

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** April 22, 2008

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

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

**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 1270 –  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: PARENT/GUARDIAN AND FAMILY  
INVOLVEMENT**

**ORIGINATOR:** Sonia Diaz, Chief Academic Officer

**RESOURCE  
PERSONS:** Verletta White, Executive Director, Professional Development

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Board of Education review the proposed changes to Policy 1270. This is the first reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Policy 1270

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY**

## **Policy Analysis for Board of Education Policy 1270**

### *Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement*

#### **Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed**

Board of Education Policy 1270 lacks language that explicitly addresses the partnerships among parents/guardians, community members, and schools necessary to collaboratively promote student achievement. The concept of partnership is prevalent in the current research on effective parent/guardian and family involvement. During the annual review of this policy (a requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001), community stakeholders voiced concern regarding the omission of language pertaining to family-school partnerships.

#### **Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System**

The Board will not incur additional costs by amending Policy 1270.

#### **Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies**

Board of Education Policies 1100, *Communication with the Public*; 1200, *Community Involvement*; 1220, *Citizens Advisory Committee*; 1240, *Visits to Schools*; 1250, *Participation in the Local School by Community Members*; 1260, *School Volunteers*

#### **Legal Requirements**

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §6318.

#### **Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems**

1. Howard County Board of Education, *Parent, Family, and Community Involvement*
2. Montgomery County Board of Education, *Parental Involvement*

#### **Draft of Proposed Policy**

Attached

#### **Other Alternatives Considered by Staff**

The policy was revised to align with current research and address stakeholder concerns; therefore, no other alternatives were considered.

#### **Time Line for Adoption**

First Reader, April 22, 2008

Citizen Comment, May 6, 2008

Proposed Date of Approval, May 20, 2008

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement

Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (BOARD) believes that schools, parents/guardians, [and] families, AND COMMUNITIES have a mutual responsibility to work together in order to increase student achievement. The BOARD [Board of Education of Baltimore County] VALUES parent/guardian and family involvement [is] AS integral to the academic success of all students.

- I. The BOARD [Board of Education of Baltimore County] is committed to ensuring that schools involve parents/guardians and family members of children of all ages and grade levels regardless of the parent's/guardian's and family's educational attainment, race/ethnicity, gender, [social-economic] SOCIO-ECONOMIC status, geographical location, primary language, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, or disability. The Board recognizes that the type and the degree of parent/guardian and family involvement [varies] VARY among households.
  
- II. The BOARD [Board of Education of Baltimore County] endorses cooperation among schools, parents/guardians, families, and community members in order to increase involvement and participation in promoting the social, emotional, and academic growth of students by utilizing the following guidelines:
  - [1.] A. [Communicating –] Open and ongoing communication[s] is promoted among home, school, and the community.
  
  - [2.] B. [Parenting –] Parenting skills are fostered and supported.
  
  - [3.] C. [Student learning –] Parents/guardians, families, and community members play an integral role in assisting student learning.
  
  - [4.] D. [Volunteering –] Parents/[G]uardians, families and community members are welcome as volunteers in the school. Their support and assistance are sought, encouraged, and recognized.
  
  - [5.] E. [School decision making and advocacy –] Parents/guardians, families, community members are included and supported in the DECISION-MAKING process. Their leadership in advisory and advocacy roles is encouraged.
  
  - [6.] F. [Collaborating with the community –] Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

G. PARENTS/GUARDIANS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
ARE WELCOMED AS ACTIVE PARTNERS IN PROMOTING  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

[The Board of Education of Baltimore County welcomes the involvement and input of parents/guardians, families, and community members in the educational process. Baltimore County Public Schools shall comply with the requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act 2001* relating to parent/guardian and family involvement, including an annual review of this policy.]

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. §6318 (No Child Left Behind Act OF 2001)

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1100,  
*COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1200, *COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1220, *CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1240, *VISITS TO SCHOOLS*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1250, *PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL SCHOOL BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1260, *SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS*

Policy  
Adopted: 5/23/91  
Revised: 7/13/04  
REVISED:

Board of Education of Baltimore County