STUDENTS: Conduct

School Use of Reportable Offenses

I. Policy Statement

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) is committed to providing a safe environment conducive to learning. The Board believes that violent acts committed by students in the community have the potential to impact the safety of schools, staff members and students.

II. Definitions

A. **Appropriate Educational Programming** – A regular or alternative education program that allows a student the opportunity to continue the student’s education and, if in secondary school, the opportunity to receive credit.

B. **Reportable Offense** – A crime of violence and additional enumerated offenses committed by a student and reported to the Superintendent as defined by Section 7-303 of the Education Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

III. Standards

A. Pursuant to Maryland Law, if a student is arrested for a reportable offense or for an offense that is related to the student’s membership in a criminal gang, the law enforcement agency making the arrest is to notify the Superintendent of the arrest and the charges.

B. The Superintendent shall develop a rule to provide guidance to schools on responding to notice of a reportable offense and determining whether it is in the best interest of the school system for the student to continue his/her enrollment in the assigned school. The guidance shall include, but not be limited to:
   1. Ensuring the rights of students who have been charged with a reportable offense are protected;
   2. Determining whether the presence of the student poses a threat to the safety of the school, student, others or the educational process; and
   3. Developing a plan that addresses appropriate educational programming and related services for the student.
IV. Implementation

The Board directs the Superintendent to implement this policy and provide a report annually to the Board.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 1400, et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article § 7-303, Arrest for Reportable Offense
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article § 7-304, Special Programs for Disruptive Students
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article § 7-424.2, Gangs and Gang Activity
COMAR 13A.05.01, Provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education
COMAR 13A.08.01.17, School Use of Reportable Offenses

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5550, Student Behavior Code
Board of Education Policy 5551, Gangs, Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Illegal Group Behavior
Board of Education Policy 5560, Suspensions and Expulsions

Policy       Board of Education of Baltimore County
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