

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** July 13, 2010

**TO:** **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FROM:** Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5240 – LEAVING SCHOOL PRIOR TO GRADUATION**

**ORIGINATOR:** Michele Prumo, Acting Chief of Staff

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director, Student Support Services  
Sharon Ochs, Coordinator, Pupil Personnel Services

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 5240. This is the first reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Policy 5240

**Policy Analysis for  
Board of Education Policy 5240  
Leaving School Prior to Graduation**

**Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed**

Board of Education Policy 5240 has been updated to comply with COMAR revisions.

**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 Requirements**

*Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §7-301, Compulsory Attendance*  
*COMAR 13A.08.01.07, Student Withdrawal Status*

**Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems**

None

**Draft of Proposed Policy**

Attached

**Other Alternatives Considered by Staff**

The policy was revised to align with current law.

**Timelines:**

First reading: July 13, 2010

Public Comment: August 10, 2010

Third reading: September 7, 2010

STUDENTS: Promotion and Retention

[Withdraw from School] LEAVING SCHOOL PRIOR TO GRADUATION

I. PHILOSOPHY

A. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) EXPECTS ALL STUDENTS TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL. BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' (BCPS) STAFF SHOULD INTERVIEW students who INTEND TO WITHDRAW AND THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO REMAIN ENROLLED IN SCHOOL OR TO ENROLL IN AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM. [indicate an intention to withdraw from school prior to graduation shall be counseled about the gravity of the decision and encouraged to remain in school.] Students who [do] withdraw should be assisted in [making plans to complete high school work through] ACCESSING alternative programs.

LEGAL REFERENCES: *ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE, §7-301, COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE*  
*COMAR 13A.08.01.07, STUDENT WITHDRAWAL STATUS*

Policy  
Approved: 7/12/84  
REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Education of Baltimore County