Baltimore County Public Schools

DATE: January 11, 2011

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Proposed Changes to Board of Education Policy 7110 – Determining Needs

Originator: Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

Resource Person(s): Kara Calder, Executive Director, Department of Planning and Support Operations

Recommendation

That the Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Board of Education Policy 7110. This is the third reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Proposed Policy 7110
POLICY ANALYSIS FOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7110
DETERMINING NEEDS

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed
Board of Education Policy 7110 has not been revised since its adoption in 1969. Staff recommends that the policy be revised. These amendments will clearly articulate the Board’s philosophy of planning quality schools and its relationship to promoting student achievement. The revisions also reflect current school system business practices, as well as the Policy Review Committee’s editing conventions.

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
1. Board of Education Policy 1280, Boundary Changes
2. Board of Education Policy 7120, Patterns of Participation
3. Board of Education Policy 7240, School Sites

Legal Requirements
In accordance with Section 4-109 of the Education Article, a county board may establish a school “if, in its judgment” it is advisable.

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems
1. Harford County Board of Education, Policy Number 20-0041-000, Adjustment of School Attendance Boundary Lines
2. Howard County Board of Education, Policy 6020-R, School Construction Program

Draft of Proposed Policy
Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff
No other alternative was considered.

Timeline
First reading – November 23, 2010
Public comment – December 7, 2010
Third reading/vote – January 11, 2011
I. PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO CHANGING ENROLLMENT PATTERNS TO SUSTAIN HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL STUDENTS. THE BOARD FURTHER recognizes THE NEED TO HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE AND COORDINATED APPROACH FOR PLANNING SCHOOL FACILITIES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT [the significance of providing school facilities that enhance the educational program].

II. IMPLEMENTATION

A. THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES [To] THAT ENSURE [assure a] comprehensive [approach to] planning. IN DEVELOPING THESE PROCEDURES, THE FOLLOWING FACTORS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. [needs, the following aspects shall be considered:]

1. THE CURRENT AND PROJECTED DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE STUDENT POPULATION;
2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM;
3. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT;
4. THE AVAILABILITY OF FISCAL RESOURCES FROM ALL FUNDING AUTHORITIES.

[1. The expanding and changing educational program of the school system.
2. Relations with the total community.
3. Safety and welfare of pupils.
4. True economy reflecting full value for each tax dollar expended.
5. Plant and site aesthetics as they affect the education of pupils and feelings of citizens about their schools.
6. Changing makeup of the population as to age distribution, educational levels and the like.
7. Community planning and zoning.
8. Financial resources of Baltimore County and the State of Maryland.
9. Relationship between projected new facilities and those already in existence.]
The Superintendent of Schools shall establish administrative arrangements considered necessary to determine such needs. In so doing, a wide range of resources may be drawn upon including, but not limited to, the area utility, commercial, industrial, and governmental entities; as well as staff personnel and educational consultants.]

LEGAL REFERENCES:  ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE § 4-109, ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

RELATED POLICIES:  BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1280, BOUNDARY CHANGES
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7120, PATTERNS OF PARTICIPATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7240, SCHOOL SITES