

No. 373

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," changing provisions relating to the keeping open of schools.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Public School
Code of 1949.

Section 1. Sections 503 and 1501, act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30), known as the "Public School Code of 1949," are amended to read:

Sections 503 and
1501, act of
March 10, 1949,
P. L. 30,
amended.

Section 503. *Kindergartens.*—The board of school directors in any school district may establish and maintain kindergartens for children between the ages of four and six years. When established, the kindergartens shall be an integral part of the elementary school system of the district, *and be kept open for not less than two and one-half hours each day for the full school term as provided in section 1501.*

The number of kindergartens in any one district shall be fixed by the board of school directors, and shall be open during the school year.

If the average attendance in any one kindergarten in any district is ten or less for the school year, the school directors shall, at the close of the school year, discontinue the same.

The board of school directors shall appoint and assign a sufficient number of teachers to such kindergartens, who shall be certified in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the State Council of Education.

Section 1501. *Minimum Number of Days; School Month.*—All public *kindergartens*, elementary and secondary schools shall be kept open each *school year* for at least one hundred eighty (180) *days of instruction for pupils. No days on which the schools are closed shall be counted as days taught, and no time shall be counted as a pupil session for any activity to which admission is charged.* Unless otherwise provided by this act, the board of school directors in any district or *joint board* may keep such other schools or departments as it may establish open during such time as it may direct.

Twenty days of actual teaching shall constitute a school month.

APPROVED—The 21st day of September, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE