

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: July 14, 2009

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO EDUCATION POLICY 6401 – INSTRUCTION: GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION PROGRAM**

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Sonja Karwacki, Executive Director, Special Programs PreK-12

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 6401.
This is the first reading.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6401

**Policy Analysis for
Board of Education Policy 6401
Gifted and Talented Education Program**

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

Board of Education Policy 6401, Gifted and Talented Education Program is included on the Board's five-year review schedule. These revisions to Policy 6401 describe the Board's philosophy about its Gifted and Talented program and includes clarification of definitions, as well as a structure for reporting data to the Board.

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 5200, *Promotion and Retention*

Legal Requirements

Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §5-401, §8-201-204

Similar Policies Adopted by Other local School Systems

1. Cecil County Policy, IGBB, *Services for Gifted and Talented Education*
2. Charles County Policy, 6411.1, *Gifted Education*
3. Garrett County Policy, 345.3, RFR, *School and Student Enrichment Policy Statement*
4. Montgomery County Policy, IOA, *Gifted and Talented Education*

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

INSTRUCTION

Gifted and Talented Education Program

I. Access and Reporting Requirements

- A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (BOARD) is committed to ensuring equity and excellence in education by providing each student with an instructional environment that nurtures potential and enhances academic success. With this central mission in mind, the Board [believes] RECOGNIZES that every student in the Baltimore County Public Schools, (BCPS) K-12 who [gives evidence of] DEMONSTRATES high achievement OR THE POTENTIAL FOR HIGH ACHIEVEMENT IN THE AREAS OF ACADEMIC APTITUDE OR THE CREATIVE, VISUAL, OR PERFORMING ARTS, should have access to high quality gifted and talented educational services regardless of that student's race/ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, geographical location, primary language, or disability.
- B. The Board [believes] RECOGNIZES that students with outstanding talents perform or show the potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment. Outstanding talents are present in students from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor. [Therefore], [t] The Board recognizes that the school system should provide a continuum of appropriately differentiated educational experiences and services kindergarten through [g] Grade 12 that are research-based and aligned with the system's mission and goals.
- C. The Superintendent shall provide to the Board [a] [status and growth] ANNUAL reportS for the Gifted and Talented Education Program AS FOLLOWS: A COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT ON RESULTS AND A STATUS REPORT [detailing disaggregated student enrollment, achievement, curriculum, and professional development, program implementation, and recommendations for improvement].

POLICY 6401

Legal References: [20 U.S.C. §7801 (*No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*)]
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §5-401[,
Comprehensive Master Plan]
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §8-201—204
[*Gifted and Talented Students*]

Related Polic[ies]Y: Board of Education Policy 5200[, *Promotion
and Retention*]

Policy
Adopted: 09/09/03
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County