

Your School Calendar *How Is It Determined?*

FCPS staff works with a Calendar Committee to prepare calendar options for upcoming school years for the Board of Education's review, modification and approval. The Board publishes the proposed calendar and solicits input from employees and the community.

The chief objective of calendar design is to maximize the amount of instructional time in full-week sessions. The greatest challenge is balancing this objective with the following scheduling factors:

- Federal, state and local Board-approved holidays
- State-required 180-day school year for students
- Mandated state and national testing dates (HSA, MCAP, PSAT, SAT, AP)
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Adequate days for terms and semesters
- Negotiated work years for employee groups
- Time for teacher training and work sessions
- Availability of commencement ceremony facilities
- Local college schedules
- Community priorities

2010		2011	
August 17-20	Teachers Report to Work, Training and Preparation	January 1	Schools Re-open
August 23	First Day of School	January 19-23	High School Assessments
September 6	Schools Closed: BIC Approved Holiday	January 24	First Semester (Second Term) Ends
September 7	Schools Closed: BIC Approved Holiday	January 27	Schools Closed: State-Mandated Holiday
September 14	Schools Closed for Primary Grades, State-Mandated Holiday	January 28	Schools Closed for Students: Professional Development for Staff
September 16	Schools Closed for Students: Fall Day, Teacher Work Day	January 29	Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Work Day
October 1	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session	January 30	Second Semester (Third Term) Begins
October 6-7	High School Assessments	February 19	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session
October 12	PLAC Testing	February 20	Schools Closed: State-Mandated Holiday
October 13	Schools Closed: BIC Approved Holiday	March 3	All schools report 9 hours late due to existing Parent Teacher Conferences. No pay & classes. High schools hold Weeks 3 and 4
October 14	State-Supervised Educational Training	March 4	All schools dismiss 3:15 hours early due to afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences. No pay & classes. High schools hold Weeks 1 and 2
October 20	End of 2nd Term	March 7-10	Marched School Assessments: Math and Reading
November 1	Schools Closed for Students, Teacher Work Day	March 24	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session, End of Third Term
November 19	Schools Closed for General Dismissal, State-Mandated Holiday	March 25	Schools Closed for Students, Teacher Work Day
November 23	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session	March 29-31	Marched School Assessments: Science
November 25	All schools open 4 hours late due to evening Parent Teacher Conferences. No pay & classes. High schools hold Weeks 5 and 6	April 1-21	Marched School Assessments: Science
November 26	All schools dismiss 3:15 hours early due to afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences. No pay & classes. High schools hold Weeks 1 and 2	April 19-22	Schools Closed: BIC Approved Holiday
November 29-30	Schools Closed: BIC Approved Holiday for Students and some Staff November 29, State-Mandated Holiday November 30 and 26	April 22-23	Schools Closed: State-Mandated Holiday
December 1	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session	May 3	2 Hour Early Dismissal for Students, Teacher Work Session
December 14-15	Schools Closed: State-Mandated Holiday	May 10-19	High School Assessments
		May 20	Schools Closed: State-Mandated Holiday
		May 27	2 Hour Early Dismissal/Last Day of School for Students
		June 1-10	Last Day of School for Teachers

*Includes 1 day for snow or other emergency closings. If all days are not needed the school year will be shortened by the number of unused days to provide 180 days for students. If more days are required the year will be made up to the extent February 12, April 16, 19, 20 and May 14.

The school-year end date usually allows for at least 4-5 snow or other emergency closings. If all are not needed, the school year is shortened by the number of unused days to meet the 180-day minimum for student days. If more make-up days are required, they may be added as necessary. The Board includes make-up dates in the calendar.

The length of spring break, parent-teacher conference dates, teacher work days and a variety other dates are subject to change from one school calendar to the next.