

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ABINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

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SUPERINTENDENT'S  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

REGARDING: **Instructional Time  
Allocations for  
Elementary Schools**

Section: **Curriculum**

Effective Date: September 2005

Reissued: 11/07, 8/26/08, 8/22/11, 8/16/12, 8/21/15, 2/28/17, 9/1/21, 8/25/22      See Also: Related Board Policy;  
22 Pa. Code: Section 4

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Recommended instructional time allocations for subjects prescribed in Chapter 4 are provided on Attachment 1. The recommendations indicated are designed to provide teachers with the time necessary to effectively instruct the prescribed curriculum and to provide opportunity for students to achieve instructional objectives and meet the academic standards.

Instruction in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics is assigned the highest priority. The greatest amount of weekly instructional time is allocated to these program areas. Instruction in ELA and mathematics programs shall be scheduled on a **daily** basis and is to be assigned priority for instruction when special events, assembly programs, early dismissals, or other circumstances impact the normal instructional day and a revised schedule is necessary.

Chapter 4 provides latitude to school districts to organize instruction for prescribed subjects. The District guidelines for time allocations in content area instruction are presented on the basis of a weekly average. However, with the exception of English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, instruction in content area subjects is not required on a daily or weekly basis. For example, the guidelines do not require that thirty (30) minutes of science instruction be scheduled on a daily basis. A teacher might present a substantial science lesson one day followed by very short or intermittent lessons in which students monitor an experiment or collect data during an extended period. The initial lesson may require sixty (60) minutes of instruction with subsequent data collection requiring just a few minutes each day.

Several important instructional areas are not reflected on Attachment 1. Special assemblies are to be considered as part of one or more of the subjects prescribed in Chapter 4. For example, an assembly program on the Holocaust may appropriately be accounted as a part of social studies instruction.

The building principal is responsible for the supervision of the instructional program to ensure that adequate instructional time is allocated by teachers for all subjects prescribed in Chapter 4.

Attachment

## Attachment 1

### Time Allocation Guidelines for Instruction in the Elementary Curriculum

The following chart indicates instructional time allocations for subjects prescribed in Chapter 4 for each elementary grade level. The allocations are provided for weekly instruction. The total time available for weekly instruction in grades K-5 is 1600 minutes. This total is based on an instructional day that begins at 9:00 AM and concludes at 3:20 PM, less 60 minutes a day for lunch and recess.

SUBJECT	K	1	2	3	4	5
English Language Arts (ELA)	825	825	800	750	575	575
Mathematics	350	350	350	350	400	400
Social Studies	70	70	85	110	160	160
Science	75	75	85	110	185	185
Health and Safety	30	30	30	30	30	30
Art	40	40	40	40	40	40
Creative Studies	40	40	40	40	40	40
Library	40	40	40	40	40	40
General Music	40	40	40	40	40	40
Physical Education	40	40	40	40	40	40
General Instruction	50	50	50	50	50	50
TOTAL WEEKLY INSTRUCTION	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600

\*Instruction delivered in 40-minute periods each for art, creative studies, library, music, and physical education via a special content area teacher for a total of 200 minutes of instruction per week.