

Board Action Summary

An Outline of Board Member Raaheela Ahmed's Recommendation

New Program: Yes • No X

Modified Program: Yes • No X

Subject: *Commemorating the Month of Ramadan (April 13 – May 12, 2021)*

Abstract and Highlights: As done in previous years, the Prince George's County Board of Education would like to commemorate the month of Ramadan (April 13 – May 12, 2021).

During the month of Ramadan, the most sacred month for Muslims, believers practice self-restraint, between dawn and dusk through the spiritual tradition of fasting. Ramadan is also a time where Muslims offer extended prayers, and immense thanks, giving and service to others. Muslims worldwide in the observance of the month of Ramadan are united as one community in their traditions and faith, which emphasizes self-sacrifice and service to humanity.

Additionally, the end of the month of Ramadan is celebrated by Muslims via the Eid-ul-Fitr holiday. Last year, for the first time ever, the Prince George's County Board of Education approved a school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year that marks schools and offices closed on the projected day of Eid-ul-Fitr, which is Thursday, May 13, 2021.

Budget Implications: None

Staffing Implications: None

School(s) Affected: All Schools

Preparation Date: March 29, 2021

Endorsed: _____

Person Preparing: Raaheela Ahmed (Board Member District 5)

Approved: _____

Board Agenda Introduction Date (Consent): April 15, 2021

Chief Executive Officer

Board Action Date (Consent): April 15, 2021

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the Month of Ramadan (April 13 – May 12, 2021)

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 1.8 billion people of the Muslim faith living around the world, and, it is estimated that between 4-5 million Muslims reside in the United States; and

WHEREAS, people of the Muslim faith observe Ramadan during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, in which participating Muslims abstain from food and drink from dawn to sunset as a spiritual practice; and

WHEREAS, fasting is meant to teach patience, modesty, and spirituality, and Ramadan is a time for Muslims to fast for the sake of God, increase their acts of worship and learn self-restraint to become better individuals, and is observed by many of the world's faiths; and

WHEREAS, the student and faculty population of the Prince George's County Public School system is comprised of diverse individuals of various backgrounds, beliefs and religious practices which is reflective of the increasing diversity of the county;

WHEREAS, the month of Ramadan begins this year at sunset on April 13, 2021 and is projected to end at sunset on May 12, 2021 and many students and faculty will be observing the fasts of Ramadan during each school day;

WHEREAS, the month of Ramadan ends with the celebration of the Eid-ul-Fitr holiday, which is projected to be Thursday, May 13, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Board of Education approved a school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year that marks schools and offices closed on the projected day of Eid-ul-Fitr;

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Board of Education expresses its friendship and support for the Muslim community at large and extends sincere well wishes to the Muslims of Prince George's County for the successful completion of the observance of the month of Ramadan.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Prince George's County, Maryland Board of Education acknowledges the month of Ramadan and especially commends its students, teachers and staff for their recognition and observance of the month of Ramadan.

Dr. Juanita Miller

Monica Goldson, Ed.D.

Chair, Board of Education

Chief Executive Officer