

School Operations
George M. Koonce, Jr., Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: PROPOSED OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS OF SCHOOL – JUNE 9, 10, AND 11, 2003

COMMITTEE: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Pursuant to Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.03, Instruction – Elementary and Secondary, the Superintendent of Schools is required to report changes in opening and closing hours of school to the Board in open session sixty (60) days prior to the effective date, except in unusual circumstances.

On June 9, 10, and 11, 2003, elementary schools will be dismissed at the conclusion of a five hour and 15 minute day; middle schools will be dismissed at the conclusion of a five hour and 30 minute day; and senior high schools will be dismissed at the conclusion of a four hour and 30 minute day. This schedule allows secondary schools to establish a minimum of two two-hour examination periods each day, with the students being released at the conclusion of the second testing period.

LEVEL	NORMAL SCHOOL DAY	LAST THREE DAYS OF SCHOOL
Elementary School K-1 2-5/6	8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. 8:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Middle School	9:00 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.	9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Senior High School	7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

This early dismissal is permissible under Section 228.041(13) School Day, Florida Statute.

This schedule does not apply to Charles R. Drew, Opa-locka, Toussaint Louverture, North Miami, Henry E. S. Reeves elementary schools, and the Juvenile Justice Center, which are operating on the extended school year calendar.

Since there are only two days scheduled for post-school planning activities, the reduced school day for both elementary and secondary schools provides additional time for teachers to prepare for the closing of school, such as grading examinations, posting and averaging grades, and reviewing promotion requirements.

All early dismissal times have been reviewed by personnel from the Department of Transportation. In order to ensure maximum security for students and minimum disruption to the families, school personnel will be requested to take administrative action to inform all appropriate parties concerning this modification of the closing hours of schools on the aforementioned dates, such as parents, the private bus companies serving the student body, after-school care programs, and any other agencies or individuals who provide services to students.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. approve for June 9, 10, and 11, 2003, a reduction of the school day in all elementary schools to five hours and 15 minutes; in all middle schools to five hours and 30 minutes; and in all senior high schools to four hours and 30 minutes, except at Charles R. Drew, Opa-locka, Toussaint Louverture, North Miami, Henry E. S. Reeves elementary schools and the Juvenile Justice Center, which are operating on the extended school year calendar; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to make any special adjustments necessary due to unique circumstances in particular schools.

GMK:jr