

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 five (5) years, Bath County Public Schools has been closed an average of 15 days per year and meets the “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 certifies that the division meets an allowable provision for a Pre-Labor Day opening of the 2016-2017 school year.

Bath County Public Schools

P.O. Box 67

Warm Springs, Virginia 24484

Phone: 540-839-2722

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www.bath.k12.va.us

MEMO TO: Members, Bath County School Board

FROM: Mrs. Sue Hirsh, Division Superintendent

DATE: May 3, 2016

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 14, 2016 Bath County Public Schools has been closed an average of **15 days per year** in five years.

| <u>SCHOOL YEAR</u> | <u># DAYS CLOSED</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 2009-2010 | 20 |
| 2010-2011 | 9 |
| 2012-13 | 15 |
| 2013-14 | 17 |
| 2014-15 | <u>13</u> |
| | 74 / 5 = 14.80 |

Average days missed in five (5) years = 15

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 2016-2017 school year before Labor Day.

SH:prc

Attachment: Pre-Labor Day Request for 2016-2017

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Pre-Labor Day Request 2016-2017 School Year

On this day, May 3, 2016, the Bath County School Board certifies that Bath County Public Schools have missed an average of 15 days per school year in 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