

STATE OF NEW YORK

3426--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 29, 2021

Introduced by Sen. ADDABBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to school session days

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 8 of section 3604 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 605 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 8. No school shall be in session on a Saturday or a legal holiday,
5 except general election day, Washington's birthday and Lincoln's birth-
6 day, and except that driver education classes may be conducted on a
7 Saturday. No school shall be in session on the day of a primary election
8 or general election. A deficiency not exceeding four days during any
9 school year caused by teachers' attendance upon conferences held by
10 superintendents of schools of city school districts or other school
11 districts employing superintendents of schools shall be excused by the
12 commissioner, notwithstanding any provision of law, rule or regulation
13 to the contrary, a school district may elect to schedule such conference
14 days in the last two weeks of August, subject to collective bargaining
15 requirements pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law, and
16 such days shall be counted towards the required one hundred eighty days
17 of session, provided however, that such scheduling shall not alter the
18 obligation of the school district to provide transportation to students
19 in non-public elementary and secondary schools or charter schools. At
20 least two such conference days during such school year shall be dedi-
21 cated to staff attendance upon conferences providing staff development
22 relating to implementation of the new high learning standards and
23 assessments, as adopted by the board of regents. Notwithstanding any
24 other provision of law, rule or regulation to the contrary, school

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 districts may elect to use one or more of such allowable conference days
2 in units of not less than one hour each to provide staff development
3 activities relating to implementation of the new high learning standards
4 and assessments. A district making such election may provide such staff
5 development on any day during which sessions are allowed and apply such
6 units to satisfy a deficiency in the length of one or more daily
7 sessions of instruction for pupils as specified in regulations of the
8 commissioner. The commissioner shall assure that such conference days
9 include appropriate school violence prevention and intervention train-
10 ing, and may require that up to one such conference day be dedicated for
11 such purpose.

12 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.