



**Mohammed Choudhury**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Mohammed Choudhury  
**DATE:** January 25, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Calendar Modifications – Granting Authority to the State Superintendent

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**PURPOSE:**

To grant authority to the State Superintendent of Schools to approve, upon request of a local board of education, flexibility for local school systems to be open for pupil attendance on February 21, 2022, Presidents’ Day, as an inclement weather make-up day, if needed, for the 2021-2022 school year.

**BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

Education Article §7-103 requires schools to be open for student attendance for 180 days and closed on the following public school holidays: Thanksgiving Day and the day after; Christmas Eve and from then through January 1; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Presidents’ Day; the Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday after Easter; Memorial Day; and primary and general election days. Subsection (b) (iv) provides the State Board the authority to permit schools to open on holidays if normal school attendance is prevented because of natural disaster, civil disaster, or severe weather conditions.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Weather conditions in January and February can be unpredictable. Granting authority to the State Superintendent of Schools to approve requests received from local school systems to open school on February 21, 2022, Presidents’ Day, will provide local school systems the flexibility to make calendar modifications and recover instructional time, if needed.

**ACTION:**

It is being requested that the Maryland State Board of Education grant authority to the State Superintendent of Schools to approve, upon request of a local board of education, flexibility for a local school systems to open for pupil attendance on February 21, 2022, Presidents’ Day, as an inclement weather make-up day, if needed, for the 2021-2022 school year.