

**A. WORK SCHEDULES**

The length of the school day for licensed and professional staff will be a minimum of eight hours and will continue until professional responsibilities to the student, school, and school district are completed. Administrative meetings, curriculum development, pupil supervision, assigned duties, parent conferences, group or individual planning and extracurricular activities, professional development, tutoring, assisting students with assignments, and providing extra help may require hours beyond the stated minimum. Work schedules for other employees will be defined by the superintendent or designee, consistent with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the provisions of this policy.

**B. WORKWEEK DEFINED**

Working hours for all employees not exempted under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), including instructional assistants, secretarial, cafeteria, janitorial and maintenance personnel, will conform to federal and state regulations. The superintendent shall ensure that job positions are classified as exempt or non-exempt and that employees are made aware of such classifications. Supervisors will make every effort to avoid circumstances which require non-exempt employees to work more than 40 hours each week. Employees not exempted under the Fair Labor Standards Act may be granted compensatory time off in lieu of overtime pay for time worked in excess of 40 hours in any workweek. For purposes of Fair Labor Standards Act compliance, the workweek for school district employees will be 12:00 a.m. Saturday until 11:59 p.m. Friday. A copy of the Fair Labor Standards Act and any administrative procedures established by the superintendent will be available to employees in the human resources office.

**C. OVERTIME AND COMPENSATORY TIME**

The board of education discourages overtime work by non-exempt employees. A non-exempt employee may not work overtime without the express prior approval of his or her supervisor. All overtime work must be approved by the superintendent or designee. All supervisory personnel shall monitor overtime use on a monthly basis and report such use to the superintendent or designee. Principals and supervisors shall monitor employees' work, shall ensure that overtime provisions of this policy and the FLSA are followed, and shall ensure that all employees are compensated for any overtime worked. Principals or supervisors may need to adjust daily schedules to prevent non-exempt employees from working more than 40 hours in a workweek. Accurate and complete timesheets of actual hours worked during the workweek must be signed by each employee and submitted to their supervisor. The finance officer shall review work records of employees on a regular basis to make an assessment of overtime use.

In lieu of overtime compensation, non-exempt employees may receive compensatory time off at a rate of not less than one and one-half hours for each one hour of overtime worked, if such compensatory time (1) is agreed to by the employee before the overtime work is performed and (2) is authorized by the immediate supervisor. Employees must be allowed to use compensatory time within a reasonable period after requesting such use (see policy 7510, Leave). Once an employee reaches a comp-time balance of 40 hours, their supervisor must meet with the finance officer to develop a plan to reduce the comp-time balance. Employees may accrue a maximum of 240 compensatory time hours before they must be provided overtime pay at the appropriate rate. In addition, upon leaving the school system, an employee must be paid for any unused compensatory time at the rate of not less than the higher of (1) the average regular rate received by the employee during his or her last three years of employment or (2) the final regular rate received by the employee.

Non-exempt employees whose workweek is less than 40 hours will be paid at the regular rate of pay for time worked up to 40 hours. Such employees will be provided overtime pay or compensatory time as provided above for working more than 40 hours in a workweek.

Employees will be provided a copy of this policy and will be required to sign this policy to acknowledge their understanding of overtime and compensatory time provisions. Such signed policy will constitute the agreement required in this section.

**D. ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS**

All employees are expected to be present during all working hours. It is expected that all employees will notify their immediate supervisor on days when they will be absent or tardy. Absence without prior approval, chronic absences, habitual tardiness or abuses of designated working hours are all considered neglect of duty and will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Legal References: The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 201, *et seq.*; G.S. 115C-47(18), -288, -307; *North Carolina Public School Personnel Employee Salary and Benefits Manual (most current version)*, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Division of School Business, available at <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/financial-and-business-services/compensation-public-school-employees>

Cross References: Leave (policy 7510)

Adopted: May 14, 1998 to become effective July 1, 1998

Revised: April 8, 1999; December 11, 2003, April, 15, 2010, June 14, 2012, May 12, 2016, September 10, 2020