

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** October 22, 2013

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

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

**SUBJECT:** **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2361, DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL MATERIALS**

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

**RESOURCE PERSON(S):** Michele Prumo, Chief of Staff

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 2361. This is the first reading.

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Attachment I – Policy Analysis  
Attachment II – Policy 2361

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2361  
DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL MATERIALS**

**Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed**

In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 8130, Policy 2361 is scheduled for review in school year 2013-2014. Policy 2361 outlines the Board's parameters for school dissemination of non-school materials. Staff is recommending that the policy be revised to: (1) include a policy statement that reflects the Board's willingness to allow, under certain conditions, to use schools to inform students, staff, and the community of certain events; (2) include booster clubs and the BCPS Education Foundation as approved groups; (3) include a statement that approval to disseminate does not imply Board or school system endorsement of the organization or information disseminated; 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 1210, *Relationship with Parent-Teacher (Student) Associations*
2. Board of Education Policy 1300, *Use of School Facilities*
3. Board of Education Policy 3160, *School-Sponsored Activities*
4. Board of Education Policy 8363, *Conflict of Interest – Prohibited Conduct*

**Legal Requirements**

1. None

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

1. Anne Arundel County Board of Education, [Policy KA, Distribution of Non-School Communications](#)
2. Howard County Board of Education, [Policy 10010, Distribution and Display of Materials and Announcements](#)
3. Montgomery County Board of Education, [Policy CNA, Informational Material and Announcements](#)

**Draft of Proposed Policy**

Attached

**Other Alternatives Considered by Staff**

No other alternatives were considered.

**Timeline**

First reading – October 22, 2013

Public comment – November 5, 2013

Third reading/vote – December 3, 2013

ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations

[General:] Distribution of Non-School Materials

I. POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR AN APPROPRIATE MEANS TO INFORM STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS ABOUT SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS THAT NEITHER UNDULY BURDENS THE SCHOOL STAFF NOR DISRUPTS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT. THE BOARD ALSO RECOGNIZES ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF THESE MATERIALS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT IS FREE FROM DISRUPTION.

II. GUIDELINES

THE [limits the] distribution of materials AND ANNOUNCEMENTS in or from schools and offices SHALL BE LIMITED to materials published by [entities of] federal, state, and local governmental ENTITIES, NATIONALLY AFFILIATED [and] parent-teacher associations, BOOSTER CLUBS AFFILIATED WITH A BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL (BCPS), [or materials from businesses with] established school-sponsored business partnerships, AND THE BCPS EDUCATION FOUNDATION. APPROVAL TO DISSEMINATE OR DISPLAY MATERIALS IN ONE OR MORE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DOES NOT IMPLY BOARD OR SCHOOL SYSTEM ENDORSEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION OR THE INFORMATION IT DISSEMINATES.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

The Board directs the Superintendent [to establish procedures] to implement this policy.

Legal Requirement: *Child Evangelism Fellowship of Maryland v. Montgomery County Public Schools*, 457 F.3d 376 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006)

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1210, *RELATIONSHIP WITH PARENT-TEACHER (STUDENT) ASSOCIATIONS*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 1300, *USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 3160, *SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES*  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8363, *CONFLICT OF INTEREST – PROHIBITED CONDUCT*

Policy  
Adopted: 11/16/72  
Revised: 12/08/88  
Revised: 08/16/90  
Revised: 04/21/09  
REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Education of Baltimore County