

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: March 8, 2005

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **POLICY AND RULE 7520 - NEW CONSTRUCTION:**
OCCUPYING - NAMING OF THE BUILDING AND DEDICATION

ORIGINATOR: J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services

RESOURCE
PERSON(S): Barbara Burnopp, Executive Director, Fiscal Services
H. Scott Gehring, Executive Director of Schools

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approve the proposed changes to Policy 7520.

The Department of Fiscal Services is seeking approval of changes to Board Policy 7520 New Construction: Occupying - Naming of the Building and Dedication. This policy was updated as part of the initiative of the Division of Business Services to update outdated Board Policies. The policy was adopted in 1969 and has never been revised. All policies were reviewed by the Board Policy Review Committee on November 10, 2004, and the requested changes were made. This is the third reading of this policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis for 7330, 7520 and 7530
Attachment II - Draft revision of Board Policy 7520

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
Policy Analysis

Proposed Revision:

Policy 7520 - New Construction: Occupying – Naming of the Building and Dedication

Proposed New Policies:

Policy 7530 - New Construction: Occupying – Naming of a Capital Project or Area of a School

Policy 7330 - New Construction: Financing – Capital Projects that are Funded by Private
Donations

Statement of Issues Addressed by the Proposed Policy Revision

Policy 7520 was last updated in 1969, and merely addresses naming of school facilities. A Committee of principals, chaired by Robert Kemmery, former Executive Director of Schools, Southeast Area, initiated a review of Policy 7520 during the 2002-2003 school year to address the naming of school facilities. Subsequent reviews by law office and the Business Services Division determined that additional issues, including funding sources, review of documentation, and administrative process, required additional policies. Thus, Policy 7520 has been updated to specifically state that the Board of Education of Baltimore County has the sole control and authority over the naming of any building. The new policy also includes criteria for naming a building. Policy 7530 was developed for naming of a capital project or area within a school and the rule outlines the administrative process related to the proposed policy. Policy 7330 was developed for capital projects that are funded by private donations and the rule outlines the administrative process related to the proposed policy.

Cost Analysis

There is no specific new fiscal impact on the system as a result of the proposed revisions. If private funds are donated for a specific project, then revenues and expenditures would increase accordingly.

Legal Requirement

None.

Similar Policies Adopted by Other School Systems

Similar policies from other jurisdictions (Montgomery County, Charles County, and Prince George's Public Schools and School Board of the City of Virginia Beach) were reviewed in the development of these three proposed policies.

Draft of Proposed Policies and Rules

Policy 7330 (Exhibit D) attached

Policy 7530 (Exhibit C) and Policy 7520 (Exhibit B)

Rules 7520, 7530 and 7330 (Exhibit O, P, and Q)

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

Less guidance was considered and rejected.

NEW CONSTRUCTION: Occupying

Naming of the Building and Dedication

The Board of Education reserves the right to approve, or reject, a name for a new school building upon receiving a recommendation for same from the Superintendent of Schools. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY RESERVES SOLE CONTROL AND AUTHORITY OVER THE NAMING OF ANY SCHOOL. MOREOVER, THE BOARD HEREBY RETAINS THE RIGHT TO RENAME A SCHOOL AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE IF THE NAME IS DEEMED BY THE BOARD TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE EDUCATIONAL MISSION OR OTHERWISE DISRUPTIVE TO THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

Normally, the Board of Education [shall not name buildings for persons living or dead.] MAY NAME A SCHOOL AFTER:

- A. THE COMMUNITY, THE SUBDIVISION, THE STREET ON WHICH IT IS LOCATED
- B. THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE SCHOOL
- C. A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE LANDMARK, WHICH WILL IMMEDIATELY ASSIST ANYONE IN LOCATING THE GENERAL AREA OF THE SCHOOL
- D. A DECEASED, PROMINENT PERSON WHO HAS MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION OF SERVICE TO BALTIMORE COUNTY, THE STATE OF MARYLAND, OR TO THE UNITED STATES.

The Board of Education further reserves the right to approve as to design, wording, and placement, or reject, proposals for erecting memorials in the form of plaques or monuments in new school buildings or on their sites. The Superintendent of Schools shall establish administrative procedures for appropriate dedication ceremonies that may be celebrated following completion and occupancy of a new school project.

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7330, CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT ARE FUNDED BY PRIVATE DONATIONS

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7530, NAMING OF A CAPITAL PROJECT OR AREA OF A SCHOOL

Policy
Adopted: 9/25/69
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County