

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** September 10, 2013

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

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

**SUBJECT:** **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6200, SCHOOL LIBRARIES**

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

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Verletta White, Chief Academic Officer

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 6200, *School Libraries*. This is the third reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Policy 6200

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6200  
SCHOOL LIBRARIES**

**Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed**

In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 8130, Policy 6200 is scheduled for review in school year 2012-2013. Policy 6200 was presented to the Board for first reader at its meeting on February 19, 2013. Based on comments received, during second reader, the Board asked that the policy be remanded to the Policy Review Committee for further review. At the request of the Chief Academic Officer, a focus group consisting of principals and library media specialists was convened to provide feedback concerning the policy. As a result of the comments received from the focus group, staff is recommending that the policy be revised to: (1) include a policy statement that recognizes the importance of the school library media program in supporting student achievement ; (2) include guidelines that reflect current library media program standards and expectations; (3) include the requirement that the Superintendent request funding in the annual operating budget for maintaining and upgrading school library collections, as well as staffing school libraries with certificated library media specialists; (4) include an implementation section; and (5) conform with the Policy Review Committee's editing conventions.

**Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System**

The Superintendent will request sufficient funding to sustain school libraries from the annual operating budget. The proposed request for FY14 is \$2,134,686.

**Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies**

1. Board of Education Policy 3111, *Budget Planning and Preparation*
2. Board of Education Policy 6002, *Selection of Instructional Materials*
3. Board of Education Policy 6202, *Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks*

**Legal Requirements**

1. COMAR 13A.05.04.01, *Public School Library Programs*
2. COMAR 13A.12.03.03, *Library Media Specialist*

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

1. Charles County Board of Education, Policy 6360, *Instruction: Organization and Administration of the Instructional Program: School Libraries*
2. Harford County Board of Education, Policy 04-0016-000, [\*Professional Library/Media Center\*](#)
3. Harford County Board of Education, Policy 06-0022-000, [\*School Media Centers\*](#)
4. Montgomery County Board of Education, Policy IIB, [\*Evaluation and Selection\*](#)

**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: Instructional Services

School Libraries

I. POLICY STATEMENT

- A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) recognizes that school library media centers provide students and staff equitable access to the print and digital resources critical to supporting 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning.
- B. The Board further recognizes that CERTIFICATED [state certified] library media specialists SERVE A [are] critical ROLE IN SUPPORTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT BY COLLABORATING AND CO-TEACHING [partners] with CLASSROOM teachers in integrating information and technology literacy skills INTO THE CONTENT CURRICULUM AND MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT RESEARCH SET FORTH IN THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS. [with all curricula by collaborating and co-teaching to positively impact the achievement of all students. Hence, the schools shall provide and maintain adequate school libraries and ensure sufficient staffing.]
- C. THE BOARD IS COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING [Hence, the schools shall provide and maintain] adequate school libraries and ENSURING STAFFING OF LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS [ensure sufficient].

[The Superintendent shall develop rules, regulations and procedures to insure the quality of content in these libraries and their systematic maintenance as current resources for teachers, students, and their families.]

II. GUIDELINES

- A. BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (BCPS) SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM SHALL MEET THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION *STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND*. THE PROGRAM SHALL ALSO ADHERE TO THE *MARYLAND STATE CURRICULUM IN INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS* AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES STANDARDS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNER.

- B. SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA COLLECTIONS WILL BE SELECTED AND EVALUATED CONSISTENT WITH POLICY 6002, *SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS*.
  
- C. DURING PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET, the Superintendent shall CONSIDER [annually request sufficient funds to maintain these services using] the standards RECOMMENDED BY [of] the American Library Association, [and] the Maryland School Library Media Program Standards, AND BOARD POLICY 3111, *BUDGET PLANNING AND PREPARATION* TO: [as guides.]
  - 1. UPGRADE AND MAINTAIN SCHOOL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS; AND
  - 2. ENSURE STAFFING OF CERTIFICATED LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

THE BOARD DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.

Legal References: COMAR 13A.05.04.01, *Public School Library Programs*  
COMAR 13A.12.03.03, *Library Media Specialist*

Related Policies: [Board of Education Rule 1120, *Copyright*]  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3111, *BUDGET PLANNING AND PREPARATION*.  
Board of Education Policy [and Rule] 6002, *Selection of Instructional Materials*  
Board of Education Policy [and Rule] 6202, *Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks*

RELATED RULE: SUPERINTENDENT’S RULE 1120, *COPYRIGHT*

POLICY  
Adopted: 11/21/68  
Revised: 06/10/08  
REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Education of Baltimore County