DATE: May 7, 2013

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6500, RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT

ORIGINATOR: Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Yakoubou Ousmanou, Chief Accountability Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 6500. This is the third reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6500
POLICY ANALYSIS FOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6500
RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed
In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent’s Rule 8130, Policy 6500 is scheduled for review in school year 2012-2013. Policy 6500 outlines the standards to be followed for administration of assessments in Baltimore County Public Schools. Staff is recommending that the policy be revised to: (1) include a policy statement; (2) clearly delineate Board standards; (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 4002, Obligations of Employees of the Board of Education of Baltimore County
2. Board of Education Policy 4008, Data Governance
3. Board of Education Policy 5210, Factors Involved in Student Evaluation
4. Board of Education Policy 5250, Graduation Requirements
5. Board of Education Policy 5550, Disruptive Behavior

Legal Requirements
1. Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-203, Education Accountability Program
2. COMAR 13A.03.04, Test Administration and Data-Reporting Policies and Procedures
3. COMAR 13A.05.01.05, Assessment
4. COMAR 13A.12.05, Suspension and Revocation

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems
1. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, Policy IJ, Test Administration and Data Reporting
2. Howard County Board of Education, Policy 8120, Testing: State and Local Responsibilities and Protocols
3. Montgomery County Board of Education, Policy ILA-EA, Education Accountability Program (State Law)

Draft of Proposed Policy
Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff
No other alternatives were considered.
**Timeline**
First reading – March 19, 2013
Public comment – April 23, 2013
Third reading/vote – May 7, 2013
INSTRUCTION: Research, Testing, and Evaluation

Research and Assessment

I. POLICY STATEMENT

A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) recognizes the importance of research and assessment to the educational process. Research conducted shall be aligned with SCHOOL SYSTEM [the] goals [in the Blueprint for Progress] and shall be conducted in such a way as to safeguard the privacy of all individuals involved.

B. The Board recognizes its RESPONSIBILITY TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT SYSTEMWIDE ASSESSMENT TOOLS AND PRACTICES THAT ALIGN WITH COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS AND THAT ESTABLISH [accountability for providing for student and school success] The Superintendent shall be responsible for establishing an assessment program that includes state-mandated, system-selected, and curriculum-embedded tests.

II. STANDARDS

[The] Assessments IN BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (BCPS) shall be administered to:

A. [1.] Evaluate the progress of students and schools in meeting the goals of the SCHOOL SYSTEM [Blueprint for Progress];

B. [2.] Improve STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT [classroom instruction and curricular programs];

C. [3.] Provide information and feedback to students and parents; AND

D. [The Superintendent shall] Ensure that all standardized testing is administered and reported in accordance with all applicable federal and state mandates, BOARD POLICIES, SUPERINTENDENT’S RULES, AND SCHOOL SYSTEM PROCEDURES.
III. IMPLEMENTATION

THE BOARD DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY. [The Superintendent shall establish procedures for approving and conducting research for data collection, data analysis, and data reporting in order to fulfill federal and state requirements and to ensure the legal and ethical use of the resulting information.]

LEGAL REFERENCES: ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE §7-203, EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM
COMAR 13A.03.04, TEST ADMINISTRATION AND DATA-REPORTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
COMAR 13A.05.01.05, ASSESSMENT
COMAR 13A.12.05, SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4002, OBLIGATIONS OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4008, DATA GOVERNANCE
BOARD OF EDUCATION 5210, FACTORS INVOLVED IN STUDENT EVALUATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5250, GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5550, DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR