SAMPLE SURVEY: Actual surveys will be emailed to parents.
Welcome to the academic calendar study!

The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), in consultation with Hanover Research (a Washington D.C.-based research firm), seeks to understand the absences related to religious and cultural observances in order to better understand the community's annual academic calendar needs.

Participation is confidential and voluntary. Results will only be summarized by Hanover and provided to HCPSS as overall percentages; however, examples of written responses may be used to illustrate certain points. No identifying information will be released with the reporting of results.

Please note that survey responses will be collected from one parent per family. You will be able to enter information about all of your children in the survey.

Your feedback is essential to the district, and we appreciate your thoughtful responses.

1. How many of your children are currently enrolled in the HCPSS?
( ) None
( ) 1
( ) 2
( ) 3
( ) 4
( ) 5
( ) 6
( ) 7 or more

2. What is/are the current grade level(s) of your child(ren)? Please check all that apply.
[ ] Pre-K
[ ] Kindergarten
[ ] Grade 1
[ ] Grade 2
[ ] Grade 3
[ ] Grade 4
[ ] Grade 5
[ ] Grade 6
[ ] Grade 7
[ ] Grade 8
[ ] Grade 9
[ ] Grade 10
[ ] Grade 11
[ ] Grade 12

3. In which school(s) is/are your child(ren) currently enrolled? Please check all that apply.

( ) Atholton ES
( ) Bellows Spring ES
( ) Bollman Bridge ES
( ) Bryant Woods ES
( ) Bushy Park ES
( ) Cedar Lane
( ) Centennial Lane ES
( ) Clarksville ES
( ) Clemens Crossing ES
( ) Cradlerock ES
( ) Dayton Oaks ES
( ) Deep Run ES
( ) Ducketts Lane ES
( ) Elkridge ES

( ) Forest Ridge ES
( ) Fulton ES
( ) Gorman Crossing ES
( ) Guilford ES
( ) Hammond ES
( ) Hollifield Station ES
( ) Ilchester ES
( ) Jeffers Hill ES
( ) Laurel Woods ES
( ) Lisbon ES
( ) Longfellow ES
( ) Manor Woods ES
( ) Northfield ES
( ) Phelps Luck ES

( ) Pointers Run ES
( ) Rockburn ES
( ) Running Brook ES
( ) St. John's Lane ES
( ) Stevens Forest ES
( ) Swansfield ES
( ) Talbott Springs ES
( ) Thunder Hill ES
( ) Triadelphia Ridge ES
( ) Veterans ES
( ) Waterloo ES
( ) Waverly ES
( ) West Friendship ES
( ) Worthington ES

4. In which school(s) is/are your child(ren) currently enrolled? Please check all that apply.

( ) Bonnie Branch MS
( ) Burleigh Manor MS
( ) Cedar Lane
( ) Clarksville MS
( ) Dunloggin MS
( ) Elkridge Landing MS
( ) Ellicott Mills MS
( ) Folly Quarter MS

( ) Glenwood MS
( ) Hammond MS
( ) Homewood
( ) Harper's Choice MS
( ) Lake Elkhorn MS
( ) Lime Kiln MS
( ) Mayfield Woods MS

( ) Mount View MS
( ) Murray Hill MS
( ) Oakland Mills MS
( ) Patapsco MS
( ) Patuxent Valley MS
( ) Thomas Viaduct MS
( ) Wilde Lake MS

5. In which school(s) is/are your child(ren) currently enrolled? Please check all that apply.

( ) Atholton HS
( ) Cedar Lane
( ) Centennial HS
( ) Glenelg High HS
( ) Hammond HS

( ) Homewood
( ) Howard HS
( ) Long Reach HS
( ) Marriotts Ridge HS
( ) Mt. Hebron HS

( ) Oakland Mills HS
( ) Reservoir HS
( ) River Hill HS
( ) Wilde Lake HS

6. Please indicate if you associate with any of the following religions. Please select all that apply.
[ ] Buddhism
[ ] Christianity
[ ] Hinduism
[ ] Judaism
[ ] Islam
[ ] Other (Please Specify) _____
( ) Prefer not to respond
( ) My family does not associate with any religions.

7. Please indicate if you and your child(ren) observe any of the following religious or cultural holidays. Select all that apply.
[ ] Christmas Day
[ ] Christmas Eve
[ ] Diwali
[ ] Easter Monday
[ ] Eid al-Adha
[ ] Eid al-Fitr
[ ] Lunar New Year Day
[ ] Rosh Hashanah
[ ] Yom Kippur
[ ] Other Observance 1 _____
[ ] Other Observance 2 _____
[ ] Other Observance 3 _____
[ ] Prefer not to respond
[ ] My family does not observe any religious holidays

8. In the past, did your child attend school during the following observances when schools were in session?

	YES, MY CHILD ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR THE FULL DAY.	YES, MY CHILD ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR PART OF THE DAY (MORNING).	YES, MY CHILD ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR PART OF THE DAY (AFTERNOON).	YES, MY CHILD ATTENDED SCHOOL, BUT WOULD HAVE PARTICIPATED IN OBSERVING THE HOLIDAY IF SCHOOL WERE NOT IN SESSION.	NO, MY CHILD DID NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.
Diwali	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Eid al-Adha	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Eid al-Fitr	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Lunar New Year Day	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 1	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 2	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 3	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

9. You indicated that your family celebrates the following holiday(s). If schools were open on the following day(s), please indicate whether your child would attend or not:

	MY CHILD WOULD ATTEND SCHOOL FOR THE FULL DAY.	MY CHILD WOULD ATTEND SCHOOL FOR PART OF THE DAY (MORNING).	MY CHILD WOULD ATTEND SCHOOL FOR PART OF THE DAY (AFTERNOON).	MY CHILD WOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.
Diwali	( )	( )	( )	( )
Easter Monday	( )	( )	( )	( )
Eid al-Adha	( )	( )	( )	( )
Eid al-Fitr	( )	( )	( )	( )
Lunar New Year Day	( )	( )	( )	( )
Rosh Hashanah	( )	( )	( )	( )
Yom Kippur	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 1	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 2	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other Observance 3	( )	( )	( )	( )

The next question addresses HCPSS religious observances absence policies.

10. Please indicate whether you are aware of the following existing policies and practices at HCPSS:

	YES, I AM AWARE OF THIS POLICY/PRACTICE.	NO, I AM NOT AWARE OF THIS POLICY/PRACTICE.
Students missing school for a religious observance is a lawfully excused absence.	( )	( )
Students who miss school due to a lawful, religious observance must be given time to make up schoolwork.	( )	( )
HCPSS attempts to avoid scheduling schoolwide events on days of religious observance.	( )	( )

For more information about:

- **Policy 3000 Religious Observances**, please go to:
  http://www.hcpss.org/f/board/policies/3000.pdf
- **Policy 9010 Attendance**, please go to:
  http://www.hcpss.org/f/board/policies/9010.pdf

11. For the upcoming 2016-17 academic year, the HCPSS is implementing full-day school closings for the following holidays. Do you agree that schools should be closed for students on these days? *Note that the 2016-17 calendar will not be changed based on these responses; we will use this information as feedback in planning the 2017-18 calendar.*

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
Diwali	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Eid al-Adha	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Lunar New Year Eve	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Rosh Hashanah	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Yom Kippur	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

12. Please provide any additional comments you have regarding the HCPSS's holiday calendar below.

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_____
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