

Memo

Intradistrict

To: Board Members, Rick Chandler

From: Jonathan Phipps, superintendent

Through:

Subject: Recommendation to waive half-day students missed because of eclipse

Date: May 15, 2018

Attached is the memo from your June 27, 2018, board meeting recommending you approve changing Aug. 21 to half-day for students and May 24 to a full-day for students.

I recommend the board approve waiving the half-day so that Thursday, May 24, can be rescheduled as a half-day.

We took the eclipse half-day because of concerns about buses on roads during the eclipse and concerns that students might accidentally look at the sun.

The S.C. Code of Laws §59-1-425 ([click here to see the bill](#)) states that all districts must set aside three days in the annual academic calendar to be used as make-up days and that the first three days missed due to snow, extreme weather or other disruptions, must be made up.

The law also states that if more than three days are missed, the local school board of trustees, by a majority vote, may waive no more than three days.

We have met those requirements, so asking for a waiver is now possible.

Obviously, people were not adequately reminded that May 24 would be a regular school day, and promotion and award ceremonies have been scheduled for Thursday.

These events will be difficult to prepare for and hold if students are in school.

Your waiving the half-day make-up will help us avoid negatively affecting these and other activities scheduled for Thursday.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.