



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850



Bill: House Bill 620
Title: Required Number of School Days – Repeal
Committee: Ways and Means
Date: February 25, 2015
Position: **NO POSITION**
Contact: Michael Durso, President, Montgomery County Board of Education

Currently, all local education agencies are required to have a school year that consists of 180 days in which each level must attend school for a certain number of hours—1,080 for elementary and middle school students and 1,170 for high school students. This bill seeks to remove any requirement that the school year consists of 180 days. Pupil attendance would be based on the aforementioned numbers within a 10-month period.

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) school year calendar exceeds the state requirement by having 184 days of school and 1,168.80 hours for elementary students, 1,229.50 hours for middle school students, and 1,234.50 hours for high school students. Eliminating the required number of instructional days and only having a total number of hours of instruction will not impact the current structure as MCPS currently goes beyond what is mandated because of the additional number of hours that MCPS students attend school. In addition, the Montgomery County Education Association (MCEA) agreement provides that student instructional days shall not exceed 185 days and that the work year for 10-month unit members shall not exceed 195 duty days. This proposal could be accommodated within the current contract.

On behalf of my colleagues at the Board of Education, we thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this legislation.