INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Organization

Purpose, Role and Responsibilities of the Board of Education

I. Policy Statement

A. The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) is a body politic and corporate created under the laws of the State of Maryland. The Board has full authority and jurisdiction over all educational matters affecting Baltimore County and shall promote the interests of the schools under its jurisdiction.

B. The Board may sue and be sued and exercise all powers and privileges granted to or vested in it by law.

II. Purpose

A. The Board is empowered, directed and required to maintain a reasonably uniform system of public schools designed to provide quality education and equal educational opportunity for all children in Baltimore County.

B. Some of the Board’s powers, duties and obligations include:
   1. Reflect the aspirations and desires of the citizens for an adequate educational program;
   2. Carry out the applicable provisions of federal and state laws and regulations and policies of the Maryland State Board of Education;
   3. Determine, with the advice of the Superintendent, the educational policies of the school system.
4. Adopt, codify and make available to the public bylaws, rules and regulations for the conduct and management of the school system; 7

5. Select the Superintendent; 8

6. Set the Superintendent’s salary and compensation; 9

7. Provide the Office of the Superintendent with adequate quarters and clerical equipment; 10

8. Provide the Superintendent with transportation; 11

9. Reimburse the Superintendent for travel and other expenses as pre-approved by the Board according to the Superintendent’s employment contract; 12

10. Appoint the personnel needed for developing and carrying out the educational program as recommended by the Superintendent and set their salaries; 13 14

11. Appoint all certificated personnel; 15

12. Suspend or dismiss a certificated employee on the recommendation of the Superintendent; 16

13. Hear appeals from the recommendations and decisions of the Superintendent; 17

14. Exercise its lawful budgetary authority to propose adequate funding for current and proposed staffing guidelines;

7 Educ. Art. §4-108(4), Adopt, codify and make available to the public bylaws, rules and regulations not inconsistent with State law, for the conduct and management of the county public schools.
8 Educ. Art. §4-201(b)(3), In the year in which a term begins, the county board shall appoint a county superintendent between February 1 and June 30.
9 Educ. Art. §4-202(a), …each county superintendent is entitled to the compensation set by the county board.
10 Educ. Art. §4-203(a), Each county board shall provide the office of the county superintendent with adequate quarters and clerical equipment.
11 Educ. Art. §4-203(b), The county superintendent and the superintendent’s professional assistants shall be provided with the transportation necessary for the effective and efficient performance of their official duties.
12 Educ. Art. §4-203(c), The county superintendent and the superintendent’s professional assistants are entitled to reimbursement for travel and other expenses.
13 Educ. Art. §4-103(a), …Appoint all principals, teachers and other certificated and noncertificated personnel; (2) Set their salaries.
14 Educ. Art. §6-201(a)(1), …the county board shall employ individuals in positions that the county board considers necessary for the operation of the public schools in the county.
15 Educ. Art. §6-201(b)(1), …the county superintendent shall nominate for appointment by the county board….  
16 Educ. Art. §6-202(a)(1), On the recommendation of the county superintendent, a county board may suspend or dismiss a teacher, principal, supervisor, assistant superintendent or other professional assistant for….  
17 Educ. Art. §4-205(3), A decision of the county superintendent may be appealed to the county board.; and  
Educ. Art. §6-202(2)(i), Before removing an individual, the county board shall sent the individual a copy of the charges against the individual and give the individual an opportunity within 10 days to request: (1) a hearing before the county board.
15. Review the evaluation of the educational program as determined by the Superintendent and act upon recommendations contained therein;

16. Prepare an annual budget for the operating and capital needs of the school system;\textsuperscript{18}

17. Establish schools;\textsuperscript{19}

18. Determine, with the advice of the Superintendent, the geographical attendance area for each school;\textsuperscript{20}

19. Buy or otherwise acquire land, school sites or buildings;\textsuperscript{21}

20. Rent, repair, improve and build school buildings or approve contracts for doing so;\textsuperscript{22}

21. Declare land, school site or building as surplus;\textsuperscript{23}

22. Employ, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, architects to assist in preparing plans and specifications for constructing or remodeling a building;\textsuperscript{24}

23. Establish, on the written recommendation of the Superintendent, curriculum guides and courses of study, including appropriate programs of instruction or training for mentally or physically handicapped children;\textsuperscript{25}

24. Adopt, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, procedures for the selection and purchase of curriculum materials;\textsuperscript{26}

25. Establish policies for student promotion and graduation;\textsuperscript{27} and

26. Establish at least one advisory committee.\textsuperscript{28}

\textsuperscript{18} Educ. Art. §5-101
\textsuperscript{19} Educ. Art. §4-109(a), Subject to the approval by the State Superintendent and in accordance with the applicable bylaws, rules and regulations of the State Board, a county board may establish a public school if, in its judgment, it is advisable.
\textsuperscript{20} Educ. Art. §4-109(c), With the advice of the county superintendent, the county board shall determine the geographical attendance area for each school established under this section.
\textsuperscript{21} Educ. Art. §4-115(b)(1), Buy or otherwise acquire land, school sites or buildings….
\textsuperscript{22} Educ. Art. §4-115(b)(2), Rent, repair, improve and build school buildings or approve contracts for doing so, if the plans conform to the bylaws, rules and regulations of the State Board.
\textsuperscript{23} Educ. Art. §4-115(c)(1)(i) …if, with the approval of the State Superintendent, a county board finds that any land, school site, or building no longer is needed for school purposes, it shall inform the…county council of the county board’s determination…..
\textsuperscript{24} Educ. Art. §4-117, …a county board may employ architects to assist in preparing plans and specifications for constructing or remodeling a building.
\textsuperscript{25} Educ. Art. §4-111(a), …each county board, on the written recommendation of the county superintendent, shall: (1) Establish curriculum guides and courses of study for the schools under its jurisdiction, including appropriate programs of instruction or training for mentally or physically handicapped children.
\textsuperscript{26} Educ. Art. §7-106(a), On the recommendation of the county superintendent…., each county board shall adopt procedures for the selection and purchase of the following necessary items….
\textsuperscript{27} Educ. Art. §7-205(a), The promotion of students in a public school and graduation from a public high school shall be in accordance with: (1) policies established by the county board….
III. Mission

The Board, as the governing body of the school system, fulfills its mission by adopting policies concerning:29

A. The educational program, to determine the effectiveness with which the schools are achieving the educational purposes of the school system;

B. The appointment of a staff, and its professional development, to assist students in reaching appropriate goals;

C. The dissemination of information relating to the schools, necessary for creating a well-informed public;

D. The planning, expansion, improvement, financing, construction and maintenance of the physical plant of the school system;

E. The standards needed for the efficient operation and improvement of the school system;

F. The establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, archives, management methods and procedures incidental to the conduct of school business; and

G. The budget, financial reports, audits, major expenditures, payment of obligations and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business.

Legal References:  
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §3-102, County School System Boundaries  
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §3-103, County Boards of Education  
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §3-104, County Boards as Corporate Bodies

28 Educ. Art. §4-112, Each county board shall establish at least one citizen advisory committee to advise the board and to facilitate its activities and programs in the public schools.
29 Mirrors Board Handbook, p.5
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-101, Control of Educational Matters and Promotion by the Boards
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-103, Appointment and Salaries of Principals, Teachers and Personnel
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-108, Powers and Duties of Board
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-109, Public Schools and Attendance Areas
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-111, Curriculum Guides, Courses of Study and American Sign Language
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-112, Citizen Advisory Committees
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-115, Land, School Sites or Buildings Used for School Purposes
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-117, Construction or Remodeling of Buildings
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-201, Qualifications and Discipline of County Superintendents
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-202, Compensation Set by County Board
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-203, Quarters, Clerical Equipment, Transportation and Reimbursement of Expenses
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-205, Powers and Duties of County Superintendent
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §5-101, Annual Budget
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §6-201, Appointment of Employees by County Board
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §6-202, Suspension or Dismissal of Teachers, Principals, Supervisors, Assistant Superintendents or Other Professional Assistants
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-106, Curriculum Materials
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-205, Promotion and Graduation of Students in Public High Schools
Policy Board of Education of Baltimore County

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopted:</td>
<td>04/13/72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised:</td>
<td>05/08/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised:</td>
<td>05/08/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised:</td>
<td>02/11/20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>