

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY  
INFORMATIONAL REPORT  
PRESENTATION ON  
PROPOSED INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN**

**January 8, 2024**

**Background Information:**

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has opened a pathway for local education agencies (LEAs) to repurpose certain days as virtual school days in the 2023-2024 school year. To ensure meaningful and equitable virtual instruction during these days, pursuant to the Superintendent's authority under Education Article §2-303, a process and attestations have been established to seek approval to repurpose certain days as virtual school days.

School systems have the opportunity to use a total of eight (8) days as virtual school days. The days may be synchronous or asynchronous; however, no more than three (3) of the eight (8) days may be used as asynchronous days.

On December 18, 2023, the Board received an overview of the inclement weather plan that requests the use of three (3) asynchronous days in the event of inclement weather during the 2023-2024 school year. To meet the MSDE requirements for community input and feedback, the plan was then posted on the HCPS website from Tuesday, December 19, 2023, to Wednesday, January 3, 2024.

During that window, a total of 46 comments were received from staff and the community. Of the 46 comments received, 36 (or 78 percent) were in favor of the plan.

**Discussion:**

As a part of the presentation on January 8, staff will give an interactive overview of the implementation process for assigning work to students, as well as the access that parents will have in Canvas (HCPS Learning Management System).

HCPS would like the Board's support to apply to use three (3) asynchronous days in the event of inclement weather during the 2023-2024 school year. If approved, this will allow asynchronous virtual instruction on three (3) of the six (6) designated inclement weather make-up days. This will result in the final possible day of instruction (with three (3) "traditional" inclement weather days) being Monday, June 10, 2024. Currently, with six (6) "traditional" inclement weather days built into the calendar, the final instructional day is scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2024.

With the Board's approval, HCPS will submit the 2023-2024 School Year Virtual Day Instruction Plan.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approves the 2023-2024 School Year Virtual Day Instruction Plan to submit to MSDE for approval.