

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2004

767J0465

SENATE BILL NO. 67

Introduced by: Senators Olson (Ed), Ham-Burr, Knudson, and Symens and Representative Heineman

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require school districts to offer kindergarten and to
2 require content standards for kindergarten.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That § 13-26-2 be amended to read as follows:

5 13-26-2. The school board or governing body shall operate ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through
6 grade twelve in its schools for at least a nine-month regular term in any one school year. The
7 regular school term may be conducted on a year-round basis and shall begin on a date
8 established by the school board. The Board of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to
9 chapter 1-26 governing the operation and scheduling of year-round schools. Any school board
10 or governing body may release graduating high school seniors from school before the end of the
11 regular term if the release is for no more than three school days. Make up time for school
12 closing because of weather, disease, or emergency need not exceed ten school days. Graduating
13 seniors are excused from make up time if the make up time occurs after the students have
14 graduated or after graduation exercises have been held. If classes have been convened and then
15 are dismissed, or if classes convene at a time later in the day than normal, because of inclement



1 weather, that day constitutes a school day in session equal to the number of hours planned for
2 that day as established in the local school district calendar for the year.

3 School boards are encouraged to provide time within the regular school term for curriculum
4 and staff development which shall be in addition to the time required in this section. Each
5 school board shall determine the appropriate amount of time for this activity and how best to
6 use the time based on local needs for program development, increased parent participation,
7 student contact, teachers' preparation, or other needs of the schools in the district. School shall
8 be in session only when classes are held and as provided in §§ 13-26-4 and 13-26-4.1. A school
9 board may operate a special term during the summer months.

10 Section 2. That § 13-15-14 be amended to read as follows:

11 13-15-14. School districts entering into contractual agreements specified in § 13-15-11 or
12 13-15-1.3 are considered to be operating a school whether or not the school is located within
13 the boundary of the district. In any event, each school district, except those which have entered
14 into an approved contract under the provisions of § 13-15-11, shall operate at least an
15 instructional program for ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through grade six within the boundaries of
16 the district.

17 Section 3. That § 13-3-48 be amended to read as follows:

18 13-3-48. The secretary of the Department of Education shall prepare and submit for approval
19 of the South Dakota Board of Education academic content standards in language arts,
20 mathematics, social studies, and science for ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through grade twelve. Each
21 school district shall adopt and implement clearly defined and measurable course guidelines so
22 as to meet the state academic content standards. ~~Course guidelines for language arts and~~
23 ~~mathematics shall be adopted and implemented by July 1, 1999, and those for social studies and~~
24 ~~science shall be adopted by July 1, 2000.~~