

## ICCSD Instructional Time – Elementary Grades

*Chapter 12, General Accreditation Standards* from the *Iowa Administrative Code* and *School Rules of Iowa*, published by the Iowa Department of Education, defines the educational programs mandated in the State of Iowa. For elementary programs, grades 1-6 the following shall be taught: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, human growth and development, physical education, traffic safety, music, and visual arts. Kindergarten shall include experiences designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits and growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and protect and increase physical well-being with attention given to experiences relating to the development of life skills and human growth and development.

There are no state mandates about the amount of time students are to be instructed in particular curricular areas. The amount of time allocated to instructional areas is a local education agency decision.

Students at the elementary grades attend school for 2040 minutes per week. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:55 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. equals 7 hours or 420 minutes per day – a total of 1680 minutes; Thursday from 7:55 a.m. to 1:55 p.m. equals 6 hours or 360 minutes per day.

By negotiated agreement, teachers have 243 minutes per week of planning time. Planning time for the classroom teacher comes from time in which students are being instructed by “specials” teachers (art, music, pe, other).

The following chart identifies the average numbers of minutes engaged in instruction on a weekly basis.

	<b>K</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>
<b><i>Lang Arts</i></b>	602	600	600	600	600	600	600
<b><i>LA Intervention</i></b>	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
<b><i>Math</i></b>	375	375	375	375	375	375	375
<b><i>Math Intervention</i></b>	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
<b><i>Science/Health/Social Studies</i></b>	205	195	195	195	255	330	330
Science/Health/Social Studies time is generally reserved for hands on or inquiry based learning. Reading and writing about Science, Health and Social Studies can occur during language arts time.							
<b><i>Art</i></b>	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
<b><i>Music</i></b>	81	81	81	81	81	54	54
<b><i>PE</i></b>	54	81	81	81	81	108	108
<b><i>Library</i></b>	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
<b><i>Literacy Special</i></b>	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Guidance</i></b>	15	27	27	27	27	27	27
<b><i>Recess</i></b>	235	235	235	235	175	100	100
<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2040</b>

## **Academic Instructional Time**

### **Language Arts**

Instruction occurs on an everyday basis.

### **Mathematics**

Instruction occurs on an everyday basis.

### **Intervention Block**

Instruction occurs for students identified according to the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework that need additional time for remediation or enrichment.

### **Science/Health/Social Studies**

Minutes for these three areas have been combined to allow teachers flexibility in the delivery of the content. Teachers may elect to teach each subject every day, alternate subjects daily, or alternate subjects by unit. An example of the latter might be, in a 12 week trimester, to teach a science unit for five to six weeks, a social studies unit for five to six weeks, and a health unit for one to two weeks.

The specific time allotted to these subjects is intended to engage students in hands on, discovery, or inquiry based learning. Teachers are encouraged to utilize Language Arts time to engage students in reading and writing about science, health, and social studies topics to enhance student understanding of content in these areas while also teaching critical language arts skills.

Health instruction can also be incorporated into science, social studies, physical education, and or guidance. Instructional programs and outcomes for health have been adopted and designated at certain grade levels. Instructors of the health content may be classroom teachers, counselors, and or physical education teachers (or a combination of instructors).

### **Art**

Instruction occurs one time a week for a 54 minute time block.

### **Music**

Instruction occurs two or three times a week (depending on the grade level) in 27 minute time blocks.

### **Physical Education**

Instruction occurs two, three or four times a week (depending on the grade level) in 27 minute time blocks. Instruction related to physical health, wellness, nutrition or traffic safety may be considered part of this time allocation.

### **Library**

Instruction occurs one time a week for a 27 minute time block. Media specialists also plan with teachers to provide additional instruction as needed in the lower grades. Kindergarten receives an additional Literacy special once a week to be arranged at the building level and to be focused on literacy skills.

## **Guidance**

Instruction occurs in 27 minute sessions every week throughout the year in grades 1-6. Instruction occurs in 15 minute sessions once a week for kindergarten. School Counselor instruction may be integrated into language arts, social studies or other disciplines where a connection may be made. Instruction related to physical health, social-emotional health, mental health, bullying, substance abuse, or family life may be considered part of this time allocation.

## **Non Academic Time**

### **Recess (physical activity)**

Grades K – 3            47 minutes daily; weekly total of 235 minutes

Grade 4                35 minutes daily; weekly total 175 minutes

Grade 5 and 6        20 minutes daily; weekly total 100 minutes

The *Healthy Kids Act* requires a minimum of 30 minutes per day of physical activity for students in grades K-5 and 120 per week for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The physical activity can be in the form of physical education class, recess or a combination of the two.

### **Lunch**

Students have 25 minutes of actual eating time for lunch daily.

**CORE & SUPPLEMENTAL BLOCKS of TIME**

*min per day*

***LANGUAGE ARTS***

<b>144</b>	TOTAL
120	Core Instruction – Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, Comprehension, Writing, Listening and Speaking (whole group and small groups with differentiated instruction as needed)
24	Targeted & Intensive Instruction - small groups; remediation and enrichment

*min per day*

***MATH***

<b>99</b>	TOTAL
75	Core Instruction - whole group and small groups with differentiated instruction as needed
24	Targeted & Intensive Instruction - small groups; remediation and enrichment

<i>minutes per day</i>	<b>K</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>
<i>Language Arts</i>	146	144	144	144	144	144	144
<i>Math</i>	99	99	99	99	99	99	99