

BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { } ACTION { X } CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - ACTION

Request for Pre-Labor Day Opening of School

BACKGROUND: In the past 5 years, BCPS has been closed an average of 12 (11.8) days per year and meets a “good cause” provision as defined by the Code of Virginia by being closed an average of 8 days per year during any five of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board must certify that the division meets an allowable provision for a Pre-Labor Day opening of the 2013-2014 school year.

Bath County Public Schools

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MEMO TO: Members, Bath County School Board

FROM: Mrs. Sue Hirsh, Division Superintendent

DATE: April 22, 2013

REGARDING: Pre –Labor Day Opening

The local school board shall submit annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction certification of eligibility for a waiver of the “good cause” requirements of §22.1-79.1, *Code of Virginia*. Such certification shall be made in a manner prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

House Bill 557 and Senate Bill 253 were passed by the 2010 General Assembly and amended §22.1-79.1 of the *Code*. Effective July 1, 2010, the *Code* now **permits school divisions to self-certify that they meet one of the “good cause” provisions of the Code to enable the school division to open prior to Labor Day**. Section 22.1-79.1 now reads as follows:

For purposes of this section, “good cause” means:

“A school division has been closed an average of eight (8) days per year during any five of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations.”

As of April 22, 2013 Bath County Public Schools has been closed an average of **12 days per year** in the last five years.

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u># DAYS CLOSED</u>
2008-09	12
2009-10	20
2010-11	9
2011-12	3
2012-13	<u>15</u>

Average days missed in last five (5) years = 12

The attached page needs to be signed by the School Board chairman to verify that Bath County Public Schools meets the requirements to begin the 2013-2014 school year before Labor Day.

SH:prc

Attachment: Pre-Labor Day Request for 2013-2014

**Bath County Public Schools
Pre-Labor Day Request
2013-2014 School Year**

On this day, May 7, 2013, the Bath County School Board certifies that Bath County Public Schools have missed an average of 12 days per school year in the last five years to qualify to begin school before Labor Day.

SIGNATURE
Chairman, Bath County School Board

Date

SIGNATURE
Division Superintendent, Bath County Public Schools

Date

PRE-LABOR DAY OPENING PRIOR TO LABOR DAY

AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT (8) DAYS PER YEAR DURING ANY FIVE (5) OF THE LAST TEN (10) YEARS.

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u># DAYS CLOSED</u>
2008-2009	12
2009-2010	20
2010-2011	9
2011-2012	3
2012-2013	<u>15 (as of 4/22/13)</u>
	$59 / 5 = 11.80$

AVERAGE DAYS MISSED IN LAST FIVE (5) YEARS = 12