

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: September 6, 2011

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6602, ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS**

ORIGINATOR: Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Michele Prumo, Chief of Staff
Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director, Student Support Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves the proposed changes to Policy 6602. This is the third reading.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6602

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6602
ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS
(TO BE RENAMED AS, “ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS”)**

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

Board of Education Policy 6602 was last reviewed in 1999. Policy 6602 outlines the Board’s commitment to providing alternative education programs that ensure student achievement. Staff is recommending that the policy be revised to: (1) rename the policy from “Alternative Programs” to “Alternative Education Programs;” (2) articulate the connection between the impact the school system’s alternative education programs have on student achievement and graduation rates; (3) remove the evaluation component, because the same criteria are used for evaluation of both alternative and regular education programs; (4) conform with 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 5560, *Suspensions, Assignment to Alternative Programs, or Expulsions*
2. Board of Education Policy 6604, *Purpose of the Evening and Saturday High School Programs*

Legal Requirements

1. *Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-111, Curriculum Guides and Courses of Study; Study of Sign Language*
3. *Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-304, Special Programs for Disruptive Students*
3. COMAR 13A.03.02.05, *Other Provisions for Earning Credit*

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

Similar policies could not be found in a search of other school systems’ Web sites.

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

No other alternative was considered.

Timeline

First Reading – July 12, 2011

Public Comment – August 9, 2011

Third Reading/Vote – September 6, 2011

INSTRUCTION: CURRICULUM EXTENSIONS AND ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

Alternative EDUCATION Programs

I. POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) believes [that] all students WILL LEARN AND ACHIEVE [can be successful]. The alternative EDUCATION programs provided by the Board [of Education] allow ALL students THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE [to experience] IN a variety of [options] PROGRAMS to IMPROVE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND ADDRESS THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS [achieving success]. ALL [Since all children] STUDENTS do not meet success in the same manner; THEREFORE, a variety of curricula, instructional strategies, and settings must be provided. Alternative EDUCATION programs are an integral and necessary service of the Board [of Education] TO ENSURE ALL STUDENTS MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO ENTER THE WORK FORCE AND BE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS; AND/OR ENROLL IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

[Evaluation of the Alternative Instructional and Therapeutic Programs

Evaluation permeates all classes and therapeutic components of the alternative programs and functions as an integral part of the total education process. Specific data shall be collected and reported to the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools, and staff.]

II. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION OF THE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.
- B. THE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS WILL FOLLOW THE BOARD'S CURRICULUM STANDARDS AND ALL POLICIES ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR, ATTENDANCE, GRADING, AND GRADUATION.

LEGAL REFERENCES: *ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE §4-111, CURRICULUM GUIDES AND COURSES OF STUDY; STUDY OF SIGN LANGUAGE*
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE §7-304, SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR DISRUPTIVE STUDENTS
COMAR 13A.03.02.05, *OTHER PROVISIONS FOR EARNING CREDIT*

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5560, *SUSPENSIONS, ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS, OR EXPULSIONS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6604, *PURPOSE OF THE EVENING AND SATURDAY HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS*

Policy
Adopted: 11/21/68
Revised: 09/07/99
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County