Section 8-3.4. Standard school day for grades K through 12; daily recess required for elementary grades; secondary class schedule; time for opening and closing school set by School Board. — A. The standard school day for students in grades K through 12 will average at least 5 ½ hours, excluding breaks for meals. All students in grades K through 12 will maintain a full day schedule of classes (5 ½ hours), unless a waiver is granted in accordance with School Board policies.

B. The secondary school class schedule shall contain a minimum of 140 clock hours for each unit of credit. When credit is awarded in less than whole units, the increment awarded must be no greater than the fractional part of the 140 hours of instruction provided.

C. The time for opening and closing schools will be established by the School Board upon recommendation of the superintendent, provided that the daily program for students in grade 1 through 12 will average 5 ½ hours, excluding breaks for meals. If the required program length is maintained, the School Board may approve occasional shortened days for staff development, conferences, planning and other activities designed to improve the instructional program, provided that no more than one day in each five-day week may be shortened to no less than four hours. (Adopted August 21, 2008, Ordinance Number 08/09-10; Effective: August 21, 2008)

Legal Authority – Virginia Code § 22.1-79(5), (1950), as amended.