



STUDENTS: Conduct

Gangs, Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Illegal Group Behavior

I. Policy Statement

- A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) believes that gangs and gang-related activities pose a serious threat to the safety of students and staff members and that gang and gang activities can significantly disrupt the educational environment. Therefore, the Board prohibits gang activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior on school property, on school buses and at school-sponsored events.
- B. The Board prohibits reprisal or retaliation against an individual whom reports gang activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior or who is a victim, or witness to, an act of gang activity.
- C. This policy shall serve as the Board's gang policy.

II. Implementation

- A. The Board directs the Superintendent to take necessary and appropriate actions to effectuate this policy, including but not limited to establishing, implementing, and maintaining procedures in accordance with the Maryland State Board of Education's (MSDE) model gang policy as follows:
 - 1. Create reporting procedures for suspected gang activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior in schools;
 - 2. Establish a proper systemwide monitoring/tracking system to follow progress of each investigation;
 - 3. Develop procedures for the prompt investigation of suspected gang activity or similar destructive or illegal group behavior;
 - 4. Develop information/resources on support and intervention services and educational programs for students, parents, teachers, staff, volunteers and administrators in order to prevent, intervene in and suppress gang activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior in schools;
 - 5. Develop standard consequences and remedial actions for individuals engaged in gangs, gang activity or similar destructive or illegal group behavior;

6. Designate at least one school security officer for each school that enrolls students in Grades 6-12; and
 7. Enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Office of the Baltimore County State's Attorney to foster coordination of gang prevention, intervention and suppression efforts.
- B. The Board directs the Superintendent to take appropriate disciplinary or other action when this policy has been violated.
- C. The Board directs the Superintendent to implement this policy.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. §7151, *Gun-Free Schools Act*
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §7-305, *Suspension and expulsion*
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §7-424.1, *Model Policy Prohibiting Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation*
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, §7-424.2, *Gang Prevention, Intervention and Suppression Efforts*
COMAR 13A.01.04.03, *School Safety*
COMAR 13A.08.01.11, *Disciplinary Action*
COMAR 13A.08.01.17, *School Use of Reportable Offenses*
COMAR 13A.08.03, *Discipline of Students with Disabilities*

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5000, *Students*
Board of Education Policy 5500, *Code of Student Conduct*
Board of Education Policy 5510, *Positive Behavior*
Board of Education Policy 5520, *Student Dress Code*
Board of Education Policy 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*
Board of Education Policy 5560, *Suspensions, Assignment to Alternative Programs or Expulsion*
Board of Education Policy 5561, *School Use of Reportable Offenses*
Board of Education Policy 5580, *Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment or Intimidation*
Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Responsibilities and Rights*

Policy
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Board of Education of Baltimore County