DATE: July 9, 2013

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6000, CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

ORIGINATOR: S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Patricia Lawton, Chief Academic Officer
                  Elizabeth Aitken, Senior Executive Director, Curriculum

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 6000, Curriculum and Instruction. This is the first reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6000
Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed
In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent’s Rule 8130, Policy 6000 is scheduled for review in school year 2012–2013. Policy 6000 outlines the Board’s responsibility for the development and oversight of curriculum. Staff is recommending that Policy 6000 be revised and written to: (1) include a policy statement that clearly outlines the Board’s expectations concerning curriculum review and development; (2) outline standards, including the requirement that all curriculum and courses of study be approved by the Board; (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 6002, Selection of Instructional Materials
2. Board of Education Policy 6100, Curriculum
3. Board of Education Policy 6102, Teaching of Controversial Issues
4. Board of Education Policy 8130, Formulation

Legal Requirements
1. Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-101, Control and Promotion of Education
2. Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-108, Duties in General
3. Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-111, Curriculum Guides and Courses of Study; Study of Sign Language

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems
1. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, Policy IE, Curriculum
2. Frederick County Board of Education, Policy 500, Curriculum and Courses of Study
3. Howard County Board of Education, Policy 8000, Curriculum

Draft of Proposed Policy
Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff
No other alternatives were considered.

Timeline
First reading – July 9, 2013
Public comment – August 6, 2013
Third reading/vote – September 10, 2013
INSTRUCTION: INSTRUCTION

Curriculum and Instruction

I. POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) recognizes that the foundation of the school system’s educational program is a SYSTEM-WIDE [systemic] curriculum designed and structured so that Baltimore County Public School (BCPS) students will have the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to reach their potential as responsible, productive citizens in a global economy and a multicultural society. THE BOARD FURTHER RECOGNIZES THE NEED AND VALUE FOR AN ONGOING PROGRAM OF CURRICULUM REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT.

[The Board recognizes that the curriculum must delineate a prescribed course of study “to provide a quality education that develops the content knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will enable all students to reach their maximum potential as responsible, life-long learners and productive citizens.”]

II. STANDARDS

A. THE BOARD DELEGATES TO [T]he Superintendent THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING [shall establish, implement, and monitor] a process for the development, alignment, and review of the written, taught, and assessed curriculum.

B. ALL CURRICULA must reflect[s] global, national, state, and local standards and requirements and provide academic rigor for all students.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

THE BOARD DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.
Policy Board of Education of Baltimore County

Adopted: 11/21/68
Revised: 02/26/08
REVISED: ______