

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: September 9, 2002
TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: Dr. J. Hairston, Superintendent
SUBJECT: School Calendar Policy Revision (Policy 6111)
ORIGINATOR: Sharon Norman, Director, Office of Communications

Recommendation

**That the Board of Education accept the proposed revisions
to Policy 6111 (School Calendar)**

This revision is part of the initiative of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction to update the 6000 policy series.

After two reviews by the Board Policy Review Committee, the revised policy was presented to the Board of Education at the June 11, 2002 meeting. Changes proposed by Board members were incorporated, and the policy was brought before the Board for its consideration at the August 13, 2002 meeting. No additional changes to the policy were proposed by Board members at this time; however, two sentences have been added to the Rule as a result of Board member suggestions. The policy comes before the Board this evening for final approval. While the Board does not vote on the rule, it is included with this exhibit for informational purposes.

This policy was adopted in 1968 and has not been revised in the interim. A Superintendent's Rule has been developed to clarify implementation practices for the development of the systemwide school calendar.

Originator: Sharon Norman

Attachment 1 – Revised Policy 6111
Attachment 2 – Superintendent's Rule 6111

INSTRUCTION: SCHOOL CALENDAR

THE SCHOOL CALENDAR MUST BE DEVELOPED TO SUPPORT THE EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM. THE CALENDAR MUST MEET LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH DAYS AND HOURS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME AND REFLECT SCHOOL CLOSINGS THAT ARE REQUIRED BY LAW. The school calendar adopted annually by the Board of Education will ordinarily provide for 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. THE SCHOOL CALENDAR MUST OBSERVE MANDATED FEDERAL, STATE, AND BOARD APPROVED ASSESSMENTS.

Each year, the Superintendent of Schools shall submit a proposed calendar **[for the ensuing year]** to the Board of Education for its approval.

Legal Reference: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article, §7-103 (a), (c)
COMAR 13A.03.02.05
COMAR 13A.02.01.04

Policy
Adopted: 11/21/68

Board of Education
of Baltimore County

INSTRUCTION: SCHOOL CALENDAR

TO SUPPORT THE STAFF IN MEETING THESE EXPECTATIONS AND IN DEMONSTRATING A SENSITIVITY TO THE NEEDS OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS, A CALENDAR COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM STAKEHOLDER GROUPS WILL ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSED CALENDAR THAT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR ITS CONSIDERATION. THE CALENDAR PROPOSAL TO BE DEVELOPED SHOULD INCLUDE NO FEWER THAN SEVEN (7) INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS. THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL DESIGNATE APPROPRIATE STAFF TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE, AND STAKEHOLDER REPRESENTATION WILL INCLUDE GROUPS SUCH AS THE FOLLOWING: PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, AREA ADVISORY COUNCILS, BALTIMORE COUNTY STUDENT COUNCILS, AND THE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DRAFT CALENDAR, COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES WILL SEEK FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS AND CONSIDER THIS FEEDBACK IN DEVELOPING A FINAL PROPOSAL FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CALENDAR, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS THE FINAL OBLIGATION TO APPROVE THE SCHOOL CALENDAR. THE CALENDAR FOR ANY GIVEN SCHOOL YEAR, ONCE APPROVED, WILL BE SHARED WITH THE PUBLIC AT LEAST ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE YEAR IN WHICH IT IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

Rule

Superintendent of Schools