February 20, 2025

Re: HB226/SB569 Anne Arundel County – Public Schools – School Schedule Options

Sections 6-406 and 6-507 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland require public school employers and employee organizations to confer in good faith when negotiating at all reasonable times. Per State law, the school calendar is an illegal subject of bargaining. However, salaries, wages, hours, and other working conditions, including workdays, are mandatory subjects of negotiation between public school employers and employee organizations. Nearly all permanent hourly employees in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) are represented by a union. AACPS is confident that our local employee organizations will raise any concern regarding work days and hours that may result from a school calendar that reduces or eliminates early dismissal days in accordance with HB226/SB569. AACPS is committed to engaging key stakeholders regarding any proposed changes to the school calendar, including negotiating in good faith with applicable bargaining units in accordance with §6-406 and §6-507 of the Education Article.