



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

DATE: February 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Request from the Garrett County Public Schools for a Calendar Modification

PURPOSE:

To consider the conditional waiver request to open school on the Monday after Easter as an inclement weather make-up day for Garrett County Public Schools for the 2018-2019 school year.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Education Article §7-103 requires schools to be open for student attendance for 180 days and closed on the following public school holidays: Thanksgiving Day and the day after; Christmas Eve and from then through January 1; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Presidents' Day; the Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday after Easter; Memorial Day; and primary and general election days. Subsection (b) (iv) provides the State Board the authority to permit schools to open on holidays if normal school attendance is prevented because of natural disaster, civil disaster, or severe weather conditions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As of February 14, 2019, Garrett County Public Schools have been closed seven (7) days (November 15, 16, 28, 2018, January 23, 31, February 1, and 12, 2019) due to inclement weather. Garrett County Public Schools has identified ten (10) inclement weather recovery days in their 2018-2019 School Calendar. The designated inclement weather recovery days built into the calendar are Presidents' Day, February 18, the Monday after Easter, April 22, and May 31 through June 11, 2019. The request submitted by Garrett County Public Schools on February 14, 2019 asks for a conditional waiver to use April 22, 2019, the Monday after Easter, if needed, as a snow make-up day. The waiver has been requested to allow Garrett County Public Schools the opportunity to make a calendar modification and recover instructional time prior to state and national assessments.

ACTION:

It is being requested that the Maryland State Board of Education approve the conditional waiver to open school on April 22, 2019, the Monday after Easter, for Garrett County Public Schools as a snow make-up day, if needed, for the 2018-2019 school year.

Attachment: Waiver Request from Garrett County Public Schools.



40 South Second Street • Oakland, Maryland 21550
Telephone: 301-334-8900 • <http://www.garrettcountryschools.org>

February 14, 2019

Dr. Karen Salmon
Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Dr. Salmon,

On behalf of the Garrett County Board of Education, and in accordance with Education Article 7-103, Annotated Code of Maryland, I respectfully request a conditional waiver for Garrett County Public Schools to be open for an instructional day on Monday, April 22, 2019.

The Garrett County Public Schools 2018-19 academic calendar includes ten (10) make-up days. To date, Garrett County Public Schools has closed schools for inclement weather on seven (7) days, November 15, 16, 28, January 23, 31, and February 1, 12, 2019. The first day of the inclement weather recovery plan includes a make-up day, February 18, 2019 (President's Day), as approved by the Maryland State Board of Education on January 22, 2019. The academic calendar also includes another built-in recovery date, April 22, 2019 (Easter Monday). The eight (8) days for inclement weather recovery dates are found at the end of the school year and include May 31, 2019 through June 11, 2019.

At the February 12, 2019 Garrett County Board of Education Meeting, the Board approved Monday, April 22, 2019, as a possible make-up day due to the number of inclement weather closings and possible additional inclement weather closings.

An approved Easter Monday opening provides an opportunity to make a calendar modification and recover instructional time prior to state assessments and national assessments such as AP exams. These days are beneficial for our students and teachers.

On behalf of the Garrett County Board of Education, I am respectfully requesting your consideration to open schools on Monday, April 22, 2019. Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of the students attending Maryland Public Schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Barbara L. Baker
Superintendent

cc: Garrett County Board of Education

Enclosures: GCPS 2018-2019 Calendar GCPS Weather Related School Closings 2018-19
Inclement Weather Recovery Plan Form

Members of the Board of Education

Mr. Matthew A. Paugh, President
Mr. M. Thomas Woods, Vice-President
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Mrs. Monica L. Rinker, Associate Member
Mrs. Charlotte A. Sebold, Associate Member
Ms. Katherine J. Catulle, Student Board Member

Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Barbara L. Baker



2018-2019 Calendar At A Glance

AUGUST

TBD New Teacher Orientation
TBD Administrators & Supervisors Retreat
21 Teacher Workday
22-24 Staff Development/Professional Days
27 First Student Day (Three-hour early dismissal for students)

SEPTEMBER

3 Labor Day (Schools Closed)
18 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)

OCTOBER

11 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
12 Autumn Glory (Schools Closed)

NOVEMBER

5 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Schools Closed)
6 Election Day (Schools Closed)
21 Three-hour early dismissal for students
22-23 Thanksgiving Break (Schools Closed)

DECEMBER

5 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
21 Three-hour early dismissal for students
24-31 Winter Break (Schools Closed)

JANUARY

1 Winter Break (Schools Closed)
2 Schools Reopen
9 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
17 Professional Day (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
The 91st day of the school year will "float" in the event of inclement weather. If school is delayed/closed on this day, the make-up day will be the next full day.
21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Schools Closed)

FEBRUARY

15 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
18 President's Day (Schools Closed)*

MARCH

14 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
29 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Schools Closed)

APRIL

19 Good Friday (Schools Closed)
22 Easter Monday (Schools Closed)*
30 Staff Development (Three-hour early dismissal for students)

MAY

27 Memorial Day (Schools Closed)
29 Three-hour early dismissal for students
30 Last Day of School (Three-hour early dismissal for students)
31 Professional Day (Last day for teachers)

JUNE

1 High School Graduation

Make Up Days (Make-up days are tentative and will be determined by the Board of Education.)

Reminder: Potential inclement weather makeup dates are marked with numbered snowflakes throughout the school year. These dates are used in numerical order, beginning with February 18, 2019. Inclement weather days/emergency system wide closings cannot be predicted. It is recommended that vacations not be scheduled until after June 15 to avoid scheduling conflicts.

Feb 18 Apr 22 May 31 June 3 June 4 June 5 June 6 June 7 June 10 June 11





Inclement Weather Recovery Plan

School System Garrett County Public Schools

Date(s) of Closure 11/15/18; 11/16/18; 11/28/18, 1/22/19, 1/31/19, and 2/1/19, 2/12/19.

Inclement Weather Recovery Plan:

Using existing scheduled inclement weather days in calendar.

6/3/18; and 6/4/18. Please see the attached document GCPS Weather Related School Delays, Early Dismissals and Closings for 2018-2019 School Year.

Extending school year past June 15. If so, please indicate date(s) _____

Converting scheduled day(s) off into an instructional day. If so, please indicate date(s) _____

Waiver request to open school on a holiday. If so, please indicate date(s) At the January Board meeting, GCPS was granted a conditional waiver to use February 18, 2019 President's Day as a make-up day. GCPS is now requesting to use April 22, 2019 (Easter Monday) as another make-up day.

Waiver request of the 180-day student instructional requirement.

Other: GCPS was approved to begin school prior to Labor Day. August 27, 2018 was the first day for students in GCPS.

Please submit form to Teresa Dantzler, Ombudsman, within ten days of reopening at: teresa.dantzler1@maryland.gov.

GCPS Weather Related School Delays, Early Dismissals and Closings School Year 2018-19

Inclement Weather Date	Hour Delays	Early Dismissals	School Closings	Make-Up Day*
9/10/2018	2 hour delay			
11/15/2018			Closed	February 18, 2019*
11/16/2018			Closed	May 31, 2019
11/28/2018			Closed	June 3, 2019
1/10/2019	2 hour delay			
1/11/2019	2 hour delay			
1/14/2019	2 hour delay			
1/22/2019			Closed	June 4, 2019
1/23/2019	2 hour delay			
1/30/2019		3 hour early dismissal		
1/31/2019			Closed	June 5, 2019
2/1/2019			Closed	June 6, 2019
2/11/2019	2 hour delay			
2/12/2019			Closed	June 7, 2019
2/13/2019	2 hour delay**			
Total	14 hours	3 hours	7 Inclement Weather Days	7 Make-Up Days

*Maryland State Board of Education approved Presidents' Day as a makeup day at their January 22, 2019 Board Meeting

**On February 13, 2019, the school system was under a 2 hour delay, with the exception of Route 40 and Crellin Elementary Schools, which were closed due to power outages.

Code Orange: Thursday, November 15, 2018
 Friday, November 16, 2018
 Thursday, January 10, 2019
 Tuesday, January 22, 2019
 Thursday, January 31, 2019
 Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Code Red: Friday, February 1, 2019



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

DATE: February 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Request from the Allegany County Public Schools for a Calendar Modification-
Addendum #1

PURPOSE:

To consider the waiver request to open school on the Monday after Easter as an inclement weather make-up day for Allegany County Public Schools for the 2018-2019 school year.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Education Article §7-103 requires schools to be open for student attendance for 180 days and closed on the following public school holidays: Thanksgiving Day and the day after; Christmas Eve and from then through January 1; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Presidents' Day; the Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday after Easter; Memorial Day; and primary and general election days. Subsection (b) (iv) provides the State Board the authority to permit schools to open on holidays if normal school attendance is prevented because of natural disaster, civil disaster, or severe weather conditions.

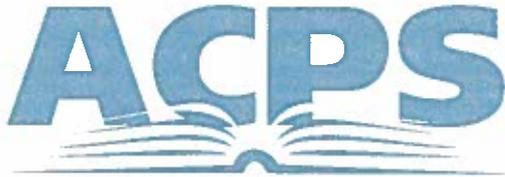
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As of February 25, 2019, Allegany County Public Schools have been closed eight (8) days (November 15, 16, January 14, 31, February 1, 12, 13, and 20, 2019) due to inclement weather. Allegany County Public Schools has identified five (5) inclement weather recovery days in their 2018-2019 School Calendar and has extended the last day of the school year from June 12, 2019 to June 13, 2019. The request submitted by Allegany County Public Schools on February 25, 2019 asks for a waiver to use April 22, 2019, the Monday after Easter, as a snow make-up day. The waiver has been requested to allow Allegany County Public Schools the opportunity to make a calendar modification.

ACTION:

It is being requested that the Maryland State Board of Education approve the waiver to open school on April 22, 2019, the Monday after Easter, for Allegany County Public Schools as a snow make-up day for the 2018-2019 school year.

Attachment: Waiver Request from Allegany County Public Schools.



ALLEGANY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

108 Washington Street • P.O. Box 1724 • Cumberland, MD 21501-1724
Telephone (301) 759-2000 • www.acpsmd.org

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Superintendent of Schools
David A. Cox, Ed.D.

February 21, 2019

FEB 25 2019

Dr. Karen Salmon
State Superintendent of Schools
Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-2595

Dear Dr. Salmon:

On behalf of Allegany County Public Schools, and in accordance with Education Article §7-103, annotated Code of Maryland, I respectfully request that you grant an adjustment to our school system calendar. Since we have only planned a spring break consisting of the Thursday and Friday before Easter, and the Monday following Easter, I ask that you waive required attendance on the Monday following Easter (April 22, 2019), if that remains to be a required holiday by law or regulation. The recommendation to include using the Monday after Easter as a school day was presented and approved by the Allegany County Board of Education during our meeting on February 19, 2019.

To date, we have missed eight days of school due to inclement weather. Our calendar provides for make-up days to be added to the end of the school year, which now would make the last day of school June 13, 2019. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated reply.

Sincerely,

David A. Cox, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DAC/dmh