

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: February 26, 2008

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6000 – INSTRUCTION: CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Sonia Diaz, Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum and Instruction

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Yvonne Barhight, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Humanities

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education review and approve the revisions to Policy 6000. This is the third reading of this policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 6000

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
Policy Analysis for Proposed Changes to the
Policy 6000 – Instruction

Statement of Issues Addressed by the Proposed Policy

This policy was last revised in 1968. Since that time, curricular and instructional practices have been influenced by the *Blueprint for Progress*. In addition, the Board of Education has adopted the Curriculum Management Plan that resulted from the Phi Delta Kappa Curriculum Audit. Finding 1.3 from the audit stated, “Board policies are obsolescent, outdated, and inadequate to promote effective quality control.”

The revision of Policy and Rule 6000 explicitly recognizes the alignment of the *Blueprint for Progress*, Curriculum Management Plan, and current best practices. This alignment is essential because it promotes ongoing curriculum management, which reflects effective quality control between the written, taught, and assessed curriculum.

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System

There is no fiscal impact on the school system.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

Related Policy- Board of Education Policy 6140: Curriculum

Legal Requirement

Section 4-111 of the education Article requires each county board to “establish curriculum guides and courses of study for the schools under its jurisdiction.”

Section 4-108 requires each county board to “determine the educational policies of the county school system.”

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

Harford County Public Schools- Curriculum Development Policy 04-0002-000

Howard County Public Schools- Curriculum Policy 8000

Montgomery County Public Schools- Curriculum Policy

Draft of Proposed Policy

See Attached.

Other Alternatives Considered By Staff

There were no other alternative considerations for this policy. Policy 6120 was condensed into Policy 6000, and Policy 6000 was revised to include major elements of the *Blueprint for Progress* and the Curriculum Management Plan.

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM AND Instruction

[In its relationship with the instructional program, the Board of Education hopes to make its finest contribution to education. The Board of Education sees itself supporting and supplementing the efforts of the faculty, not trespassing.]

[Teachers, administrators and other instructional personnel need several kinds of important help from laymen. Most important of all, they need to know what we expect our children and youths to learn. Accordingly, the Board of Education is responsible for establishing the purposes of education in the public schools of Baltimore County.]

[How school is to be taught is the prerogative of the staff. The contribution of the Board of Education to that operation is to provide the needed equipment, materials of instruction, and such other facilitating action that the staff may request.]

[The Board of Education of Baltimore County (BOARD) is interested, too, in supporting the staff's continuing efforts to improve the instructional program—assuming that there is always room for improvement.]

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) RECOGNIZES THAT THE FOUNDATION OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IS A 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 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.

THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL ESTABLISH, IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR A PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, ALIGNMENT, AND REVIEW OF THE WRITTEN, TAUGHT, AND ASSESSED CURRICULUM THAT REFLECTS GLOBAL, NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS AND PROVIDES ACADEMIC RIGOR FOR ALL STUDENTS.

Legal References: [Ann. Code of Pub. Gen. Laws of Md. Art. 77-Pub. Ed.
§54. Duties in general (county board)
§65. Courses of study]
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION
ARTICLES 4-101
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION
ARTICLES 4-108
ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION
ARTICLES 4-111

Policy
Adopted: 11/21/68
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County