

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** May 6, 2008  
**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF  
EDUCATION POLICY 6500 - INSTRUCTION: RESEARCH AND  
TESTING**

**ORIGINATOR:** Stacy Shack, Acting Executive Director  
Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment

**RESOURCE  
PERSONS:**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education considers the changes to Policy 6500. This is the first reading of this policy.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Policy 6500

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY  
Policy Analysis for Proposed Changes to the  
Policy 6500 – Research and Testing

Statement of Issues Addressed by the Proposed Policy

This policy was last revised in 2002. The changes in this Policy reflect that the Superintendent shall ensure all standardized testing is administered and reported in accordance with federal and state mandates and more clearly describe the Board’s direction to staff. Staff is also requesting that the policy sub series be re-titled as “Research and Assessment.”

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System

There is no fiscal impact on the school system.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

Board of Education Ethics Policies, Policy 8360, *et seq.*

Legal Requirement

*Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §7-204, Assessment of Testing;  
20 USC §1232h;  
20 USC §1232g.

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

Howard County Public Schools (8120, 3030)  
Prince George’s County Public Schools (6139, 5124.1)  
Montgomery County Public Schools (ILA-EA)  
Anne Arundel County Public Schools (604.01, 609)

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered By Staff

None considered

Timeline:

First reading – May 6, 2008  
Public comment – May 20, 2008  
Third reading – June 10, 2008

INSTRUCTION: Research and [Testing] ASSESSMENT

Research and [Testing] Assessment

[All countywide standardized tests and questionnaires administered under the auspices of the Baltimore County Public Schools, including those originating outside of the school system, shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Assessment and Student Data prior to their administration.]

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT TO THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS. RESEARCH CONDUCTED SHALL BE ALIGNED WITH THE GOALS IN *THE BLUEPRINT FOR PROGRESS* AND SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO SAFEGUARD THE PRIVACY OF ALL INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED.

THE BOARD RECOGNIZES ITS ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PROVIDING FOR STUDENT AND SCHOOL SUCCESS. THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING AN ASSESSMENT PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES STATE-MANDATED, SYSTEM-SELECTED, AND CURRICULUM-EMBEDDED TESTS. THE ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED TO:

1. EVALUATE THE PROGRESS OF STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS IN MEETING THE GOALS OF *THE BLUEPRINT FOR PROGRESS*
2. IMPROVE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULAR PROGRAMS
3. PROVIDE INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

The [Department of Assessment and Student Data] SUPERINTENDENT shall [insure] ENSURE that all standardized testing is administered and reported in accordance with ALL APPLICABLE federal and state mandates.

THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH, FOR DATA COLLECTION, DATA ANALYSIS, AND DATA REPORTING IN ORDER TO FULFILL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS AND TO ENSURE THE LEGAL AND ETHICAL USE OF THE RESULTING INFORMATION.

Policy  
Adopted: 4/10/69  
Revised: 7/12/94  
Revised: 5/14/02  
REVISED:

Board of Education of Baltimore County