

(b) (1) If a county board submits a written application to the State Board that describes a demonstrated effort by the county board to comply with subsection (a) of this section, the State Board may permit:

- (i) Adjustments in the length of the school year;
- (ii) Exceptions from the requirement that the school year be completed within a 10-month period;
- (iii) Adjustments in the length of the school day; and
- (iv) Schools to be open on holidays.

(2) These adjustments may be granted only if normal school attendance is prevented because of:

- (i) Natural disaster;
- (ii) Civil disaster; or
- (iii) Severe weather conditions.

(3) Education funding from State or local sources may not be reduced if there are less than 180 school days in any year because of an approved application under this subsection.

(4) In case of emergency, the State Board may open schools on holidays.

(c) (1) The following days are public school holidays:

- (i) Thanksgiving Day and the day after;
- (ii) Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;
- (iii) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;
- (iv) Presidents' Day;
- (v) The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday after Easter;
- (vi) Memorial Day; and
- (vii) Primary and general election days.

(2) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different days, the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the date of observance for the public schools within the county.

(3) The public schools shall devote a part of the day to appropriate exercises for the following days:

- (i) Washington's Birthday;
- (ii) Lincoln's Birthday;