

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting, October 20, 2009

FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: Revise Calendar for the 2010-2011 School Year

On February 6, 2007, the Board approved school calendars for the 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years. In an effort to continue a three-year calendar, on March 4, 2008 the Board approved a calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. As a result of changes coming to school systems from the new State Superintendent and with a recommendation from Discussion Council, on June 16, 2009 the Board approved a revised calendar for the current school year (2009-2010).

As is customary, the Superintendent's office has been receiving inquiries regarding the calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. Since it is most likely that new rules regarding use of 'banked' time will not be changing and the three-year calendar is still 'out there' it seems prudent to move forward with asking the Board to confirm the calendar approved in 2008 or approve a revised calendar with changes similar to those approved for 2009-2010.

Three options have evolved and have been proposed for Discussion Council review. These options have also been forwarded to principals for feedback and are on the agenda for discussion only at this meeting. Some parents have expressed a preference to start school later (after Labor Day is often mentioned) while others like ending the school year by Memorial weekend. Unless some out-of-school days are eliminated during the year, it is impossible to schedule 180 student days during that period of time (between Labor Day and Memorial Day). However, these options do indicate some latitude.

Development of the calendar is included in the discussion procedure with the Monroe County Education Association (MCEA). Following is a section copied from the MCEA contract that explains the discussion procedure. If a calendar recommendation comes from the Discussion Council prior to the Board meeting on November 3, that recommendation will be included on the agenda again for discussion and then for action at the November 17 meeting.

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**ARTICLE 5.00. - Discussion Procedure**

**Section 1 - Discussion Group**

- (a) The Board through its designee(s) and representatives of the Association agree to meet, at either's request at mutually agreed-to times, to discuss matters of educational policy and administrative practices and procedures. This procedure shall be the structure for the discussion of matters defined as discussable under the provisions of I.C. 20-7.5-1 et seq.
- (b) Each party shall appoint its own representatives, for discussion participation for the school year.
- (c) It is understood that representatives shall possess the authority to reach agreements for recommended changes in school policies. Agreed-to recommendations shall be submitted to the Board for action.

**Section 2 - Board Referral**

- (a) It is understood that either side has the right to submit its position on disputed issues to the Board at any time whenever the parties are at impasse with no requirement of a minority report from the opposing side. The parties shall be required to notify each other of this contemplated action of impasse.
- (b) The Board shall inform the teachers and the Association of any change in policy which results from these discussion sessions.