



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION & SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

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Date: October 10, 2023
To: Portland Public School Board
From: Dr. Cheryl Proctor, Deputy Superintendent
Subject: Required Instructional Time Exemptions

INTRODUCTION

OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time allows for school districts in Oregon to use exemptions to ensure compliance with this OAR. During the 2022-23 school year, PPS canceled school across the District for 2 full days on February 23-24 and one 2-hour late opening on February 27 due to inclement weather. Additionally, several schools had school canceled or shortened for a variety of reasons. The District added back one makeup day on June 14, 2023. As a result of some grade levels and schools being out of compliance with Required Instructional Time, staff is asking the Board to approve a resolution to utilize allowable exemptions making the district compliant with the Required Instructional Time.

RELATED POLICIES

OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time requires all school districts to ensure that at least 92% of all students in the district and at least 80% of all students at each school operated by the district are scheduled to receive annually the minimum hours of instructional time as follows:

- a. Grade 12 - 966 hours;
- b. Grades 9-11 - 990 hours; and
- c. Grades K-8 - 900 hours.

ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION

For the 2022-23 school year, all schools are in compliance with Required Instructional Time, as defined by OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time, except the following schools and grade levels:

- Bridlemile Kindergarten
- Alliance High School - Alternative High School
- Metropolitan Learning Center (MLC) Grades K-8 - Alternative School

Inclement Weather Days 2022-23

The below list of days includes any reason school was canceled during the 2022-23 school year.

Date	School	Hours
09.09.22	Skyline Odyssey - PGE power off due to heat	Full day closure
10.18.22	Ockley Green - power outage	4 hour early release
10.19.22	Jefferson	Full day closure
12.12.22	Cleveland	Early release 1 hour
12.13.22	Cleveland	Full Day School
1.24.23 - 1.25.23	Bridlemile - gas leak	Full Day Closure (2 days)
02.14.23	Chapman, Forest Park, Skyline, Ainsworth, West Sylvan, Odyssey - inclement weather	2 hour late opening
02.23.23	All schools closed. Snow day	Full Day Closure
02.24.23	All schools closed. Snow day	Full Day Closure
02.27.23	All schools 2-hour late opening. Inclement Weather	2 hour late opening
03.10.23	Franklin	full day school

Required Instructional Time 2022-23

This chart shows the approximate projected instructional hours for school that have only closed due to the inclement weather in Late February and with adding back 1 day for PK-11 and a half-day for seniors.

Grade Level(s)	Approximate projected instructional hours adding 1 makeup day for PK-11 and a half-day for seniors.	State Required Instructional Time
Kindergarten	908	900
1st - 5th Grades	922	900
6th-8th Grades	942	900
9th-11 Grades	1018-1021	990
12th Grade	974-977	966

Specific Schools that have missed additional school days for weather and other reasons and their approximate projected instructional hours where they are below or close to the State requirement:

School	Grade Level(s)	Approximate projected instructional hours adding back 1 day for grades PK-11 and a half-day for 12th grade	State Required Instructional Time
Ainsworth, Chapman, Forest Park	Kindergarten	906	900
Bridlemile	Kindergarten	898	900
Cleveland	12th Grade	969	966
Franklin	12th Grade	971	966
Jefferson	12th Grade	969	966
Odyssey and Skyline	Kindergarten	901	900

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students at Bridlemile did not meet the 900 hours because school at Bridlemile was canceled on January 24-25 due to a gas leak. Across the district, Kindergarten has three fewer instructional days as compared to all other grade levels as there are three days built into the calendar to welcome families and students to school. These three days combined with the two days missed due to the gas leak and the District-wide inclement weather days means that Bridlemile Kindergarten received less than the required 900 hours of instructional time by approximately 2 hours.

For Board Approval - Required Instructional Time Exemption 6a

In order for Portland Public Schools to be in compliance with Required Instructional Time as we report on Division 22, the Board will need to approve the following exemption for Bridlemile Kindergarten.

(6) Upon approval by the local school board, a district may include in its calculation of instructional time required by subsection (1) of this rule the following:

(a) For kindergarten program offering 900 hours or more of instructional time, up to 60 hours of recess

Alternative Schools

Alliance HS instructional program, as an alternative school, is designed to provide students with flexible time options and assesses students prior to placement per regulation. As with other alternative high schools within Multiple Pathways to Graduation, Alliance High School provides a school model which welcomes students who may work full time and/or have other family obligations, such as child care responsibilities, which does not allow them to attend school full time. Additionally, many students at Alliance are older students with few credits needed to graduate. For these reasons, by design, students in alternative schools frequently have personalized educational plans which do not include a full day of classes, and therefore, do not

complete the required 990/966 instructional hours. This was the situation for Alliance High School in the 2021-2022 school year.

Metropolitan Learning Center (MLC) uses project-based learning as a key component of MLCs program for many years and dismisses students early on Fridays to allow for the development of rich learning experiences for students. Therefore, students in grades K-8 did not meet the required 900 hours because, within the MLC K-8 schedule, there is time on Fridays without students for teachers to receive professional development on the MLC project-based curriculum.

For Board Approval - Required Instructional Time Exemption 4

In order for Portland Public Schools to be in compliance with Required Instructional Time as we report on Division 22, the Board will need to approve exemption 4 for Alliance HS and MLC:

(4) A school district may request permission to exempt an alternative education program as defined in ORS 336.615 from the requirement in subsection (1). The request must be made in writing to the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Deputy Superintendent is authorized to grant permission under this section without obtaining approval from the State Board of Education. Permission will be granted where:

- (a) The request is made with the approval of the school district's governing school board;
- (b) The school district is using an evidence-based strategy that includes flexible time options; and
- (c) The school district has implemented a system to assess students prior to placement to determine whether placement in an alternative education program is appropriate.

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

- By November 1, 2023: school district superintendents report to their local School Board the district's compliance with all Division 22 Standards, including Required Instructional Time, for the 2022-23 school year.
- PPS will provide the Division 22 Report at the October 10, 2023 Board Meeting. With approval of these exemptions, PPS will be in compliance with OAR 581-022-2320.

BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS

To make the district compliant with OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time, the Board needs to approve exemption 4 for the 2022-23 school year for alternative schools Alliance HS and Metropolitan Learning Center; and exemption 6a for Bridlemile Kindergarten;;

Should the Board choose not to support Exemption 4 and/or 6a, PPS will not be in compliance with the Division 22 Statute for Required Instructional Time

The student demographics for Alliance HS, MLC, and Bridlemile can be seen in the below tables:

School	Total Enrollment	Combined Underserved *	Combined Underserved*			
			Direct Certification	SpEd	LEP	Historically Underserved **
Bridlemile	458	35.4%	7.9%	16.6%	6.3%	16.4%
Alliance	195	70.8%	33.3%	31.8%	6.7%	50.3%
Metro. Learning Center	348	43.4%	11.2%	25.6%		20.7%
District Total	45,456	50.1%	22.6%	15.6%	9.0%	33.6%

School	Historically Underserved**					Not Historically Underserved		
	Black	Latino	Native American	Pacific Islander	Multi-Race - Other Ancestries	Asian	White	Multi-Race - Asian/White
Bridlemile	2.4%	8.5%	0.2%	0.7%	4.6%	4.4%	71.0%	8.3%
Alliance	12.8%	25.6%	2.1%		9.7%	0.5%	46.7%	2.6%
Metro. Learning Center	2.6%	11.2%	0.3%		6.6%	2.3%	71.3%	5.7%
District Total	8.3%	17.3%	0.5%	0.8%	6.7%	5.8%	55.2%	5.4%

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve exemption 4 and 6a in order to be in compliance with the Division 22 OAR regarding Required Instructional Time for the 2022-23 school year.

As a member of the PPS Executive Leadership Team, I have reviewed this staff report.

CP (Initials)