may revise the scheduled closing date if necessary in order to comply with the minimum requirements for instructional days or instructional time. For purposes of this subsection, the term "good cause" means that schools in any local school administrative unit in a county have been closed eight days per year during any four of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations.~~



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1       ~~The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school~~  
2 ~~that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to~~  
3 ~~any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of~~  
4 ~~modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified calendar."~~

5           **SECTION 2.** This act applies only to Catawba County Schools, Davie County  
6 Schools, Hickory Public Schools, and Newton-Conover City Schools.

7           **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
8 the 2019-2020 school year.