

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: January 13, 2009

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5110 – STUDENTS: ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, ADMISSION**

ORIGINATOR: Patricia Abernethy, Chief Academic Officer

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Dale R. Rauenzahn, Executive Director, Student Support Services
Sharon Ochs, Coordinator, Pupil Personnel Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education considers the proposed changes to Policy 5110. This is the third reading of this policy.

Attachment I – Policy Analysis
Attachment II – Policy 5110

**Policy Analysis for
Board of Education Policy 5110
Admission**

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

Board of Education Policy 5110 is being recommended for revisions to comply with COMAR provisions regarding attendance and enrollment.

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

Board of Education Policy 5120, *Attendance and Excuses*.

Legal Requirements

Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-101

COMAR

13.A.08.01.01

13A08.01.02B

13A.08.01.02-2

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

1. Harford County Policy 02-0001-000, *Student Attendance*
2. Howard County Policy 9010, *Attendance*

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

No other alternatives were considered.

Timeline:

First reading: November 19, 2008

Public comment: December 2, 2008

Third reading: January 13, 2009

STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance

I. Admission

- A. [Children who are five (5) years of age on or before October 31, 2004 for the 2004 - 2005 school year, and September 30, 2005 for the 2005-2006 school year shall be enrolled in kindergarten. Thereafter,] C[c]hildren who are five (5) years of age on or before September 1 shall be enrolled in kindergarten.

- B. ALL STUDENTS ENTERING THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM PRIVATE, PAROCHIAL, OR OTHER PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL BE PLACED IN THE GRADE LEVELS TO WHICH THEY ARE CERTIFIED BY THE SENDING SCHOOL. THIS IS PROVIDED THE CHILD IS AGE ELIGIBLE OR TRANSFERRING FROM A NONPUBLIC PROGRAM CERTIFIED BY THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. ALL OTHER TRANSFER STUDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO GRADE PLACEMENT AS INDICATED ON THEIR TRANSFER RECORDS. IF IT IS NECESSARY TO CHANGE GRADE PLACEMENT, SUCH CHANGE SHALL BE SUBSTANTIATED BY ACHIEVEMENT TEST RESULTS, OTHER TEST RESULTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE, AND THE OPINIONS OF THE CLASSROOM TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL. A REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN GRADE PLACEMENT SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE SUBSTANTIATING DOCUMENTATION TO THE AREA ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.

- C. TRANSFER STUDENTS ARE ENTITLED TO GRADE PLACEMENT AS INDICATED ON THEIR TRANSFER CARDS PROVIDED THE CHILD IS AGE ELIGIBLE.

- D. Parents wishing an exception to this requirement may complete the *Waiver for KINDERGARTEN (Level of Maturity)*, place the child in an approved alternative setting, initiate home instruction, or follow the procedures in the *Guidelines for Applying for Early Enrollment into Kindergarten*.

- E. Every parent/guardian must present [his/her] THE child's birth certificate or other satisfactory evidence of age at [his/her] THE first enrollment in a county public school.

Legal ReferenceS: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article, §7-101,
[Admission of Students,] §7-301 [Compulsory Attendance]
[Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”)]
13A.08.01.02[Age for School Attendance]
13A.08.02.02B [Age for School Attendance, Kindergarten]
13A.08.01.02-2 [Exceptions to Kindergarten Attendance Requirement]

Policy
Adopted: 11/12/70
Revised: 7/12/84
Revised: 7/11/85
Revised: 6/27/95
Revised: 4/12/05
REVISED: _____

Board of Education of Baltimore County

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Division of Curriculum and Instruction

KINDERGARTEN LEVEL OF MATURITY WAIVER

A child who resides in this State and is 5 years old may be exempted from mandatory school attendance for 1 year if the child's parent or guardian believes that a delay in school attendance is in the best interest of the child and the parent or guardian files a written request with the local superintendent of schools asking that the child's attendance be delayed due to the child's level of maturity. (COMAR 13A.08.01.02-2)

I am requesting a one (1) year waiver of kindergarten attendance for:

Name of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

This request is for the _____ school year. .

I understand that my child must be registered for enrollment, and attend a kindergarten program during the following school year.

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Your request to waive mandatory kindergarten attendance for your child has been granted for the _____ school year. Please be advised that your child must be registered for enrollment, and attend kindergarten the following school year.

School: _____

Signature of Principal: _____ Date: _____

Directions for parent or guardian:

1. Complete, sign, and return form to your child's Baltimore County Public School.

Directions for school:

1. Retain original form in school
2. Send duplicate copy to the Office of Early Childhood Programs