



Events & Activities @ Chinmayam



Petition for Diwali Holiday Montgomery and Howard County Public Schools

Dear Chinmaya Family,

Dr. Murali Balaji, Director of Education and Curriculum Reform of Hindu America Foundation, in concert with Dr. D.C. Rao and CMWRC Dharma Ambassadors are leading our efforts in soliciting the School Boards declare Diwali a school holiday.

We have a great opportunity as a community to voice our interest in Diwali Holiday be added to the School calendar. Recently, a significant discussion regarding the INCLUSION OF DIWALI as a holiday along with some changes to Jewish holidays and Chinese New year day in the Howard County and Montgomery County Public School System calendar took place. A few mission members testified in the Howard County Board of Education (HCBOE) hearing on Dec 17th.

We are making an URGENT appeal to all CMWRC members to join in one voice to urge the county BOE to add Diwali as a holiday in the public school calendar. We need your support.

The public is able to submit written testimony until January 5th (Montgomery) and January 12th (Howard). Here's all you have to do.

1) Click on the following link and sign the petition. Every family member (parents, grandparents, and children) is urged to sign the online petition.

Link for Howard County:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cwDzWWm_x01ieb2CSZnc8aeafA47qLcArYveMczVg4s/viewform?usp=send_form

Link for Montgomery County:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oIEwyoucYlL8exxeEZGjgCPWWCgvsGmDeSsZJYEv7uw/viewform?usp=send_form

2) In addition, every family member with an email address (parents, grandparents, and children) is urged to write a personal email to the board of education:

Montgomery County: boe@mcpsmd.org

Howard County: BOE@hcpss.org

Example write ups are also available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-P309fCgIDmY19QanB3eWs0ZiQ/view?usp=sharing>

Please bcc the email to CMWRC point of contact Nagaraj Neerchal (DewaliPetitions@Gmail.com) so that number of responses can be kept track of and used during negotiations.

Please also reach out to all your friends who are receptive to this idea, and ask them to sign the petition as well.

Thank you,

Hari Om!

Dharma Ambassador Team

www.chinmayadc.org

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[Annual Calendar Chinmayam 2015-2016](#)