# Proposed Calendar 2014-2015

Howard County Board of Education Meeting January 9, 2014

#### Composition of Academic Calendar Committee Members

34 Members met from September 24 through November 12 from 4:00 PM – 5:30 contributing approximately 408 man hours if all members attended all meetings

Central Office Personnel: 8

School Administrators: 3

Teachers: 3

School-based Support Personnel: 1

HCASC: 2

HCEA: 1

HCEA-ESP: 1

HCAA: 1

AFSCME: 1

PTA Council: 1

Community Advisory Council: 2

Superintendent's Equity Council: 1

Pre-K Parent: 1

Elementary Parents: 2

Middle School Parents: 2

High School Parents: 2

Community Member at Large: 2

Howard County Public School System 2014-2015 Academic Calendar Planning Committee Charter 9/23/13

### Academic Calendar Planning Committee Charter

**OBJECTIVES**: Outline the specific tasks the committee is meant to accomplish.

The Committee will:

- Review the current HCPSS academic calendar
- Examine available data on attendance for the previous year
- Examine opening and closing times, beginning and ending dates for the year, summer school dates, and total attendance hours.
- Examine academic calendars from other school systems in Maryland
- Collect and consider feedback from stakeholder groups
- Thoughtfully consider the scheduling of professional development days, parent-teacher conferences, and winter and spring breaks in relation to holidays and religious holy days.
- Consider opportunities to reduce the number of half-days without jeopardizing the activities that currently take place on those days.
- Develop an academic calendar recommendation that will enhance the system's ability to achieve Vision 2018 by optimizing the instructional time available.
- Submit a recommended 2014-2015 academic calendar to the Superintendent

SUGGESTION: Next Year's Charter include a statement recognizing the teacher's need for more preparation, grading, and recording to comply with the BOE's mandate to grade within the 3 week time period.

#### **Alternative Calendars**

- Option A: Superintendent's Proposed Calendar
- Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA Proposed Calendar

#### HCEA would like the Board of Education to consider the following when adopting the Calendar for 2014-2015

- Opening week for teachers should be protected so that teachers can adequately prepare for students without excessive meetings with administrators.
- Why is the emphasis on reducing the number of half days for teachers when there is a significant increase in preparation, grading, and reporting?
- Improve the calendar to be respectful of teacher responsibilities and awareness that grades need to be posted within three weeks. How can this occur without more time?
- Recognize the importance of continuous learning; i.e., minimize the disruptions in the middle of the week and protect full weeks of instruction for students.
- The need for conferences to be available to all families both in November and February by providing adequate time for meaningful interactions.
- Protect the mid-term and finals schedule at the high school so that students prepare and learn from the experience of examinations and teachers can adequately grade them since they are 20% of high school grades.

### Option B: Calendar Committee Proposed Calendar

#### This calendar:

- Preserves instructional continuity
- Adds preparation time for quality instruction
- Considers opportunity for all parents to access teacher conference times
- Represents consensus of all the stakeholder groups.

### August & September

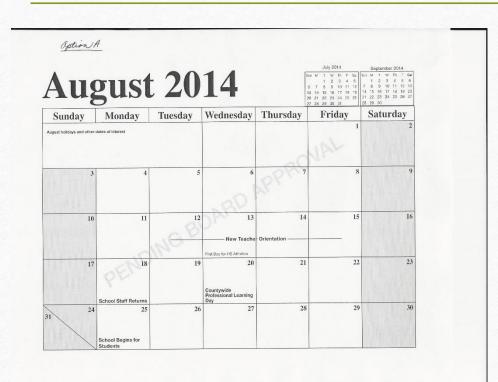
#### Calendar Committee/HCEA Proposed Calendar

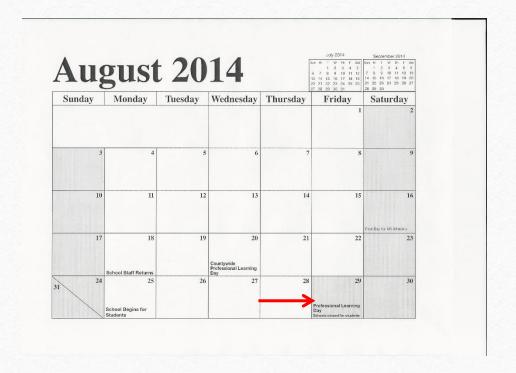
#### August & September

- The Professional Learning Day was scheduled for August 29.
- (Optional) HCEA requested that **75**% of time during August 18, 19, 21, 22 be reserved for teachers to prepare lessons and classrooms for students.

### **AUGUST**

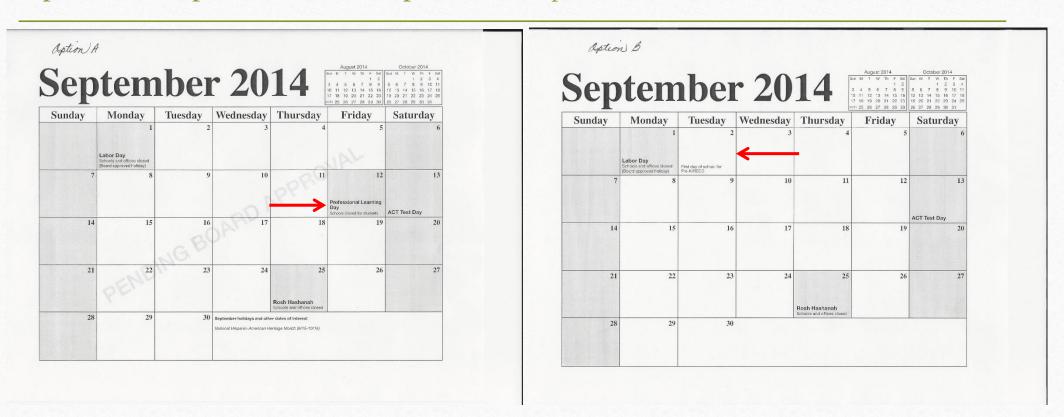
Option A: Superintendent Proposal





### SEPTEMBER

Option A: Superintendent Proposal



## OCTOBER

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA

| Oct  | obe   | r 2   | 014                                  |          | 1 2 3 4 5 6<br>7 8 9 10 11 12 13<br>14 15 16 17 18 19 20<br>21 22 23 24 25 29 27<br>28 29 30 | 2 3 4 5 6 7 4<br>9 10 11 12 13 14 1<br>16 17 18 19 20 21 2<br>23:00 24 25 26 27 28 2 |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday                            | Thursday | Friday   | Saturday   |
| October holidays and other of 4 Dussehre (10 days) - Hindu 4 Id al Adha - Islamic (subject 4 Yom Klopur - Javish (begin pravious day) 9 Sukkort - (7 days) Javish (b sunset of previous day) 5 Shemini Atzeret - Javish (b sunset of previous day) | 17 Simchat Tor<br>t to moon) sunset of pr<br>is sunset of 20 Installation<br>20 Birth of the<br>sunset of pr<br>23 Diwali (Deep | of Guru Granth Sahib - Sikh<br>Báb - Bahá'i (begins<br>evious day)<br>bavall) - Hindu | 1                                    | 2        | 3<br>1AL   |  |
| 5  | 6   | 7   | 8                                    | 9        | 10   | 1  |
|  |   | HIC   | SH SCHOOL ASSESSM                    | IENTS    |  |  |
|  |   |   | -01                                  |          |  | SAT Test Day   |
| 12   | 13  | 14  | 15                                   | 16       | 17   | 1  |
|  | -   | —— HIGH SCHOOL .  | ASSESSMENTS  PSAT - Grades 10 and 11 |          | MSEA Convention/<br>Professional Work<br>Day<br>Schools closed for students                  |  |
| 19   | 20  | 21  | 22                                   | 23       | 24   | - 2:   |
|  | PEN   |   |                                      |          |  | ACT Test Day   |
| 26   | 27  | 28  | 29                                   | 30       | 31   |  |
|  |   |   |                                      |          | End of marking period  |  |

| unday | Monday | Tuesday     | Wednesday               | Thursday | Friday   | Saturday        |
|-------|--------|-------------|-------------------------|----------|--|-----------------|
|       |        |             | 1                       | 2        | 3  | 4               |
| 5     |        | 7           | 8                       | 9        | 10   | Yom Kippur      |
| 2     | 6      |             | 17                      |          | 10   | 11              |
|       |        | HIC         | GH SCHOOL ASSESSM       | ENTS     |  | SAT Test Day    |
| 12    | 13     | 14          | 15                      | 16       | 17   | 18              |
|       |        | HIGH SCHOOL | ASSESSMENTS —           |          |  |                 |
|       |        |             | PSAT - Grades 10 and 11 |          | MSEA Convention<br>Schools closed for students |                 |
| 19    | 20     | 21          | 22                      | 23       | 24   | 25 ACT Test Day |
| 26    | 27     | 28          | 29                      | 30       | 31   |                 |

#### **NOVEMBER**

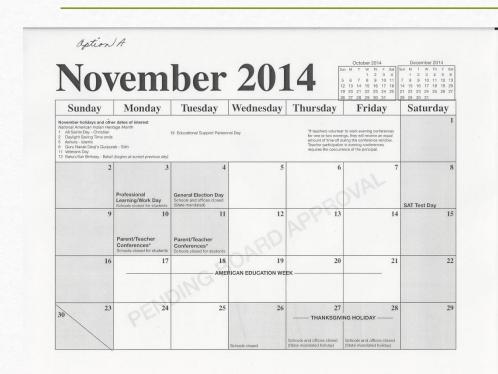
#### Calendar Committee/HCEA Proposed Calendar

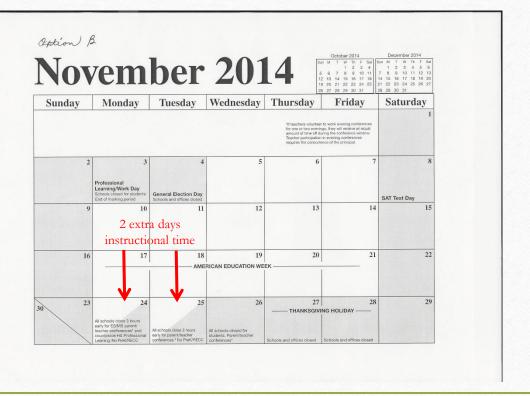
November: Biggest Difference here is Option B delivers more teaching time in November

- Keep Conferences during Thanksgiving week with Monday, Tuesday 1/2 days.
- Full day conference option on Wednesday with no school for students.
- Allows plenty of time for report cards to be distributed.
- Allows parents time to discuss grades with students.
- Provides 13 continuous days of instruction from November 5 through November 21.
- Allows all parents more options; i.e., evening conference, afternoon, or Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving.
- Adds two more days of instruction added to November calendar.

### NOVEMBER

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA





### **DECEMBER & JANUARY**

#### Calendar Committee/HCEA Proposed Calendar

#### December & January: No Changes but discussion occurred on these topics

- Reopen schools on January 5
- Maintain half days during mid term exams; Allow teachers time to grade and report exams
- Maintain integrity of examination schedule to educate high school students on the process
- Parent Member asked to consider closing school on 12/22, 12/23 to enhance international travel for large percentage of HOCO population
- Committee was asked to consider closing Central Office and Schools during Winter Break
  - Reluctance was expressed by most committee members
  - Suggested that this time be used to develop materials to support Common Core

### **DECEMBER**

Option A: Superintendent Proposal Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA

| )ec    | eem                                     | ber               | 201   |   |  | 1 2 3<br>4 5 6 7 8 9 10<br>11 12 13 14 15 15 17<br>18 19 20 21 22 23 24 |
|--------|---|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Sunday | Monday                                  | Tuesday           | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday                                     | Saturday  |
|        | 1                                       | 2                 | 3   | 4   | JAL  | 6 SAT Test Day  |
| 7      | 8                                       | 9                 | 10  | APPRI   | 12   | ACT Test Day  |
| 14     | 15                                      | 16                | OAT 17  | 18  | 19   | 20  |
| 21     | PEI 22                                  | 23                | Christmas Eve<br>Schools and offices closed<br>(State mandated holiday) | 25 WINTER BREAK Christmas Day Schools and offices closed (State mandated heliday)   | 26 Schools closed (State manusted holinay) | 27  |
| 28     | Schools closed (State mandated holiday) | 30 WINTER BREAK - | 31 Schools closed (State mandated heliday)                              | December holidays and off<br>8 Bodhi Day - Buddhist<br>17 Hanuldah (8 days) - Jewis<br>sunset previous day)<br>26 Kwanzaa (7 days) - Africa | sh (begins at                              |   |

| Dec    | em   | ber   | 201   |  | 1<br>2 3 4 5 6 7 8<br>9 10 11 12 13 14 15  | 18 19 20 21 22 23 2 |
|--------|--|---|---|--|--|---------------------|
| Sunday | Monday                                     | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday                                     | Saturday            |
|        | 1  | 2   | 3   | 4  | JAL  | SAT Test Day        |
| 7      | 8  | 9   | 10  | APPRI  | 12   | 1. ACT Test Day     |
| 14     | 15   | 16<br>RG P  | OAT 17  | 18   | 19   | 21                  |
| 21     | 22   | 23  | 24  Christmas Eve Schools and offices cliced (State mandated holicay) | 25  WINTER BREAK  Christmas Day Schools and offices closed (Stale mandated holiday)  | 26 Schec's closed (State mandated holiday) | 2'                  |
| 28     | 29 Schools closed (State mandated haliday) | 30  WINTER BREAK —  Schools closed (State mandatec holidar) | 31  Schools closed (State mandated holiday)                           | December holidays and off<br>8 Bodhi Day - Buddhist<br>17 Hanukkah (6 days) - Jeni<br>susset previous day)<br>26 Kwanzaa (7 days) - Africa | sh (begins at                              |                     |

## JANUARY

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

| Jan   | uar   | y 2     | 015                     |   | December 2014<br>  Sun M T W Th F Sat<br>  1 2 3 4 6 6<br>  7 8 9 10 11 12 13<br>  14 15 16 17 18 19 20<br>  21 22 23 24 25 26 27<br>  28 29 30 31 | Sun M T W Th F Sun M T |
|---|---|---------|-------------------------|---|--|------------------------|
| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday               | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday               |
| anuary holidays and other<br>3. Milad-un-Nabi - Islam (suk<br>5. Guru Cobind Singh's Gur<br>5. Epiphany - Christian<br>7. Feast of Nativity - Orthoos | oject to moon sightings)<br>surab - Silkh             |         |                         | New Year's Day Schools and offices closed (State mandated holiday)  | 2 Schools closed   | 3                      |
| 4   | 5   | 6       | 7                       | 8   | o VAL  | 10                     |
| 11  | ACCESS testing begins                                 | 13 HIGH | 14<br>SCHOOL ASSESSMEN  | TS  | 16   | 17                     |
| 18  | Martin Luther King Jr. Day Schools and offices closed | 20      |                         | 22 EMESTER EXAMS — JP TESTING All schools close 3 hours early. E3 and MS Professional Learning and HS exams | All schools close 3 hours early. No Pre-K/RECC   | 24                     |
| 25  | (State mandated holiday)                              | 27      | early. No Pre-K/RECC 28 | No Pro-IGRECC 29  | End of marking period 30   | SAT Test Day           |

| Sunday | Monday  | Tuesday             | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday     |
|--------|---|---------------------|--|--|--|--------------|
|        |   |                     |  | 1  | 2  | 3            |
|        |   |                     |  | New Year's Day<br>Schools and offices closed<br>(State mandated fioliday)                            | Schools and offices closed   |              |
| 4      | 5   | 6                   | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10           |
| 11     | 12  | 13<br>HIGH:         | 14<br>SCHOOL ASSESSMEN                             | 15<br>TS —   | 16   | 17           |
|        | ACCESS testing begins   | CAC Meeting 7:30 pm |  |  |  |              |
| 18     | 19  | 20                  |  | 22<br>EMESTER EXAMS —<br>ASSESSMENTS —   | 23   | 24           |
|        | Martin Luther King<br>Jr. Day<br>Schools and offices closed<br>(State mandated holicay) |                     | High athools close 3 hours<br>early. No Pre-K/RECC | All schools close 3 hours<br>early, ES and MS Professional<br>Learning and HS exams<br>No Pre-K/RECC | All schools close 3 hours early.<br>No Pre-K/RECC<br>End of marking period | SAT Test Day |
| 25     | 26  | 27                  | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31           |

### February

#### Calendar Committee/HCEA Proposed Calendar

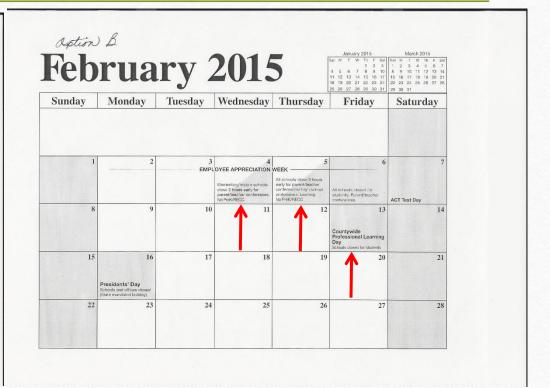
#### February: Option B increases conference slots for parents

- Add an additional half day to Conferences for elementary/middle schools (2/4 & 2/5)
- More opportunities for conferences
  - Departmentalization will require more conference slots
  - Afford more parents opportunities for conferences.
- Full day of conferences on 2/6
- Countywide Professional Day scheduled for Friday, February 13 (President's weekend)

### FEBRUARY

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

| Heb  | tion A rua   | ry 2      | 201                    | 5  | January 2015  Sun M T W Th F Soil 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 26 26 27 28 29 30 31 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7<br>8 9 10 11 12 13 14<br>15 16 17 18 19 20 21<br>22 23 24 25 26 27 28   |
|--|--|-----------|------------------------|--|---|---|
| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday              |  | Friday  | Saturday  |
| February holidays and oth<br>Mational African-American His<br>15 Nirvana Day - Buddhist<br>17 PTA Founders Day<br>19 Chinosaf-Kortian/Verham<br>25 Ash Wednesday-Lent bes<br>26 Ayyám-i-Há (4 days) - Ba | istory Month   | y)        |                        |  | for one or two ev<br>amount of time o<br>Teacher participa  | rear to work evening conferences<br>erings, they will neceive an equal<br>if during the conference window.<br>Lon in evening conferences<br>urrance of the principal. |
| 1  | 2  | 3<br>EMPL | 4<br>OYEE APPRECIATION | WEEK — 5   | 6 Countywide Professional Learning  | 7   |
|  |  |           |                        |  | Day<br>Schools closed for students  | ACT Test Day  |
| 8  | 9  | 10        | 11                     | All schools close 3 hours early for parent/teacher conterences." | All schools close 3 hours<br>early for parent/leacher<br>conferences."<br>No PreWRECC                                 | 14  |
| 15   | Presidents' Day Schools and effices closed (State mandate holiday) | 17 B      | 18                     | 19   | 20  | 21  |
| 22   | 23   | 24        | 25                     | 26   | 27  | 28  |



### MARCH & APRIL

- Option A and Option B agree on the 2014-2015 calendar
- Concern from Teachers:
  - How extensive is the testing?
  - How will it affect instruction during "prime time"?

### MARCH

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA

| Name |

### APRIL

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA

April 2015 Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday ignit holidays and other dates of interest Passover (6 Jays)—Jewith heppirs sensed of previous day) Easter: Christiane Christiane Christiane Christiane Christiane Christiane Christiane A Valeskhi (urnar calendar) A Valeskhi (urnar calendar) A Valeskhi (urnar calendar) Christiane Christ SPRING BREAK ----Passover 3 Take Your Child To Work Di Easter Monday MSA SCIENCE TESTING HSA SENIOR ADMINISTRATION 23 MSA SCIENCE TESTING MSA SCIENCE TESTING PARCC TESTING

**April 2015** Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday - SPRING BREAK -Good Friday Schools and offices closed (State mandated holiday) Easter Monday 16 MSA SCIENCE TESTING HSA SENIOR ADMINISTRATION ACT Test Day 23 MSA SCIENCE TESTING PARCC TESTING

MSA SCIENCE TESTING

PARCC TESTING

### MAY & JUNE

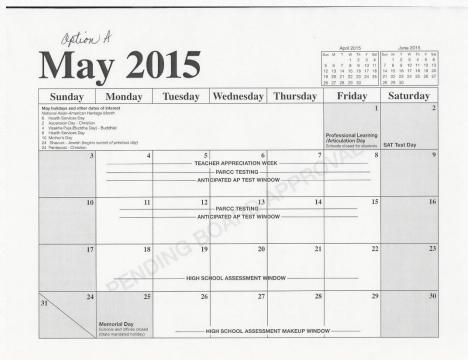
#### Calendar Committee Proposed Calendar

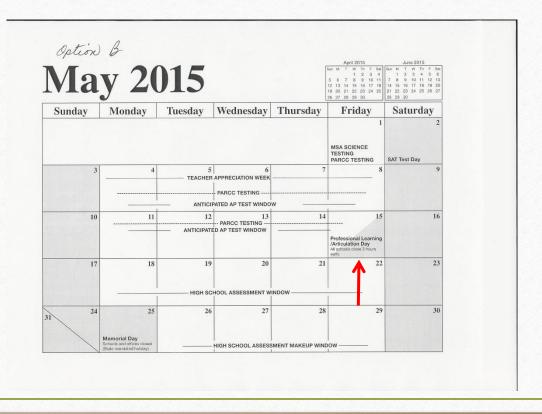
#### May & June

- ½ Professional Learning at the high school May 15
- ½ Articulation Day on May 15 for elementary/middle schools.
- Teachers requested a Professional Work Day on June 12 to allow time to store materials and close classrooms.
- (Optional) Elementary teachers were concerned about the opportunity to prepare report cards at end of the school year and requested a ½ day on 6/5 (HCEA).

### MAY

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

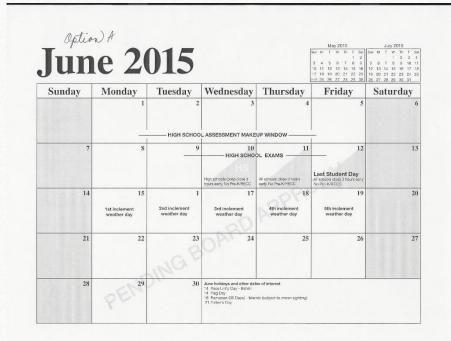




## JUNE

Option A: Superintendent's Proposal

Option B: Calendar Committee/HCEA



| May 2015 | May 2015

## Summary

- Calendar Option B was the recommended Calendar that reflected a consensus of all groups represented at Calendar Committee Meetings.
- Hours of discussion among the various groups resulted in compromise and consideration of the needs of all to provide the optimum educational opportunity for the students of Howard County.
- The volunteer hours donated by the members of this Committee symbolize a commitment to excellence in Howard County Schools.
- Additional Suggestions by HCEA were added as noted.

## Option C: A Hybrid

- August & September Superintendent's Proposal
- October both are the same
- November Calendar Committee
- December & January both are the same
- February Calendar Committee
- March & April both are the same
- May & June either calendar