

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

TO:

Members of the State Board of Education

FROM:

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. Liesian & Lawery

DATE:

April 22, 2014

SUBJECT:

Request from a Local School System for a Calendar Modification

PURPOSE:

1) To consider the request made by Dr. John Fredericksen, Superintendent, Wicomico County Public Schools to waive the last day of school for students his school system, which falls on Monday, June 16, 2014.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

By letter dated April 11, 2014, the Superintendent for the Wicomico County Public School system requested a waiver of one (1) school day, Monday, June 16, 2014. After a modification was made to their school calendar making by adding six days inclement weather days to the end of their school calendar, their last day of school for student attendance will fall on Monday, June 16, 2014. Wicomico County Public Schools would like to end their school year on Friday, June 13, 2014, and use June 16, 2014 for staff and program checkouts.

In accordance with COMAR 13A.02.01.04(C)(2)(a), the State Board of Education may waive the final day needed to complete the 180-day schedule if that day falls on a Monday.

ACTION:

Requesting approval of the request made by the Superintendent of Wicomico County Public Schools to waive one (1) day of student attendance, Monday, June 16, 2014, in accordance with COMAR 13A.02.01.04(C)(2)(a).

LML/BC

Attachment

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WICOMICO COUNTY



John E. Fredericksen, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools 101 Long Avenue -P.O. Box 1538 Salisbury, MD 21802-1538

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April 11, 2014

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Dr. Lillian M. Lowery, Superintendent Maryland State Department of Education 200 West Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201

RE: Schedule Modification Request

Dear Dr. Lowery,

Our purpose for this letter is to respectfully request a schedule modification. Our last day currently scheduled for students under our modified schedule is Monday, June 16th. Our request is to allow us to change this from a student attendance day to a day available for staff and program check-outs as needed. This would make Friday, June 13th our last student day. Our rationale for this is:

- Conducting school on a Monday hanging out like the 16th will be difficult to be productive due to excessive student absences when families use their summer childcare.
- Summer heat will be upon us. Our non-air-conditioned buildings will be very, very uncomfortable as the heat builds up (even evenings, disrupting our overnight ventilations).
- Student Learning Objectives wrap-ups should be done well before this, but we want to be doubly sure that we have provided adequate time for our teachers to complete their work to reduce the likelihood of difficulty in this important evaluation transition.

We appreciate your consideration. Please call us at 410-677-4596 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

John E. Fredericksen, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

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