

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

Proposed 2026-2027 HCPS Calendar

September 22, 2025

Background Information:

Each year, the Board of Education of Harford County appoints a Calendar Committee to make recommendations for the “out year” Harford County Public Schools calendar. The 38-person committee – composed of representatives from the community and the school system – is charged with recommending a proposed calendar for the upcoming school year. The committee meets and attempts to reach consensus on the proposed “out year” calendar during the month of September. The Board holds the proposal over for at least 60 days to allow for public comment (the proposed calendar is placed on the HCPS website). The Board appointed calendar committee and Board members review public comments. The committee provides a proposal with public comment taken into consideration by the Superintendent who reviews it and makes a recommendation to the Board to adopt the calendar as proposed by the committee or with suggested changes. The Board then votes to adopt a calendar for the “out year” at a subsequent meeting.

Discussion:

This year, the membership of the 2026-27 Calendar Committee (roster attached) was approved by the Board of Education at its August meeting. The committee met on September 4, 2025. The proposed calendar is being presented for public comment and a subsequent Board vote. The calendar feature: The 180-day student/190-day teacher calendar (grid attached) contains the following features:

- 180 student days
- 190 teacher days
- Thanksgiving break
- Winter break
- Spring break
- Professional development and early dismissal days: schools are closed to students to allow staff learning.
- Holiday closures per negotiated agreements: schools and offices are closed to students and staff.
- Inclement weather days built into the calendars.

Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Superintendent recommends the Board accept the proposed 2026-2027 school calendar as presented by the Calendar Committee for 60 days of public comment.

Harford County Public Schools

2026-2027 Calendar Committee Members

Board Members

Ms. Lauren Paige, *Board Vice-President*

Dr. Carol Mueller, *Board Member*

Mrs. Melissa Hahn, *Board Member*

Harford County Regional Association of Student Councils

James “Trae” McVicker, *Student Member, Board of Education*

Manager of Communications

Jillian Lader

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Ben Richardson

Assistant Superintendent for Operations

Cathy Bendis

Director of Secondary Schools

Natalie Holloway

Director of Elementary Schools

Tom Smith

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Heather Kutcher

Monica Hobbs, *Administrative Support Coordinator*

Assistant Supervisor of Accountability

Andy Wachter

Supervisor of Culture and Climate

Paula Stanton

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Andy Renzulli

Manager of Special Projects

Peter Carpenter

Elementary School Administrator

Zachary Greenbaum, *Emmorton Elementary School*

Secondary School Administrators

Brian Tulley, *Havre de Grace High School*

Erin O'Hara, *North Harford Middle School*

HCPS Teacher of the Year

Shelby Hultquist, *Havre de Grace Elementary*

Harford County Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Representatives

Renee DeBiase, *Harford County Council PTA President*

James DeBiase, *Havre de Grace High School*

Karen Pizzolato-Heine, *Churchville Elementary School*

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

Tunisia Gannon

Association of Harford County Administrative, Technical & Supervisory Professionals/Transportation Representative

Justin Evans

Association of Public School Administrators & Supervisors of Harford County

Melissa Williams

Harford County Education Association/ Harford County Educational Services Council

Chrystie Crawford-Smick

Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee

Katie York, *Chairperson*

Aberdeen Proving Ground

Brittany Johnson, *School Liaison Officer*

Business Community – Harco Federal Credit Union

Karen Munoz Andino, *Branch Admin Officer*

Harford Community College

Courtney Mitchell, *HCC Registrar*

Day Care Providers

Megan Cornett, *Boys & Girls Club*

Nicole Lubinski, *Boys & Girls Club*

Patrick Leist, *Caliday*

Connie Schyan-Cusato, *YMCA*

Religious Organizations

Rabbi Kushi Schusterman, *Harford Chabad*

Agricultural Community

Robert Tibbs, *Shadow Springs Farm*

Community

Shital Gandhi, *Community Representative*

William Martin, *Community Representative*

HCPS 2026-2027 Calendar DRAFT Proposals

Monday, September 22, 2025

2026-2027 Calendar Drafts

- Calendar Committee met September 5, 2025:
 - Reviewed purpose and timeline for the committee
 - Reviewed Board proposed 2026-2027 calendar
 - Reviewed suggestions received from committee members
 - Ensured all HCPS Negotiated Agreement Requirements were met
 - Ensured all COMAR Requirements were met

Calendar Committee DRAFT 2026-2027

Calendar

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Next Steps

- **This week:** post 2026-2027 DRAFT HCPS Calendar for 60 days
- **Monday, November 24, 2025:** Calendar Committee meeting; public comment discussed and finalize committee recommendation.
- **Monday, December 15, 2025:** Calendar Committee final presentation to the Board; Board of Education vote on final 2026-2027 calendar.