

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: July 14, 2009

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1600 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS**

ORIGINATOR: Sonja Karwacki, Executive Director, Special Programs, PreK-12

RESOURCE PERSON(S):

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Policy 1600.
This is the third reading.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 1600

**Policy Analysis for
Board of Education Policy 1600
Public Charter Schools**

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

Board of Education Policy 1600 contains requirements for public charter school statements. This policy is reviewed on the five-year schedule.

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System

No fiscal impact is anticipated by the revision of this policy.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

Board of Education Policy 5150, *Residents and Nonresidents*

Legal Requirements

Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §§9-101 to –110, §4-205(c)
Maryland Public Charter Schools Model Program

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

1. Anne Arundel County Policy Code 614, *Charter Schools*
2. Harford County Policy 20-0030-000, *Public Charter Schools*
3. Howard County Board of Education *Policy 10040 and PR 10040 Charter School Implementation*

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

None

Timeline:

- First reading – May 19, 2009
- Public comment – June 9, 2009
- Third reading – July 14, 2009

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Public Charter Schools

[Public Charter Schools]

I. COMPLIANCE

A. A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN BALTIMORE COUNTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS. A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL OPERATES UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL BOARD POLICIES, AND ALIGNMENT WITH THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (BCPS) BLUEPRINT FOR PROGRESS AND MASTER PLAN.

[B The Superintendent shall establish a public charter school application process. Applications shall be submitted to the Superintendent and/or designee for review, comment, and recommendation to the Board of Education. The Superintendent shall recommend approval or denial of the application to the Board [of Education]. The Superintendent shall establish criteria with which to consider proposals for a public charter school including, but not limited to, elements related to student achievement, academic programs, resources, and fiscal management.

The Board of Education of Baltimore County in accordance with Title 9 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland may grant a charter for a “public charter school.” The primary public chartering authority in the granting of such charter shall be the Baltimore County Board of Education. A Baltimore County public charter school shall endeavor to reflect the diversity of the school system as a whole. As defined by the Board of Education, diversity includes racial, ethnic, economic, gender, and special needs populations.]

II. REPORTING

A. The BOARD [Superintendent] shall apply BCPS criteria for the management and student performance results to the public charter school. The public charter school shall conduct all assessments required for the public schools in Baltimore County. The public charter school shall be evaluated annually based on student achievement, fiscal management, and other criteria pursuant

POLICY 1600

to its approved application and the terms and conditions of its charter as specified in the charter agreement.

- B. The public charter school shall present to the Board [of Education] an annual results report, including student achievement and fiscal accountability, as described in the approved charter agreement. The Board [of Education] shall require financial, programmatic, and/or compliance audits consistent with federal, state, and local law, procedures, and policies.
- C. If a public charter school receives an unsatisfactory annual evaluation based upon its annual results report, the Board [of Education] may approve the development of a remedial plan, placing the charter school on probationary status, or may move immediately to revoke the school's charter.
 - 1. The Board [of Education] may revoke a public charter school's charter for the following reasons: the school has not fulfilled a condition imposed by the Board [of Education] in connection with the granting of the charter as specified in the charter agreement; the school has failed to comply with the provisions of federal, state, or local law; the fiscal condition of the school is substantially deficient; the academic condition of the school is substantially deficient; the facility can no longer support the needs of the educational program; and the continuation of the operation of the public charter school is not in the best interests of the public, or of the students of BCPS [the Baltimore County Public School system].
 - 2. Upon revocation, students shall be reassigned pursuant to Board [of Education] policy and procedures, and resources provided by the school system shall remain under the control of the Board [of Education].

Legal References: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article, §§9-101 to -110, §4-205(c)

Related Policy[ies]: Board of Education Policy 5150, *Residents and Nonresidents*

Policy

Board of Education of Baltimore County

Adopted: 10/21/03

REVISED: _____