

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 396  
Mar 24, 2021  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10170-NG-56

Short Title: Address Pandemic Learning Loss/Select Systems. (Local)

Sponsors: Representative K. Baker.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ADDRESS PANDEMIC LEARNING LOSS BY TEMPORARILY ALLOWING  
3 ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR KANNAPOLIS  
4 CITY SCHOOLS AND CABARRUS COUNTY SCHOOLS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

25 SECTION 2. G.S. 115C-174.12(a)(4) reads as rewritten:

26 "(4) All annual assessments of student achievement adopted by the State Board of  
27 Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(1) and (3) and all final exams for  
28 courses shall be administered within the final 10 instructional days of the  
29 school year for year-long courses and within the final five instructional days  
30 of the semester for semester courses. Exceptions shall be permitted to  
31 accommodate a student's individualized education program and section 504  
32 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plans and for the administration of final exams for courses  
33 with national or international curricula required to be held at designated times.  
34 A local board of education that has implemented a school calendar that  
35 concludes the fall semester prior to December 31 shall be permitted to  
36 administer assessments prior to the conclusion of that semester."



1           **SECTION 3.** This act applies only to Kannapolis City Schools and Cabarrus County  
2 Schools.  
3           **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
4 the 2021-2022 school year.