POLICY 8130

INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Organization

Formulation

I. PURPOSE

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, representing the people of the county, is, in addition to its many other roles, the legislative body which makes policy to be employed by the county's public schools. "Policies" are defined as those principles formally adopted by the Board of Education in order to manage the school system.

The Board shall, to the best of its ability, cause the provisions of state and federal laws and the bylaws and policies of the State Board of Education to be carried out. The Board of Education shall with the advice of the county superintendent set goals and expectations for the school system through the development, revision, and adoption of policies to guide the formulation and implementation of educational programs and the management of school system operations. Unless legal or regulatory requirements demand otherwise, the Board shall to the best of its ability, review its policies within five years of adoption, amendment, or re-adoption.

Course of study, revised courses, required methods of teaching, and any significant program to be tested in one or more schools for the purpose of being considered for use system-wide shall be approved by the Board of Education prior to implementation or discontinuance.

II. PROCEDURE

A. The Board may request or receive a policy analysis from the superintendent on revisions to existing policies or on the need for a new policy.

1. All policy analyses will include the following elements:

a. Statement of issues or questions addressed by the proposed policy;
b. Where appropriate, cost analysis and fiscal impact on school system;

c. Relationship to other Board of Education policies;
d. Legal requirements, such as federal, state, or local laws or regulations;
e. Similar policies adopted by other local school systems;
f. A draft of the proposed policy, and
g. Other alternatives that were considered by staff.

B. The policy analysis will be presented to the Board as an item for discussion.

C. If limited revisions to existing policies are necessary, the superintendent will present the proposed changes to the Board with an accompanying rationale. There shall be no need for a policy analysis.

D. When a board member or the superintendent presents a proposed policy, a time line for adoption will accompany the policy, and will include, where appropriate:

1. Opportunity for citizen comment;
2. Opportunity for superintendent and staff to provide advice and recommendations;
3. Proposed date of adoption.

E. The superintendent shall, where necessary, develop administrative rules for the implementation of the Board's policies. Such rules will be presented to the Board for information purposes, but do not require an affirmative vote of the Board.

F. Following discussion, the Board shall adopt policies, in public session, and such adoption shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board.

Related Policies: 8140 – Formulation of Administrative Regulations

Policy Board of Education of Baltimore County
Adopted: 4/13/72
Revised: 7/13/78
Revised: 10/8/96
Revised: 12/4/01
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