DATE: September 7, 2010

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

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

ORIGINATOR: John Quinn, Acting Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

RESOURCE PERSON(S): William Burke, Executive Director, Professional Development
Merry Macer, Supervisor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Policy 1270.
This is the third 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
During the annual review of Board of Education Policy 1270, community stakeholders suggested revisions to recognize volunteers both in school and at home (a requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001).

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 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
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §4-112, Advisory Committees

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

Timelines:
First reading: July 13, 2010
Public Comment: August 10, 2010
Third reading/vote: September 7, 2010
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement

Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement

I. [Process] PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) [believes] RECOGNIZES that schools, parents/guardians, families, and communities MUST WORK TOGETHER TO MUTUALLY SUPPORT [have a mutual responsibility to work together in order to increase] student achievement. The Board values SCHOOL, parent/guardian, [and] family, AND COMMUNITY involvement as integral to the academic success of all students BOTH IN SCHOOL AND AT HOME.

II. IMPLEMENTATION

THE BOARD DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE RULES AND PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.

1. The Board is committed to involving parents/guardians and family members of children of all ages and grade levels. The Board recognizes that the type and the degree of parent/guardian and family involvement vary among households.

2. 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. Open and ongoing communication is promoted among home, school, and the community.

   b. Parenting skills are fostered and supported.

   c. Parents/guardians, families, and community members are welcome as volunteers [in the school]. Their support and assistance are sought, encouraged, and recognized.

   d. Parents/guardians, families, community members are included and supported in the decision-making process. Their leadership in advisory and advocacy roles is encouraged.
e. Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning.

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

Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-112, ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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
Adopted: 5/23/91
Revised: 7/13/04
Revised: 5/20/08
Revised: 9/08/09
REVISED: __________