

**RESOLUTION UNDER 24 P.S. §5-520.1  
Bucks County Intermediate Unit Board of School Directors  
August 18, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the current outbreak of COVID-19 a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has determined that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes an “emergency” within the meaning of Section 520.1 of the Public School Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (“the PDE”) has published guidance entitled *Instructional Days/Hour During the 2020-2021 School Year, Implications Related to COVID-19* (“the PDE Guidance”); and

**WHEREAS**, the PDE Guidance provides, in part, that it “considers the World Health Organization-declared Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) global pandemic an emergency as contemplated by section 520.1,” 24 P.S. §5-520.1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Bucks IU) Board of School Directors has determined that the risks COVID-19 presents to our students, faculty, and community requires an extraordinary response;

**NOW THEREFORE, let it be it resolved, that:**

1. The Bucks IU Board of School Directors (“Board”) finds and declares that the COVID-19 pandemic is an emergency within the meaning of Section 520.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code.
2. For the duration of said pandemic but in no event for any period exceeding four years, the Bucks IU Executive Director shall have the duty and the authority to develop a Health and Safety plan in a form and manner prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education that ensures a minimum of 180 days of instruction, allowing for a minimum of 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours of instruction at the

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secondary level, employing any combination of in-person, virtual, and distance learning as the Executive Director seems appropriate to address the health and safety of students, faculty, and community, and the learning needs of students.

3. Such instruction shall comply in full with the requirements of Chapter 4 of the regulations of the State Board of Education and with the curriculum standards published in accordance therewith. Any instructional time spent in a remote learning environment must include a system that accurately tracks out of school instructional time similar to attendance in the school building. All such instruction shall be under the direction of a certified school employee, unless otherwise permitted (e.g., 24 P.S. § 17-1724-A).

4. The Executive Director or his/her designee shall prepare and submit the following to the Secretary of Education (Secretary) for approval: (1) board meeting minutes demonstrating approval of the temporary provisions, and (2) the temporary provisions adopted, including the school entity's proposed calendar and proposed academic schedule. Such information shall be submitted with or as an amended component of the school entity's Health and Safety Plan.

5. The Board understands that upon receipt, the Secretary will review all documentation to ensure board approval and that the school entity's plan accounts for at least 180 days and 990/900 hours of instruction.

**APPROVED** on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020, by the Bucks County IU Board of School Directors.



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John D'Angelo  
President, Bucks IU Board of School Directors

Date: 8/18/2020



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ATTEST: Beth Bittenmaster  
Secretary, Bucks IU Board of School Directors

Date: 8/18/2020