## OFFICE OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

TO:

Town Council

FROM:

Patrick G. Alair, Corporation Counsel

DATE:

April 3, 2018

RE:

Board of Education - Adoption of School Calendar for 2019-2020

By e-mail message dated March 28, 2018, Councilor Williams posed a series of questions to this office regarding the recent action taken by the Board of Education with respect to its 2019-2020 school calendar. Because this subject occupied a significant portion of the last Town Council meeting, I believe it is most appropriate to provide my responses to the entire Town Council. Additionally, since the Board of Education is viewed as an agency of the Town in many respects and because I also serve as its legal advisor in that capacity, it is only appropriate that I provide the Board with copies of my response as well. See West Hartford Public Schools Bylaw 8146.

#### Background:

Before addressing Councilor Williams' specific questions let me spend a moment making certain that we all understand exactly what the Board actually did. This is important if for no other reason than to correct an overly-broad headline in the Hartford Courant of March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 which may have fueled some of the ire regarding this issue.

At its regular meeting of February 21, 2018, the Board of Education took the following action, as reflected it its minutes:

Mrs. Blanks moved and Mr. Zydanowicz seconded:

THAT the Board of Education review as a first Reading the proposed calendar for the 2019-2020 school year.

Discussion on the motion included the request for two calendars proposed for the second reading one to include the changing of Columbus day to Indigenous Peoples Day.

Motion passed.



#### **TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD**

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The minutes of that same meeting indicate that during the public communications portion of the Board's agenda, five members of the public had spoken regarding changing the Columbus Day reference on the school calendar to identify it as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

At the Board's meeting of March 20, 2018, four additional people spoke regarding the renaming of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day. The Board was provided with two copies of the school calendar and a summary memo prepared for the Board by Superintendent Moore which described the two versions as follows:

As a result of the discussion at the First Reading of the proposed 2019-2020 calendar on February 21, 2018, two options are being considered: Option 1 renaming October 14 as Indigenous Peoples Day, Option 2 referencing October 14 as Columbus Day. The dates on the proposed calendars comply with the CREC Uniform Regional Calendar recommendations.<sup>2</sup>

Unlike the Town Council, the Board does not maintain verbatim minutes of its meetings. Its minutes are summary in nature and, as a result, some details of the discussion are lost to posterity. We have spoken with Board staff, however, and can also report that in addition to the people who spoke at the Board meeting, the Board also received 22 letters of which 17 either explicitly or implicitly supported changing the name while 5 opposed doing so. Six teachers weighed in with 5 in favor and 1 against. An on-line petition to change the name garnered 660 signatures and a post on the "Neighbors and Friends in West Hartford" Facebook group (which has over 13,000 members) regarding the petition had over 350 comments, some pro and others con. We note this simply to demonstrate that the Board's action was not taken without public input and was not taken in the dead of night when no one was looking, as some have suggested. To the contrary, the matter was on the agendas of, and was discussed at two public meetings held several weeks apart. Members of the public signed a petition and discussed the matter on Facebook. Others actually addressed the issue at both of those meetings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Pursuant to General Statutes §10-66q, each regional school service center was directed to establish a uniform school calendar. Each local board of education within that region was empowered, but not required to adopt the uniform school calendar so established. The Capitol Region Education Council established its uniform school calendar in April, 2014. A copy of that calendar is attached.

Ultimately, the Board voted to adopt the version of the school calendar which identified October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day. The minutes of the Board's meeting reflect the following:

Mrs. Blanks moved and Mr. Pauluk seconded:

THAT the Board of Education review as a Second and Final the proposed calendars for the 2019-2020 school year, option 1, renaming October 14 as Indigenous Peoples Day.

Motion passed.

Mr. Zydanowicz moved and Mr. Pauluk seconded:

THAT the Board of Education study the making of Indigenous Peoples' Day a full day of school.

Motion Passed.

A copy of the adopted version of the 2019-2020 school calendar is attached hereto.

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, the Hartford Courant reported the Board's action under the headline "West Hartford Changes Columbus Day To Indigenous Peoples Day." While the story itself reported the Board's action more precisely, the headline is easily subject to misinterpretation as some sort of town-wide action which is broader in scope or effect than the action which was actually taken by the Board.<sup>3</sup> Since the Board's action was reported, there has been a certain amount of dissatisfaction expressed by some in the community regarding the Board's decision to identify October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day rather than Columbus Day while others clearly supported the change.

To be clear, both versions of the proposed calendar identified October 14, 2019 as a "Holiday/Vacation." The difference between them was simply the label assigned to that date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Indeed, citing the Hartford Courant article as authority, Wikipedia is already listing "West Hartford" among 73 locations where Indigenous Peoples' Day is celebrated "instead of Columbus Day" rather than stating, more accurately, that the West Hartford Public Schools do so. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous Peoples%27 Day

No action has been taken by the Town Council, the Board of Education or any other local official or authority to change "Columbus Day" to "Indigenous Peoples Day" on any other document or in any other context. The Board did not add or subtract a day when school is not in session but it did vote to study whether Indigenous Peoples' Day should become a full day of school. Finally, the CREC regional school calendar still lists Columbus Day as a recommended school holiday.

#### Analysis:

I start my analysis of Councilor Williams' questions with the general observation that the term "holiday" is used widely but both imprecisely and inconsistently. Connecticut law uses the term "legal holiday" to refer to a set of specific holidays which are listed in General Statutes §1-4. The phrase "legal holiday" is then used elsewhere in the statutes in a variety of different contexts, most of which appear to be similar to that found in General Statutes §1-3a:

Any state or municipal license or permit fee which is due and payable on a date certain which falls on a Saturday, Sunday *or legal holiday* shall be payable on the next business day thereafter.

(Emphasis added.) Our own Code of Ordinances uses the phrase "legal holiday" in much the same way. For example, West Hartford Code of Ordinances §155-36A states, in part, that "[p]ermits shall be issued or denied within 72 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays *and legal holidays*) after the application has been filed." (Emphasis added.)

Though there is no requirement anywhere in Connecticut law that legal holidays be observed by the public at large in any particular way,<sup>4</sup> it is plain from the context in which the term "legal holiday" is generally used that public offices are not expected to be open for business on those days. Connecticut case law has recognized this notion for decades:

The Legislature has designated certain days as legal holidays without stipulating in any general way what is the effect intended.... It must have intended to attach to those days the significance generally accorded a holiday in the civil law, that is, it is a day on which the ordinary occupations are suspended, a day of exemption or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Indeed, several of the days which are legal holidays appear to be honored mostly by the holding of retail sales events at businesses which remain open to the public.

> cessation from work, a day of religious observance or of recreation or amusement.... Certainly when the Legislature declares a day to be a holiday, it means at least to free public officers from the obligation of keeping open their offices or attending to their duties on that day...

Lamberti v. City of Stamford, 131 Conn. 396, 399-400, 40 A.2d 190 (1944). See also West v. Yamin, Superior Court of Connecticut, Judicial District of Danbury, 1992 WL 329282 (October 27, 1992).<sup>5</sup>

Among the legal holidays established in General Statutes §1-4, the second Monday in October is designated as a legal holiday known as Columbus Day. The Board's action to rename Columbus Day on its school calendar was not an attempt to establish or eliminate a legal holiday. The legal holiday of Columbus Day remains a legal holiday under State law. Any reference to Columbus Day in any document is still entirely clear because Columbus Day is still a statutorily defined term, independent of the Board's action. The Board took no action to require observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day in a particular manner by anyone, including its students and staff. It certainly did not attempt to establish a town-wide holiday in any way. It simply renamed what is already a recognized legal holiday on its school calendar.

Clearly, however, the term "holiday" is used far more broadly than is the statutory definition of "legal holiday." The current primary definition of "Holiday" offered by Merriam-Webster's Dictionary is:

- 1 : holy day ·an important Muslim holiday
- 2: a day on which one is exempt from work; specifically: a day marked by a general suspension of work in commemoration of an event ·will be closed for the July 4th holiday ·a national holiday ·plans for the holiday weekend
- 3 chiefly British: vacation —often used in the phrase on holiday ·going on holiday —often used in plural ·spent the summer holidays in Spain
- 4: a period of exemption or relief ·corporations enjoying a tax holiday

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Furthermore, as will be discussed below, it appears to be assumed that local boards of education will not hold classes on many legal holidays but, subject to limited exceptions, does not prohibit them from doing so.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/holiday. That same entry also offers several other secondary uses of the term:

to take or spend a vacation or holiday (see holiday 2) especially in travel or at a resort: vacation ·will holiday this year at the shore

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a special day of celebration: a day when most people do not have to work

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to spend a holiday in or at a particular place

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1: a special day of celebration during which schools and businesses are often closed

2 chiefly British: vacation

Id. (Footnotes omitted.)

Thus, the term "holiday" would include those days or dates which are "legal holidays" within the meaning of General Statutes §1-4, but is substantially broader than just that list. It includes any day upon which one is exempt from work and may also refer to certain days of religious observance. I note this because I can find no requirement in Connecticut law which mandates that the Board only honor legal holidays in establishing its school calendar. Indeed, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Election Day, "Holiday Recess", "Winter Recess" and the reference to "Presidents' Day" within the "Winter Recess", Good Friday and "Spring Recess" make up more than half of the days upon which no school is held in West Hartford. They are all "holidays" in the sense that they are days upon which no classes are held at our public schools but they are not "legal holidays" in the statutory sense.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Though widely celebrated as "Presidents' Day", the legal holiday found in General Statutes §1-4 is "Washington's Birthday."

That having been said, the Board went on to take a second action, asking that a study be undertaken to determine whether Indigenous Peoples' Day should become a full school day. While General Statutes §1-4 does not mandate the manner in which legal holidays must be observed, it does provide that:

When any such holiday, except holidays in January and December, occurs on a school day, each local and regional board of education may close the public schools under its jurisdiction for such day or hold a session of the public schools on such day, provided, if a session is held, the board shall require each school to hold a suitable nonsectarian educational program in observance of such holiday. If a holiday in January or December occurs on a school day, there shall be no session of the public schools on such day.

General Statutes §1-4 (emphasis added). Should the Board determine, at some future point, to hold classes on Indigenous Peoples' Day, it is my interpretation of General Statutes §1-4 that an educational program in observance of the *legal holiday* - Columbus Day - would be required. I would also note that General Statutes §10-29a(13) separately provides that:

The Governor shall proclaim the second Monday in October of each year to be Columbus Day. Suitable exercises shall be held in the public schools, having reference to the historical events connected therewith and in commemoration of the Italian people, their culture and the great contribution they have made to this country, such exercises to be held during the week within which Columbus Day occurs or on such other day as the local or regional board of education prescribes.

Thus, regardless of the Board's action to adopt its school calendar or any further action which it might take in the future to hold classes on the day which it describes as Indigenous Peoples' Day, state law currently requires that the manner in which Columbus Day has come to be observed must be addressed through educational programing in our schools.

With this general background in mind, we turn to the specific questions posed by Councilor Williams.

# 1. Is there a specific state or federal law or BOE bylaw that provided the BOE with the authority to take the action that it did.

Answer: Yes.<sup>7</sup> The specific action which the Board of Education took was to adopt its school calendar for the year 2019-2020. General Statutes §10-221(a) provides, in relevant part, that "[b]oards of education shall prescribe rules for the management, studies, classification and discipline of the public schools." This language is clearly broad enough to provide local boards of education with authority to manage the days/dates upon which school is to be in session.

Additionally, General Statutes §§10-15 and 10-16 require local school districts to provide for a minimum of 180 school days per school year, but do not mandate the specific dates upon which those school days must occur. The establishment of dates upon which instructional days are to be held plainly falls within the discretion of the local board of education. Indeed, that was the clear conclusion of the Connecticut Supreme Court in a seminal case regarding collective bargaining which originated in West Hartford. There the question was whether the school calendar was a mandatory subject of collective bargaining and the court ruled that:

The omission of the words 'hours of employment' in the Teacher Negotiation Act evidences a legislative judgment that teachers' 'hours of employment' determine students' hours of education and that this is an important matter of educational policy which should be reserved to the board of education.

(Emphasis added.) The court then went on to conclude that the school calendar was not a mandatory subject of bargaining. *West Hartford Ed. Ass'n v. DeCourcy*, 162 Conn. 566, 580, 295 A.2d 526 (1972).

The board of education shall elect its own chairperson and, subject to the provisions of this charter, *shall perform such duties and have such powers as are imposed upon or vested in boards of education in the several towns by general statutes*.

(Emphasis added.) Thus, our Charter affords the Board of Education all the powers and duties available to any Board of Education in the State pursuant to state law. Equally important, it does not reserve any of those powers to the Town Council or to any other body.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Though the question does not specifically request references to our Charter, West Hartford Charter, Ch. X, §1 provides that:

General Statutes §10-66q also appears to be premised upon the notion that local school boards have the power to adopt a local school calendar by virtue of allowing, but not requiring them to adopt the regional uniform school calendar. Regardless of which calendar is adopted, the statute presumes that the local school board will adopt a calendar. Similarly, the language contained in General Statutes §1-4 previously quoted provides that even with respect to statutorily recognized legal holidays, local boards of education are empowered to establish the days upon which schools will hold classes and that they may even do so, subject to certain limitations, on some days which are otherwise recognized as legal holidays.

Finally, General Statutes §10-15 also establishes mechanisms for the State Board of Education to authorize departures from the general 180-school-day requirement in specific cases when local schools or school districts cannot meet it in the traditional manner. It appears clear, however, that those departures must be initiated by the local board of education.

Read together, these statutes clearly put the establishment of the annual school calendar squarely within the jurisdiction of the local board of education. That includes both the establishment of days when school is to be in session and the establishment of days - holidays - when it is not in session.

At your last Town Council meeting, Councilor Williams made several references to the bylaws of the Board of Education. He makes another reference to those bylaws in this written question. The bylaws of the West Hartford Board of Education are contained as one chapter within a document generally known as the Board Policy Book. Chapters 1000 through 6000 of that book deal with various operational aspects of the West Hartford public school system while Chapter 8000 is entitled "Board Operations and Bylaws." (There is no Chapter 7000.) As I indicated last Tuesday evening, these bylaws are not akin to our Charter in that they do not provide the Board with any legal authority in and of themselves. They are really rules of procedure adopted by the Board which address how the Board will operate, much like the Town Council's Standing Rules. The bylaws, therefore, really add very little to any discussion of the legal authority pursuant to which the Board acted. That having been said, Section 8100 of the Board's bylaws is entitled "Purpose of the Board of Education" and sets out the Board's own view of its role:

In accordance with the General Statutes and Town Charter, the West Hartford Board of Education is the duly constituted authority of the Town of West Hartford *in all matters relating to the organization and operations* of the schools.

The Board of Education shall act as a policy-making and appraisal body, delegating all administrative functions to the Superintendent of Schools and her/his staff. The Board of Education shall have the following responsibilities:

- •Identify and interpret the needs and values of the community for the Superintendent.
- •Adopt an annual budget.
- •Select, review, compensate and if necessary, dismiss the Superintendent.
- •Establish broad board policy.
- •Engage in periodic long-term district-wide planning.
- •Affirm or amend district mission framework regularly.
- •Affirm or amend district goals and related indicators regularly.
- •Review the programs and performance of the schools.
- •Recommend capital improvements to the Town Council.
- •Educate and engage the community in the life of the schools.
- •Other actions as required by law or regulation.
- •Advocate with legislators, Town Council, and other policymakers on behalf of the West Hartford Public Schools.

(Emphasis added.) In choosing to identify "Indigenous Peoples' Day" rather than "Columbus Day", the Board was identifying and interpreting the needs and values of the community for the Superintendent as it saw those needs and values. More formally, it was also addressing an organizational and operational matter and taking an action required by law or regulation in that it was adopting a school calendar which ensured that at least 180 days of education would be provided to West Hartford students in the 2019-2020 school year.

Bylaw 8310, entitled "Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies and Bylaws" also states that:

The Board of Education shall formulate and adopt general policies for the operation and improvement of the schools.

New policies and bylaws will require two readings at public sessions of the Board of Education. Non-substantive amendments of said policies and bylaws may be made after one public reading of the proposed change, while substantive amendments of policies and bylaws shall be made only after a second public reading of the proposed change. Policies and bylaws shall be effective when adopted unless otherwise required by statute.

The adoption of the 2019-2020 school calendar followed this procedure exactly. Thus, it comported with the substance of State law and with the Board's established processes for taking action.

Finally, West Hartford Public Schools Policy 6110 specifically implements the Board's obligation to establish a statutorily-compliant school year, stating that:

The school year shall be at least 180 days. The Board may permit the operation of schools on state holidays providing a suitable nonsectarian educational program is held to observe the holiday, except for holidays which occur on those school days when school cannot be held pursuant to state statute. Extra days shall be included in the calendar in order to permit emergency closings in case of inclement weather or other emergencies which would make attendance at school unsafe for children.

The 2019-2020 school calendar complies with this policy as well.

# 2. If any such authorizing law is identified- has it -or a law consistently of similar language - ever been used as the basis for exercising such authority by any other BOE in the past?

Answer: I believe so. To the best of my knowledge, each school district in Connecticut adopts a school calendar of its own. Given that the Uniform Regional Calendar adopted by CREC includes several "holidays" which are not among the "legal holidays" found at General Statutes §1-4, it is reasonable to assume that other school districts have adopted school calendars which identify holidays other than "legal holidays." I am unaware of any other school districts in Connecticut which have identified Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day on their school calendar but I can only assume that others may have adopted "Presidents' Day" instead of the correct legal holiday known as "Washington's Birthday" as that is how the holiday is listed on the CREC Regional Uniform School Calendar. Clearly the use of the term "Presidents' Day" is less fraught here in Connecticut but in the southern United States, the celebration of a holiday tied to Abraham Lincoln as well as George Washington might still be controversial in some quarters.

## 3. If any such authorizing law is identified- has it ever been challenged in court (with respect to creating or renaming holidays)?

Answer: First, I must note, as I have done before, that the Board did not "create" a holiday. October 14, 2019 is already a State holiday known statewide as Columbus Day. Nor did it take any action to "rename" Columbus Day anywhere but on the school calendar. Its only action was to adopt a school calendar. I can find no reported cases which challenge the adoption of a school

calendar or how any individual holiday on such a calendar was identified. Nor can I find any cases specific to Columbus Day being renamed Indigenous Peoples' Day in any other context, though I found one trial court opinion in a divorce case in which that holiday was identified as "Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day" in the context of visitation orders. *Thunelius v. Posacki*, Superior Court of Connecticut, Judicial District of Stamford–Norwalk at Stamford, 2017 WL 3332731 (June 29, 2017).

## 4. In the alternative, if the BOE acted without the requisite authority what actions can the Town take to address the BOE's action?

Answer: Though I have opined that the Board *did* have the authority to adopt a school calendar as it did, I believe the answer to this question serves to make a point which underlies my answers to the three preceding questions.

The Board adopted a school calendar. For "the Town" (by which I assume that Councilor Williams meant the Town Council) to take any direct action in response thereto, it would have to claim the right to exercise authority over the school calendar. I see absolutely no basis in our Charter or elsewhere Connecticut law for the Town Council to claim any such authority. As discussed above, that seems to be a power squarely reserved to the Board. While it might seem tempting to argue that this particular detail of the school calendar has no bearing on education or educational policy, the very fact that the Board's decision has stirred so much controversy suggests otherwise. The fact that local boards of education are required to undertake educational programming related to any legal holiday upon which it holds classes also suggests that this is a matter of educational policy.

Furthermore, there is no intellectual distinction to be made between changing this component of the school calendar and any other. Thus, in order to conclude that the Town Council could take any direct action to address this issue would be to imply that you could take action to alter the school calendar, including the addition or subtraction of school days or holidays. Based upon the analysis offered above, I believe such a course would be entirely improper.

The Town Council could certainly take indirect action to reaffirm its own commitment to the designation of Columbus Day as a holiday. It could, for example, adopt a resolution reaffirming the Town's recognition of the Columbus Day holiday and urging the Board to reconsider its action. Bluntly, however, I must advise you that any such a resolution would have exactly as much legal significance as did the Board's reference to Indigenous Peoples' Day on its school calendar: Absolutely none. The legal holiday recognized in Connecticut will still be

Columbus Day with or without such a resolution, just as it will still be Columbus Day despite the Board's decision to identify it as Indigenous Peoples' Day on its school calendar.

Finally, the Town Council could attempt to challenge the Board's action in court. The mechanism would be to bring what is known as a mandamus action seeking to compel the Board to amend the school calendar to refer to the day in question as Columbus Day. As noted above, I have found no record of any similar action in Connecticut. That may be due, in part, to the very serious impediments to any such action. First, I do not believe that the Town Council (or anyone else for that matter) has standing to bring such an action based upon the facts of this case:

Mandamus... is an action to compel performance by a public official of a mandatory and ministerial duty. Among its requirements is a showing by the applicant that he has a clear legal right to have the duty performed. *Bahramian v. Papandrea*, 184 Conn. 1, 3, 440 A.2d 777 (1981). Even where the alleged duty is a public one, relief by way of mandamus is available only to one who has a complete and immediate right that the public act be done. *Ballas v. Woodin*, 155 Conn. 283, 284–85, 231 A.2d 273 (1967).

Civil Service Com'n v. Pekrul, 41 Conn. Supp. 302, 309, 571 A.2d 715 (1989). In this case, it is clear that the Board did perform its legal duty, though some may not like the way in which it did so. The manner in which it did so was neither mandatory, nor ministerial. Thus it does not lend itself to a mandamus action. Furthermore, I cannot see any legal injury which the Town or any taxpayer/resident of the Town could possibly have suffered as a result of the Board's action. Thus, I do not believe that a mandamus claim would survive a legal challenge to the putative plaintiff's standing.

Next, the bringing of a mandamus action would be extraordinarily expensive when compared to the very limited reward which any such action might bring. This office could not represent either party. Having been asked to opine and having opined as I have in this memorandum, my office certainly could not represent the Town Council in taking a contrary position. Nor do I think it would be appropriate to ask the Town Council to waive any claim regarding a conflict of interest so that this office could represent the Board. Thus, independent, private counsel would be required to represent both parties and the costs of those counsel would come out of our Town and Board budgets. Given the likely outcome which I have described above, this seems an unwarranted and unreasonable expenditure. Even if the action was to succeed, however, the result would not seem to be worth the expense.

### **Conclusion:**

The Board of Education took action to adopt its school calendar. It has clear legal authority to do so. While there may be public opposition to the Board's renaming of Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day on that calendar, that component of the Board's action has absolutely no legal significance and is not contrary to any state law. The Town Council may well agree with the public sentiment in opposition to this aspect of the Board's action and may wish to express such opposition, but it has no authority to overturn that action in any way.

c: West Hartford Board of Education
Essie Labrot, Town Clerk
Matthew Hart, Town Manager
Thomas Moore, Superintendent of Schools
File: Board of Education - General

#### Proposed Calendar Option 1

TOTAL DAYS: 182
First semester - 91
Second semester - 91



### School Calendar - 2019-2020

First Semester 91 Days AUGUST (3)	Important Dates		Second Semester 91 Days  JANUARY (1)					(6)
M T W TH F 19 20 21 22 23	Teacher In-service Days (no school for students)	Aug. 26-27	<u>M</u> _	<u>T</u>	W	TH	<u>F</u> 24	(6)
(19) (28) 29 30 (19)	First Day of School	Aug. 28	27	28 F	29 <b>EBRU</b> A	30 RV	31	(18)
M T W TH F 2 3 4 5 6	Labor Day	Sept. 2	<u>M</u>		W	TH	<u>F</u>	(10)
9 10 11 12 13	Rosh Hashanah	Sept. 30	3 10	11	5 12	6 13	7 14	
16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30	Yom Kippur	Oct. 9	17 24	18 25	19 26	20 27	21 28	
OCTOBER (21)	Indigenous Peoples Day	Oct. 14	λ (	Т	MARC W		T	(22)
M T W TH F	Election Day (teacher in-service, no sch	Nov. 5	<u>M</u> 2	3	4	<u>TH</u> 5	<u>F</u> 6	
1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25	Veterans Day (school in session)	Nov. 11	9 16 23 30	10 17 24 31*	11 18 25	12 19 26	13 20 27	
28 29 30 31	Thanksgiving Recess	Nov. 28-29	30	J1	APRIL	r		(16)
NOVEMBER         (18)           M         T         W         TH         F	Holiday Recess	Dec. 23-Jan. 1	<u>M</u>	Т	W1	TH 2	<u>F</u> 3	,
4 <b>5</b> 6* 7 8	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Jan. 20	6 13	7 14	8 15	9 16	10 17	
11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	Winter Recess (includes Presidents' Day	Feb. 17-18 on Feb. 17)	20 27	21 28	22 · 29	23 30	24	
DECEMBER (15)  M. T. W. TH. F.	Statewide Summative Assessments	March-May	_M_	<u> </u>	MAY W	TH	<u>F</u>	(20)
2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13	Good Friday	April 10	4 11	5 12	6 13	7 14	8 15	
<u>16 17 18 19 20</u>	Spring Recess	April 13-17	18 25	19 26	20 27	21 28	22 29	
23     24     25     26     27       30     31	Memorial Day	May 25		<u></u> 0		20	ر س	
JANUARY (15)  M T W TH F  1 2 3  6 7 8 9 10	Last Day of School  Legend: Teacher In-section (no school (1))  { } First Day of	June 11 service Days ol for students) School	<u>M</u> 1 8 ⟨5⟩	T 2 9	JUNE W 3 10 47	TH 4 11*	F 5	(9)
13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 *	☐ Holiday/Vac ★ End of Qua	ation			<b>(4)</b>	<b>Q</b> 3	<b>%</b>	

The last day of school is scheduled for June 11. All snow or emergency days will be made up after this date in order to provide 182 instructional days.

School calendars are posted on the West Hartford Public Schools website at www.whps.org

### CREC UNIFORM REGIONAL CALENDAR COMMITTEE MEETING

### April 1, 2014

### **Committee Recommendations**

CALENDAR ITEM	STATE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS and PROPOSED HOUSE BILL #5559	
START DATE	Last Wednesday in August (with + or – 3 days)	
LABOR DAY	Holiday	
COLUMBUS DAY	Holiday	
ELECTION DAY	No School Student Holiday/Regional PD	
VETERANS DAY	School in Session	
THANKSGIVING /FRIDAY After	Holiday - No School	
DECEMBER HOLIDAY	December 24 – January 1 If Christmas falls on Wednesday, no school on Monday the 23 <sup>rd</sup> . If New Year's Day falls on Thursday no school on Friday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. Day, HOLIDAY	Holiday	
FEBRUARY	Presidents Day — Holiday for all Tuesday following — Regional PD	
SPRING BREAK	Second full week of April following a 5 day week, Monday – Friday as week 1	
GOOD FRIDAY	School Day (Could use one of District's 5 Flex Days)	
MEMORIAL DAY	Holiday	
Last Day of School	District Decision; minimum of 180 student school days	