

Scott Districts 1 and 2 add one hour to schools' schedules to make up days

Written by Marty Randall

Wednesday, 26 February 2014 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 26 February 2014 09:36

Officials of both Scott County school districts decided by Wednesday, February 19, that their schools would add an hour to classroom days starting this past Monday, February 24.

The announcements were sent home with students as well as via Facebook and telephone so that parents would know at least a few days in advance that schedules were changing.

District 2's school board voted 4-0 on Tuesday, February 18, for the change. District 1's school board meeting had originally been scheduled for Monday night, February 17, but it was postponed until Wednesday night, February 19, because of the Austin High School Lady Eagles playing in a delayed sectional championship game on February 17 in far-off Milan.

All of the District 1 board members attending voted to adopt the change.

In District 2, the longer schedule remains in effect until April 11. District 2 has already added a few days onto the end of its schedule, making the last day for students to attend classes on Friday, June 6. Graduation day for the Class of 2014 has been changed to Friday, June 13.

Hours at individual schools are now:

- Johnson Elementary, 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

- Lexington Elementary, 7:55 a.m. to 4:10 p.m.

- Scottsburg Elementary, 8:10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

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- Vienna-Finley Elementary, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Scottsburg Middle School, 8:05 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.

- Scottsburg High School, 8:05 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.

District 1's plan calls for all students to observe the longer schedule through Wednesday, April 30, thus eliminating any extra days at the end of the school year. Students will be going to classes on May 2 and 5 and very probably on May 6, Primary Election Day. The County Election Board must approve changes necessary to let students attend on May 6. Those changes may call for a couple of Jennings Township precinct sites to be moved from Austin High School.

Hours for Austin's kindergarten and elementary students are now 8:20 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Hours for middle and high school students are from 8:17 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Spring sports schedules are being changed to accommodate the longer school days.

The District 1 spring break of March 24 to 28 remains intact. Austin students will not attend school on April 18, Good Friday. On that evening, the high school's annual Sunshine Society dance is scheduled to take place, and that day will be needed by many to prepare for the event.

The AHS Class of 2014 will graduate on the previously scheduled date of Friday, May 23, under the new plan.

Any further cancellation of classes because of weather or other reasons will cause each school superintendent and board to once again look at their calendars and adjust them accordingly. District 2 Superintendent Marc Slaton said such cancellations would probably mean adding

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more days onto the calendar at the end of the school year.

Grace Christian Academy, a private school in Scottsburg, has already started a new class schedule as well. Students began going an extra half-hour a day on February 17.

Crothersville Community Schools also began a longer school day schedule on February 17. Starting time for all schools in that system is 8 a.m., with all students being dismissed at 4 p.m. tentatively through Monday, April 14.