



INSTRUCTION: Schedules

School Calendar

I. Policy Statement

- A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) shall develop and adopt a school calendar each year. The school calendar shall be consistent with applicable law and shall include federal and state holidays required by law to be observed by Maryland public schools.
- B. The Board will consider feedback from the community and staff in the development of the school calendar.

II. Definitions

- A. *School Holiday* – A holiday that is recognized by state law as a public school holiday.
- B. *Religious Holiday* – A day or days noted on the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) student testing calendar when state primary test administrations cannot be scheduled.

III. Standards

- A. The school calendar supports the effective delivery of the instructional program, adheres to legal requirements for both days and hours of instructional time and reflects school closings that are required by law.
- B. The calendar shall include more than the minimum days required by law in order to anticipate emergency closings and late openings for inclement weather or other system-wide emergencies.
- C. The school calendar must observe mandated federal, state and Board-approved assessments.
- D. No testing or assessments should be scheduled on a religious holiday, unless doing so would conflict with state or federal assessment requirements.

IV. Implementation

The Board directs the Superintendent to implement this policy.

Legal References: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §7-103, *Required School Days and Holidays*
COMAR 13A.02.01.04, *Length of the School Year*
COMAR 13A.03.02.12(A), *Length of School Year*

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 6304, *Commemorations and Observances*
Board of Education Policy 6500, *Research and Assessment*

Policy

Board of Education of Baltimore County

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