

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: July 13, 2010

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1300 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES**

ORIGINATOR: Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Michael G. Sines, Executive Director, Department of Physical Facilities

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Policy 1300. This is the third reading of this policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Proposed Policy 1300

**Policy Analysis for
Board of Education Policy 1300
Community Relations**

Statement of Issues Addressed or Questions Addressed

Board of Education Policy 1300, Use of School Facilities is being recommended for modification to exclude Bingo (without cash prizes) as gambling in order to allow groups to expand activities involving the community-at-large permissible under HB 1542 and SB 1029.

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

None

Legal Requirement

Bingo applicant will obtain a Bingo License as required by the Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management.

Similar Policies Adopted by Other School Systems

Several school systems were contacted and allow Bingo (Baltimore City Public Schools, Caroline, Harford, Howard, and Montgomery County Public Schools).

Baltimore City Public Schools, *Use of School Facilities*

Caroline County Public Schools, *Regulation I.II.10, Fund Raising*

Harford County Public Schools, *Procedures for Use of Public School Facilities*

Howard County Public Schools, Policy 10020, *Use of School Facilities by Non-School Groups*

Montgomery County Public Schools, Policy KGA-RA, *Community Use of Public Schools*

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

None

Timeline

First reading – May 18, 2010

Public comment – June 15, 2010

Third reading/vote – July 13, 2010

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

Use of School Facilities

I. General

- A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) encourages the use of school facilities for community purposes when such use does not interfere with the scheduled school program. The use of buildings and grounds for cultural, civic, educational, recreational, and charitable purposes is a long-standing practice. The Board is committed to the concept of joint utilization of facilities. This has been demonstrated by sharing facilities with the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks and other agencies.
- B. It is the primary responsibility of the Board to operate schools in such a manner as to provide the optimum learning environment. Any commitment to joint utilization shall not impinge on the commitment to provide educational opportunities as economically and efficiently as possible. Under no circumstances should the use of school facilities for community purposes be viewed as a mechanism for keeping a school open.
- C. Organizations desiring to use school facilities shall request an "Application for Use of School Facilities" form from the principal of the school involved. Administrative rules and a statement of costs related to the use of buildings or grounds shall be attached to the application form. The Board reserves the right to revoke any permit which has been issued, to a group or agency; this includes programs where the use of the facility interferes with the Department of Physical Facilities' projects. Permission for the use of a facility and/or grounds may be immediately revoked if an urgent need for use of a facility and/or grounds for school activities or educational purposes arise, or for a violation of operating rules and procedures.

II. Gambling

- A. Gambling, raffles, [Bingo,] and all other games of chance on Board property or in connection with school projects are prohibited WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BINGO.

III. Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs

- A. The use, sale, or possession of alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs on Board property or in connection with school projects is prohibited.

IV. Tobacco

- A. The Board prohibits the sale and use of any form of tobacco in and/or on school system owned or leased property and grounds at all times.

V. Obscene and Abusive Language

- A. The use of obscene and/or abusive language on Board property or in connection with school projects is prohibited.

VI. Exceptions to Use of Facilities

- A. The Board may refuse the use of any facility and/or grounds if the Office of Operations determines that this use is likely to provoke or add to a public disturbance.

Legal References: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article, §7-108, *USE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR OTHER THAN SCHOOL PURPOSES – IN GENERAL*
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE, §7-109, *USE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR OTHER THAN SCHOOL PURPOSES – PRIORITY FOR DAY CARE PROGRAM*
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §7-110, *CHARGES FOR USE AND LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES*
COMAR 13A.02.04, *TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY*
COMAR 29.06.01, *FIRE PREVENTION CODE AUTHORITY: PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE*

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1210, *RELATIONSHIP WITH PARENT-TEACHER (STUDENT) ASSOCIATIONS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2352, *HEALTH AND SAFETY*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2370, *CONDUCT*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2372, *TOBACCO*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3125, *SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUNDS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3130, *RELATIONSHIPS WITH PRIVATE BUSINESS FOR PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PRODUCTS OR SERVICES TO STUDENTS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3160, *SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3530, *SAFETY AND SECURITY*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6301, *SCHOOL CALENDAR*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8363, *CONFLICT OF INTEREST*

Policy
Adopted: 9/18/68
Revised: 10/26/78
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Revised: 5/20/08
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County