

Action Item - 41

Board of Education Meeting Date: 5/29/2025

Title: Authorization for Flexible Instructional Day Program

Action under consideration:

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve The School District of Philadelphia Flexible Instructional Day Program that has been prepared and is recommended by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, as attached and as follows:

Purpose: Development and Implementation of an approved Flexible Instructional Day program

Start Date: 6/1/2025

End Date: 6/30/2028

Locations: All Schools

Description:

Section 1506 (24 P.S. §15-1506) of the Pennsylvania Public School Code (School Code) enables public school entities the opportunity to develop a Flexible Instructional Day (FID) program to meet the 180 instructional day requirement of Section 1501 of the School Code (24 P.S. §15-1501). A FID program may be online, offline, or a combination of the two.

While public school entities are expected to build make-up days into their local school calendars, FID programs can support the public school entities in cases when circumstances prevent the delivery of instruction in its customary manner or location for any of the following reasons: an epidemic, a hazardous weather condition, a law enforcement emergency, the inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the public school entity's operation, damage to a school building, or a temporary circumstance rendering any portion of a school building unfit or unsafe for use.

The District has elected to apply for approval to institute an FID program and has developed a program that meets the assurances outlined in the application. Instituting an FID program is important for the reason that, in a circumstance that may require the closure of one or more buildings due to inclement weather, facility concerns, or health concerns, the District can continue the instructional program. The Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) approval will allow the District to count emergency closures as instructional days when students are actively engaged in the virtual

instructional program. The FID application must be approved by the Board of Education prior to acceptance by PDE.

Office Originating Request:
School Performance