

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

PROPOSED 2026-2027 HCPS CALENDAR

January 12, 2026

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 – meets to propose an “out year” calendar during the month of September. The proposal is forwarded to 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 receives the Superintendent’s proposal at a public business meeting, holds the proposal over for at least 60 days to allow for public comment (the proposed calendar is placed on the HCPS website), and then votes to adopt a calendar for the “out year” at a subsequent meeting.

Discussion:

This year, the membership of the 2026-2027 Calendar Committee (roster attached) was approved by the Board of Education at its August meeting. The committee met on September 4, 2025, and presented draft calendar proposals to the Board of Education on September 22, 2025. The proposals were posted for 60 days of public comment and feedback. The calendar committee met November 24, 2025, to review stakeholder input and provide a recommended 2026-2027 Calendar to the Board of Education. The 180-day student/190-day teacher calendar (grid attached) contains the following features:

- New teachers report on Thursday, August 20, 2026.
- Returning teachers report on Monday, August 24, 2026.
- School begins for students (grade 1 through grade 12) on Monday, August 31, 2026.
- School begins for kindergarten students on Wednesday, September 2, 2026.
- School begins for pre-kindergarten students on Wednesday, September 9, 2026.
- Quarter end dates:
 - November 5, 2026
 - January 28, 2027
 - April 8, 2027
 - June 10, 2027

With no inclement weather make-up days utilized:

- The last day for pre-kindergarten students is Tuesday, June 8, 2027.
- The 180th student day for those in kindergarten through 11th grade is Thursday, June 10, 2027, and an early dismissal for students.
- The 190th teacher day is Thursday, June 10, 2027.

NOTE: The Calendar Committee designed the calendar planning for the last day of school in order to allow for inclement weather make-up days. If all inclement weather makeup days are utilized, Tuesday, June 15, 2027, is the last student day, and it will be an early dismissal for students. The last day for teachers is Tuesday, June 15, 2027.

- There are three inclement weather makeup days built into the calendar. They are scheduled for Friday, June 11; Monday, June 14; Tuesday, June 15, 2027.

Feedback Analysis:

- 2026-2027 Calendar Survey Analysis Report

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the proposed 2026-2027 school calendar as presented by the Calendar Committee.

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*

Proposed Calendar Version 2a