

PRESS RELEASE ON BEHALF OF THE RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 13, 2021

The Randolph Board of Education is aware of the large public outcry regarding our decision on June 10, 2021 to remove the names of the holidays from our school calendar. However, our actions are somehow being misconstrued by some to mean that the Randolph School District is no longer recognizing these holidays, teaching about them to our students and honoring the great veterans and the heroes for whom many of these holidays have been named. Nothing could be further from the truth. These State, Federal and other holidays have not been cancelled or taken away by this Board of Education as some are falsely claiming. Schools will still be closed on the days that we originally approved and our children will know why. They will still continue to receive instruction in schools about these important historical events and the people behind them. Everyone should remember that the primary purpose of the school calendar is to inform parents when schools will be open and when schools will be closed. In essence, it is a school *attendance* calendar which is why we did not feel the need to list every State, Federal and Religious holiday on the one (1) page calendar that we adopt every year. This is also consistent with the approach taken by neighboring school districts. Our State and Federal governments approve public holidays and the Randolph School District is in no way minimizing or taking that away from anyone. Everyone is still encouraged to celebrate them in whatever way they deem appropriate.