



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich  
County Executive

March 3, 2025

TO: The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Chair, Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Marc Elrich  
County Executive

RE: House Bill 1169 (MC 6-25), *Montgomery County – Board of Education – Mandatory School Holidays*

Favorable with Amendments

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I am writing to express my support for House Bill 1169 (MC 6-25), *Montgomery County – Board of Education – Mandatory School Holidays*, as amended by the Montgomery County House Delegation. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, the amended bill would require the closure of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to student attendance on Diwali, Eid Al-Adha, Eid Al-Fitr; Lunar New Year, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Juneteenth. The amended bill is consistent with the MCPS calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. Six of the listed days are non-instructional days on which neither teachers nor students attend school. The seventh day (Eid al Fitr) is currently a professional development day on which teachers attend school, but students do not. The school system's current practice reflects Montgomery County's long history of honoring diverse cultural and religious communities, while also respecting all the other factors that must be considered by the Montgomery County Board of Education when establishing the school calendar each year. I think it is appropriate to codify this practice to ensure consistency in future school years.

I respectfully request that the Ways and Means Committee give this bill a favorable report as amended by the Montgomery County House Delegation.

cc: Members of the Ways and Means Committee