

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: February 19, 2013

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6307,**
READING

ORIGINATOR: Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent

RESOURCE
PERSON(S): Patricia Lawton, Chief Academic Officer
Elizabeth Aitken, Executive Director, Liberal Arts
Rex Shepard, Coordinator, Secondary Social Studies

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed deletion of policy 6307. This is the first reading.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6307

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6307**

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent’s Rule 8130, Policy 6307 is scheduled for review in school year 2012–2013. Policy 6307 outlines the Board’s expectations that the American flag be displayed in each school and office. The policy also provides for conducting patriotic exercises in schools and for the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff is recommending that Policy 6307 be deleted as it is simply a restatement of Maryland law. As such, the policy is not needed.

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System

No fiscal impact is anticipated by the deletion of this policy.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

1. Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students’ Rights and Responsibilities*
2. Board of Education Policy 6304, *Commemorations and Observances*

Legal Requirements

1. *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §7-105, *Display of flag; patriotic exercises*

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

1. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, Policy 610.01, *Patriotic Exercises*
2. Howard County Board of Education, Policy 9020, *Students’ Rights and Responsibilities*

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

No other options were considered.

Timeline

First reading – February 19, 2013

Public comment – March 5, 2013

Third reading/vote – April 23, 2013

INSTRUCTION

Patriotic Exercises

Provisions shall be made for the display of the flag of the United States of America on the site of each school, office, classroom or other installation of the Board of Education of Baltimore County and for the display of said flag in each classroom of every Baltimore County Public School.

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to provide for appropriate patriotic exercises in the public schools. Exercises shall include the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Any student or staff member, who wishes to be excused from the participation in a flag salute, shall be excused.

Legal Reference: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §7-105

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Rights and Responsibilities*
Board of Education Policy 6304, *Commemorations and Observances*

Policy
Adopted: 10/31/69
Revised: 4/22/08]

Board of Education of Baltimore County