

REFERENCE TITLE: instructional time model; posting requirement

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2373

Introduced by
Representative Diaz

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-901.08, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 15-901.08, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-901.08. School year; school month; instructional time models; requirements; funding; definition

A. Except as may be otherwise authorized by the superintendent of public instruction to accommodate a year-round school operation or as otherwise prescribed under an instructional time model adopted pursuant to this section, the school year begins July 1 and ends June 30, and a school month is twenty school days or four weeks of five days each.

B. Notwithstanding any other law, for the purposes of meeting the instructional time and instructional hours requirements prescribed in sections 15-797, 15-808 and 15-901, a school district governing board, after at least two public hearings in the school district, or a charter school governing body for one or more schools may adopt any instructional time models as prescribed in this section to meet the minimum annual instructional time and instructional hours requirements prescribed in sections 15-797, 15-808 and 15-901 for all of the following purposes:

1. Determining average daily membership.
2. Determining daily attendance.
3. Determining student count.
4. Any other purpose relating to instructional time or instructional hours prescribed in section 15-797, 15-808 or 15-901.

C. Notwithstanding any other law, all of the following apply to an instructional time model adopted by a school district governing board or charter school governing body for one or more schools pursuant to this section:

1. Students shall receive the minimum instructional time or instructional hours required under section 15-797, 15-808 or 15-901, as applicable, for the full school year in any day, week and course length increments adopted by the school district governing board or charter school governing body.

2. A school may deliver the annual required instructional time or instructional hours to students through any combination of the following:

- (a) Direct instruction.
- (b) Project-based learning.
- (c) Independent learning.
- (d) Mastery-based learning, which may be delivered in a blended classroom serving multiple grade levels or providing blended grade level content.

3. A school may define instructional time and instructional hours to include any combination of the following:

- (a) In-person instruction.
- (b) Remote instruction, subject to all of the following:

1 (i) ~~During school year 2021-2022, a school may provide up to fifty~~
 2 ~~percent of its total instructional time in a remote setting without any~~
 3 ~~impact to the school's funding. Beginning in school year 2022-2023 and~~
 4 ~~each school year thereafter,~~ A school may provide up to forty percent of
 5 its total instructional time in a remote setting without any impact to the
 6 school's funding.

7 (ii) If a school provides instructional time in a remote setting
 8 beyond the threshold prescribed in item (i) of this subdivision in any
 9 school year, the department of education shall calculate funding as
 10 prescribed in subsection D of this section.

11 (iii) The department of education shall annually provide a list of
 12 schools that provide more than the allowed instructional time in a remote
 13 setting to the state board of education. The state board of education
 14 shall determine whether the school must apply to become an online school
 15 under section 15-808.

16 (iv) The department of education shall annually provide a list of
 17 charter schools that provide more than the allowed instructional time in a
 18 remote setting to the state board for charter schools. The state board
 19 for charter schools shall determine whether the charter school must apply
 20 to become an online school under section 15-808.

21 4. A school may reallocate any minimum instructional time or
 22 instructional hours per course required under section 15-797, 15-808 or
 23 15-901 or any other statute to other courses on a per-student basis so
 24 that students are able to spend more of their required instructional time
 25 or instructional hours on courses of greater depth or courses that require
 26 additional learning time to catch up to grade level or to stay on pace.

27 5. A school may stagger learning times and schedules for students
 28 and may offer courses and other instructional time options on the weekend
 29 or in the evenings so that all students are not expected to attend or
 30 complete their school day or instructional time at the same time.

31 6. A school shall align its attendance policies to reflect the
 32 instructional time and instructional hours policies prescribed under the
 33 adopted instructional time model.

34 D. If a school provides remote instructional time beyond the
 35 threshold prescribed in subsection C, paragraph 3, subdivision (b), item
 36 (i) of this section in any school year, the department of education shall
 37 calculate funding as follows:

38 1. Calculate the total percentage of instructional time provided by
 39 the school in a remote setting.

40 2. Subtract the allowable threshold prescribed in subsection C,
 41 paragraph 3, subdivision (b), item (i) of this section from the amount
 42 calculated pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection.

1 3. Fund the percentage of the base support level equal to the
2 percentage calculated in paragraph 2 of this subsection at ninety-five
3 percent of the base support level that would otherwise be calculated for
4 the school.

5 E. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL POST ON THE DEPARTMENT'S
6 WEBSITE ALL INSTRUCTIONAL TIME MODELS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION,
7 INCLUDING THE IMPACT TO THE SCHOOL'S FUNDING, IF ANY, FOR EACH MODEL.

8 ~~E.~~ F. For the purposes of this section, "mastery-based learning"
9 means a system in which students advance to higher levels of learning when
10 they demonstrate mastery of concepts and skills regardless of time, place
11 or pace.