

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Date:** March 27, 2007

**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **PROPOSED DELETION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7230  
NEW CONSTRUCTION – PLANNING – FLEXIBILITY OF SCHOOL  
CONSTRUCTION**

**ORIGINATOR:** J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent

**RESOURCE  
PERSON(S):** Michael Sines, Executive Director, Physical Facilities

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education considers the deletion of Policy 7230. This is the first reading of this Policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Proposed Policy 7230

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY**  
Policy Analysis for Proposed Revision to Policy 7230  
New Construction – Planning – Flexibility of School Construction

Statement of Issues Addressed by the Proposed Policy Revision

It is recommended this policy be deleted. The architectural concept of large open spaces and use of partitions to create classroom spaces is no longer educationally desirable and is inconsistent with current educational philosophy. Additionally, open space construction is inconsistent with present mechanical building codes.

Cost Analysis

Our method of estimating construction costs will not change as a result of the deletion of this policy. Therefore, there will be no fiscal impact as a result of the proposed revision.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

Deletion will not affect any other Board policy.

Legal Requirement

None

Similar Policies Adopted by Other School Systems

Staff has found that no other school system possesses a policy.

Draft of Proposed Policy

See attached policy to be deleted.

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

No other alternative was considered.

NEW CONSTRUCTION: Planning

Flexibility of School Construction

Flexibility in the utilization of space has always been a primary objective in public school construction. The Board of Education of Baltimore County recognizes that large open space areas and self-contained classrooms represent two aspects of this flexibility.

In the construction of new school facilities, both open space and self-contained classrooms shall be provided, and the self-contained classrooms shall not be limited to art, music, special education, reading, etc. Walls defining self-contained classrooms shall be non-bearing to the extent possible in order that they may be located as needs dictate.

Large open space areas shall be so designed that dividing partitions can be installed to provide for smaller instructional areas and adequate circulation and egress as subsequent needs may dictate.

Policy  
Adopted: 2/28/74]

Board of Education of Baltimore County

[ ] brackets indicate deleted material