DATE: July 14, 2009

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1270 – FAMILY/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Barbara Bisset, Executive Director, Department of Professional Development

RECOMMENDATION

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

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 1270
Policy Analysis for
Board of Education Policy 1270
Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed
Board of Education Policy 1270 is part of the annual review process. Due to a concern raised by community stakeholders, language addressing specific demographic groups has been removed.

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System
None

Relationship to Other Board of Education 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

Legal Requirements
20 U.S.C. §6318 (No Child Left Behind Act OF 2001)
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article § 4-112

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems
1. Howard County Board of Education Policy 10000, Parent, Family, and Community Involvement
2. Montgomery County Board of Education Policy ABC, Parental Involvement

Draft of Proposed Policy
Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff
None

Timeline:
First reading – July 14, 2009
Public comment – August 11, 2009
Third reading – September 8, 2009
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement

Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement

I. PROCESS

A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) believes that schools, parents/guardians, families, and communities have a mutual responsibility to work together in order to increase student achievement. The Board values parent/guardian and family involvement as integral to the academic success of all students.

1. [I.] The Board is committed to ensuring that schools INVOLVING 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, 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 vary among households.

2. [II.] The Board 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:

a. [A.] Open and ongoing communication is promoted among home, school, and the community.

b. [B.] Parenting skills are fostered and supported.

[C. Parents/guardians, families, and community members play an integral role in assisting student learning.]

c. [D.] Parents/guardians, families, and community members are welcome as volunteers in the school. Their support and assistance are sought, encouraged, and recognized.
d. [E.] Parents/guardians, families, community members are included and supported in the decision-making process. Their leadership in advisory and advocacy roles is encouraged.

e. [F.] Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

f. [G.] Parents/guardians, families, and community members are welcomed as active partners and play integral roles in promoting student learning and achievement.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. §6318 (No Child Left Behind Act OF 2001)
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE § 4-112

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                  Board of Education of Baltimore County
Adopted:  5/23/91
Revised:  7/13/04
Revised:  5/20/08
REVISED: ______