

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** December 18, 2012

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

**FROM:** S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5510, POSITIVE BEHAVIOR**

**ORIGINATOR:** Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director, School Safety and Security  
Patsy J. Holmes, Director, Student Support Services

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 5510, *Positive Behavior*. This is the first reading.

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Attachment I: Policy Analysis  
Attachment II: Policy 5510

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5510  
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR**

**Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed**

In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 8130, Policy 5510 is scheduled for review in school year 2012-2013. Policy 5510 outlines the Board's expectations for appropriate and positive student behavior and sets forth guidelines to promote behaviors supportive of academic success. Staff is recommending that the policy be revised to: (1) include a policy statement that reflects the Board's beliefs and expectations concerning positive behavior in its schools; (2) include the Board's expectation that students behave appropriately in school, as well as while participating in school-sponsored activities; (3) include an implementation section; and (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 5000, *Students*
2. Board of Education Policy 5500, *Conduct*
3. Board of Education Policy 5120, *Attendance and Excuses*
4. Board of Education Policy 5520, *Student Dress Code*
5. Board of Education Policy 5540, *Alcoholic Beverages, Controlled Dangerous Substances, Intoxicants, Prescription and Nonprescription Drugs*
6. Board of Education Policy 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*
7. Board of Education Policy 5551, *Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Illegal Behavior*
8. Board of Education Policy 5560, *Suspension, Assignment to Alternative Programs, or Expulsion*
9. Board of Education Policy 5561, *School Use of Reportable Offenses*
10. Board of Education Policy 5580, *Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation*
11. Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Rights and Responsibilities*
12. Board of Education Policy, 5590, *Students' Expressions*
13. Board of Education Policy 6202 *Telecommunication Access to Electronic Information, services, and Networks*
14. Board of Education Policy 6701, *Extracurricular Activities*

**Legal Requirements**

1. *Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-305, Suspension and expulsion.*
2. COMAR 13A.08.01.11, *Disciplinary Action*

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

1. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, Policy JCC, *Student Conduct*

**Draft of Proposed Policy**

Attached

**Other Alternatives Considered by Staff**

No other alternatives were considered by staff.

**Timeline**

First reading – December 18, 2012

Public comment – January 8, 2013

Third reading/vote – February 5, 2013

STUDENTS: Conduct

Positive Behavior

I. POLICY STATEMENT

- A. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS SAFE AND CONDUCTIVE TO LEARNING. THE BOARD BELIEVES that positive behavior in the school is ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO SUPPORT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.
  
- B. THE BOARD FURTHER BELIEVES THAT CLEAR EXPECTATIONS FOR APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED, TAUGHT, AND THAT CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AND EQUITABLY ADMINISTERED. [extremely important to the maintenance of safe and orderly learning environments for all students. Without positive behavior in the school students will not reach expected achievement standards.] ALL SCHOOLS WILL PUBLISH EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR BY DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTATING [In maintaining positive behavior, each school is expected to develop and implement] a schoolwide positive behavior plan. This plan should set forth expectations FOR [of] students, staff, and parents/guardians. Character Education and safety should be integral components of the positive behavior plan.

II. GUIDELINES [The guidelines for positive behavior are:]

- A. [1.] The *Positive Behavior Planning Guide* is to be used to develop and implement a schoolwide positive behavior plan DESIGNED TO CHANGE BEHAVIORS, REDUCE SUSPENSIONS, AND KEEP STUDENTS IN SCHOOL. THE PLAN IS TO BE A COMPONENT OF THE SCHOOL PROGRESS PLAN.
  
- B. [2.] The school's positive behavior plan shall include a code of conduct, routines, and procedures that are to be implemented and assessed for effectiveness on an ongoing basis.

- C. [3.] Ongoing professional development and support shall be provided for all staff.
  - D. [4.]STUDENTS SHALL BE EXPECTED TO BEHAVE APPROPRIATELY IN SCHOOL AND WHILE PARTICIPATING IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES. The principal, assistant principals, teachers, and staff shall teach students the school’s code of conduct, routines, procedures, and discipline PROCESS. [and students shall be expected to behave appropriately in school.]
  - E. [5.]Character Education shall be a component of the school’s positive behavior plan.
  - F. [6.]Character Education shall be included in educational programs as an ongoing teaching process to help develop in students a strong values system and promote positive behavior and ethical decision making.
- [7. All staff is expected to model good character.]

III. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.

LEGAL REFERENCES: *ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE §7-305, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION. COMAR 13A.08.01.11, DISCIPLINARY ACTION*

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5000, *STUDENTS*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5500, *CONDUCT*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5120, *ATTENDANCE AND EXCUSES*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5520, *STUDENT DRESS CODE*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5540, *ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, INTOXICANTS, PRESCRIPTION AND NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5550, *DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5551, *GANG ACTIVITY AND SIMILAR DESTRUCTIVE OR ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5560, *SUSPENSION, ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS, OR EXPULSION*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5561, *SCHOOL USE OF REPORTABLE OFFENSES*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5580, *BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5600, *STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY, 5590, *STUDENTS' EXPRESSIONS*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6202, *TELECOMMUNICATION ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC INFORMATION, SERVICES, AND NETWORKS*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6701, *EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES*

Policy  
Adopted: 04/13/72  
Revised: 09/05/07  
REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Education of Baltimore County