

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

H.B. 257
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40140-NH-106

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility/Multiple Counties.

(Local)

Sponsors: Representative Price.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY TO CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS, CHAPEL
3 HILL-CARRBORO CITY SCHOOLS, AND ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOLS IN
4 ADOPTING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR.

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 11,~~ 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 Caswell County Schools, Chapel Hill-Carrboro
2 City Schools, and Orange County Schools.

3 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
4 the 2023-2024 school year.