

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
425 Fifth Avenue North  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0497

July 16, 2001

Opinion No. 01-113

Teacher Retirement: Beginning and ending dates for school year

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**QUESTION**

What are the beginning and ending dates of the school year for purposes of teacher retirement?

**OPINION**

These dates are established independently by each school district.

**ANALYSIS**

The beginning and ending dates of the school year for purposes of teacher retirement are the same as the beginning and ending dates of the school year as established by each school system. The law provides that each public school system must maintain a school year of not less than 200 days, including 180 days for classroom instruction, 5 days for in-service education, etc. Within these parameters the school board in each school system establishes its own dates of operation.<sup>1</sup>

When a teacher completes the 200 days established by the teacher's school district the state retirement offices treats that as completing a full calendar year, and retirement credit is calculated accordingly.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004.

<sup>2</sup> Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-34-603(b). The Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System is operated by the Treasury Department, and the office is located in the Andrew Jackson State Office Building in downtown Nashville. Individual members of the retirement system, including teachers in local school systems, may contact this office to inquire about their individual accounts by calling 615-741-1971.

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Requested by:

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