

## PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

### *PARENTS AND GUARDIANS SHOULD:*

- Praise and encourage their child.
- Build positive home conditions that support learning such as:
  - Time, space, and materials for homework.
  - Time for rest and play.
  - Time for reading and sharing.
  - Keeping track of television viewing.
- Make sure that their child attends school each day and arrives on time.
- Give a written reason for their child's absence.
- Learn what is expected of their child at school.
- Talk with their child about his or her school day.
- See that their child completes homework on time.
- Cooperate with school staff requests for information and conferences.
- Participate in school conferences to discuss their child's progress and welfare.
- Promote their child's appropriate behavior and respect for others.
- Contact the school with concerns about their child. Be sure to ask for the help needed.
- Take time to be involved in decision making about school issues and problems.
- Treat members of the school staff with mutual courtesy and respect.

## GETTING THE HELP YOU NEED

*For issues related to your child's classroom or school concerns, use the following steps:*

1. Talk with the teacher/counselor.
2. Talk with the principal.
3. Talk with the Area Office staff:

Southwest	410-887-8760
Northwest	410-887-8767
Central	410-887-3172
Northeast	410-887-4316
Southeast	410-887-8768

*For other information, please call the following numbers:*

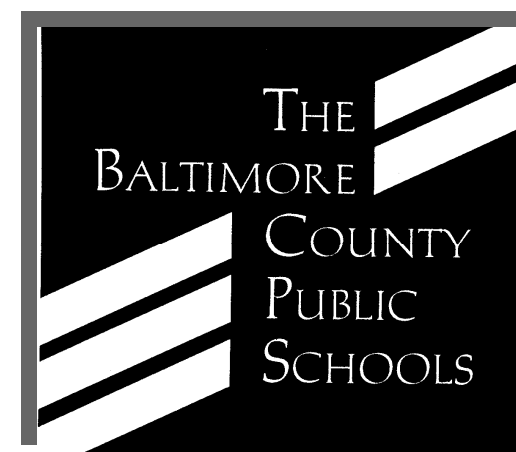
General Information	410-887-4554
Free and Reduced Meals	410-887-7860
Special Education	410-887-3660
School Boundaries	410-887-4215
Bus Transportation	410-887-4321
Transcripts/Diplomas	410-887-6360
Child Abuse Reporting	410-853-3000
Student Service Learning	410-887-4329
Athletics	410-887-2328
Equity and Assurance	410-887-2444
Gifted Education/Magnet	410-887-4330/4127
Student Support Services	410-887-0216
Parent Support Services	410-887-6489

### **Baltimore County Public Schools**

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# PARENT/ GUARDIAN RIGHTS EXPECTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES



*“To maintain equitable and effective education, recognition of the role and rights of parents is essential.”*

Dr. Joe A. Hairston  
Superintendent of Schools

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## **PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

*To INFORM PARENTS/GUARDIANS ABOUT  
VARIOUS RESOURCES RELATED TO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.*

*To HELP PARENTS/GUARDIANS ATTAIN  
SUCCESS FOR THEIR CHILDREN FROM  
PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH  
SECONDARY EDUCATION.*

*To HELP PARENTS/GUARDIANS PLAN  
AND PREPARE FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.*

*To HELP PARENTS/GUARDIANS BY  
PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR GREATER  
INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION  
IN SCHOOLS.*

*To PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING AND  
COOPERATION BETWEEN PARENTS/  
GUARDIANS AND SCHOOLS.*

### ***PARENTS /GUARDIANS HAVE THE RIGHT TO:***

- Receive upon request Board of Education policies and local school procedures.
- Have their child with special needs remain in the least restrictive school environment and in the most appropriate setting.
- Be informed of approved procedures for appealing administrative decisions on issues such as discipline, placement, and access to programs and services.
- Receive upon request information about curriculum, course options/requirements and the implications of their child's educational program.
- Request a screening to determine whether their child is a candidate for special services (such as speech therapy).
- Review their child's educational records.
- Participate in matters related to the educational program of their child with special needs. Parents/guardians are entitled to be informed of procedural safeguards that guarantee their rights and those of their child.

### ***PARENTS/GUARDIANS MAY EXPECT TO:***

- Be treated with courtesy by all members of the school staff and be respected as an individual regardless of race, creed, national origin, economic status, disability, gender, or age.
- Have their child in a school environment that is safe and free from any form of harassment.

- Receive adequate and appropriate information in order to help make informed decisions about gifted & talented and honors programs, magnet schools, and other special school programs as well as requirements for colleges, universities, and post secondary career schools.
  - Receive upon request information about Career and Technology Completer programs and Tech Prep programs that lead to employment and/or further education and training after high school.
  - Receive assistance from school personnel to further the progress of their child. This can include support such as academic assistance, counseling, and remedial programs.
  - Participate in meaningful school conferences to discuss their child's progress and welfare.
  - Interact with school system personnel at a time and in a setting designed to meet the needs of all.
  - Be welcome to visit schools and classes after notifying the school office and according to the guidelines that establish the rights of parents/guardians, while protecting the rights of teachers and the security of children.
  - Know the guidelines for homework.
  - Receive upon request information about the local school improvement plan, the local school budget, and the ways in which a parent/guardian may participate in the school's decision-making process.
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