

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Date: May 8, 2007

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8120 –
INTERNAL BOARD PROCEDURES – PURPOSE AND ROLE OF THE
BOARD**

ORIGINATOR:

**RESOURCE
PERSON(S):**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education considers the proposed changes to Policy 8120. This is the third reading of this Policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Proposed Policy 8120

POLICY ANALYSIS

Revisions to Board of Education Policy 8120 and
Deletion of Policy 8150

Internal Board Policies: Purpose, Role and Responsibilities of the Board of Education (8120)
Internal Board Policies: Organization: Functional Responsibilities (8150)

Statement of issues or questions to be addressed by the proposed policy

The Ad Hoc Policy Committee is in the process of reviewing the Board's Internal policies. (8000 Series) In accordance with Policy 8130, the Board's Ad Hoc Committee provides the following rationale for deletion and its analysis for the revision of Policy 8120.

The Committee is recommending deletion of Policy 8150, as some of its content mirrors Policy 8120. Similarly, the Committee is recommending revisions to Policy 8120, some of which incorporate language found in Policy 8150.

As revised, Policy 8120 sets forth the Board's purpose, responsibilities, and role in the education process. While for the most part these statements reflect much of what can be found in state law, the Policy explicitly outlines the Board role as the governing body and policy make to guide the mission of the school system.

Fiscal Impact on the school system

No fiscal impact is anticipated or contemplated by these revisions.

Similar Policies adopted by other local school systems

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Code 200, School Board Legal Status

http://www.aacps.org/aacps/boe/board/newpolicy/Sections/section_200/policy200.pdf

Policy Code: 200.02, Board Powers and Duties

http://aacps.org/aacps/boe/board/newpolicy/Sections/section_200/policy200.02.pdf

FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy 400, Administration of the Public Schools

<http://www.fcps.org/dept/legal/400.pdf>

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Code BB, School Board Legal Status

Policy Code BBA, Board Governance and Operations

Legal Requirements, such as federal, state or local laws or regulations

Md. Ed. Art. §4-101 provides that “educational matters that affect the counties shall be under the control of a county board of education in each county” and that “each county board shall seek in every way to control and promote the interests of the schools under its jurisdiction.” Md. Ed. Art. §4-108 indicates that “each county board shall . . . carry out the applicable provisions of [the Education Article] and the bylaws, rules, regulations and policies of the State Board” and “adopt, codify and make available to the public bylaws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with state law, for the conduct and management of the county public schools.”

Md. Ed. Art. §4-109 gives to each county board the authority to establish public schools.

A draft of the proposed policy

See attached

Other alternatives that were considered by the Board members

The Board Committee members did not consider other alternatives.

Time Line

Opportunity for Citizen Comment, April 24, 2007

Proposed Date of Adoption, May 8, 2007

INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Organization

Purpose, [and] Role AND RESPONSIBILITIES of the Board OF EDUCATION

I. PURPOSE

A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County is empowered, directed, and required to maintain a reasonably uniform system of public schools designed to provide quality education and equal educational opportunity for all youth and shall be in control of all educational matters affecting Baltimore County. It [determines the educational policies for the county, acts upon recommended rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Schools for the conduct and management of the schools, and] seeks in every way to [advance the educational program.] PROMOTE THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY. The following are the basic responsibilities of the Board:

1. Reflect the aspirations and desires of the citizens for an adequate educational program;
2. Comply with federal and state laws and regulations;
3. Select the Superintendent of Schools;
4. [Cooperate with the Superintendent of Schools and the staff to investigate, analyze and determine the educational needs of the county and develop policies which will implement long-range planning]
- [5. Authorize and approve] APPOINT the personnel needed for developing and carrying out the educational program as recommended by the Superintendent;
- [6.] 5. Review the evaluation of the educational program as determined by the Superintendent and act upon recommendations contained therein;
- [7.] 6. Prepare and support an annual budget for the [operation of] OPERATING and capital needs of the school system;
- [8. Prepare, with the assistance of the Superintendent and the staff, a long-term plan for school construction]
- [9. Maintain a planned program of communication to keep the staff and the public well informed regarding the actions of the Board and the program of education.]

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL CONCERN ITSELF PRIMARILY WITH QUESTIONS OF POLICY RATHER THAN WITH ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS. THE APPLICATION OF POLICIES IS AN ADMINISTRATIVE TASK TO BE PERFORMED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND THE STAFF, WHO SHALL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION OF THE ENTIRE SCHOOL SYSTEM. THE BOARD, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, FULFILLS ITS MISSION BY ADOPTING POLICIES CONCERNING SUCH THINGS AS:

1. THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS WITH WHICH THE SCHOOLS ARE ACHIEVING THE EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM
2. THE APPOINTMENT OF A STAFF, AND ITS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN REACHING APPROPRIATE GOALS
3. THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO THE SCHOOLS, NECESSARY FOR CREATING A WELL-INFORMED PUBLIC
4. THE PLANNING, EXPANSION, IMPROVEMENT, FINANCING, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PHYSICAL PLANT OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM
5. THE STANDARDS NEEDED FOR THE EFFICIENT OPERATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM
6. THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS, ACCOUNTS, ARCHIVES, MANAGEMENT METHODS AND PROCEDURES INCIDENTAL TO THE CONDUCT OF SCHOOL BUSINESS
7. THE BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORTS, AUDITS, MAJOR EXPENDITURES, PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS, AND POLICIES WHEREBY THE ADMINISTRATION MAY FORMULATE PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS, AND OTHER GUIDES FOR THE ORDERLY ACCOMPLISHMENT OF BUSINESS.

Legal Reference: Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article
§[4-107] 4-108 Duties in general.
§4-101, CONTROL AND PROMOTION OF EDUCATION

ALL CAPS indicate new material
[] brackets indicate deleted material

Policy
Adopted: 4/13/72
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County