

Highlights of Changes to Policies and Implementation Procedures: 2022–2023 School Year

Policy 1050 Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Free Environment

Effective: June 8, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 1050 Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Free Environment, Implementation Procedures on June 8, 2023. The purpose of the modification is to align with changes to the HCPSS Student Code of Conduct and to prioritize student well-being, supports, and interventions over exclusionary practices when developing level responses to student offenses.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 37 on June 14, 2023.

Policy 2000 Board of Education Governance

(formerly School Board Governance)

Effective: November 3, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 2000 School Board Governance on November 3, 2022. The policy was modified to update language, titles, and references within the policy. The title of the policy was changed to “Board of Education Governance”.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Policy 2030 Ombudsman

Effective: May 11, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education voted to rescind Policy 2030 Ombudsman on May 11, 2023 based on the needs of the Howard County Public School System.

Policy 2040 Public Participation in Meetings of the Board

Effective: May 11, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 2040 Public Participation in Meetings of the Board on May 11, 2023. The policy was modified to update language within the policy and to align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 36 on May 25, 2023.

Policy 4000 Grants

Effective: January 12, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 4000 Grants, Implementation Procedures on January 12, 2023. The modification was to align with best practices and to clarify grant funds and equipment purchased with grant funds are the property of HCPSS until the end of their life cycle, as determined by HCPSS.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 27 on March 13, 2023.

Policy 4090 Debt Management

Effective: September 8, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 4090 Debt Management on November 3, 2022. The policy was modified to update language and definitions within the policy and align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Policy 7090 Transfer of Teachers

Effective: November 3, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 7090 Transfer of Teachers on November 3, 2022. The policy was modified to update language and definitions within the policy and align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Policy 7140 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Involving Employees (new)

Effective: July 1, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted new Policy 7140 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Involving Employees on June 8, 2023. The policy and implementation procedures were developed to establish expectations for maintaining a safe and respectful workplace where employee bullying and harassment are not tolerated. The policy includes standards for supporting employees who are targets of bullying or harassment and for identifying and preventing bullying and harassment.

The implementation procedures include a process for reporting bullying and harassment, investigation procedures, violations of policy, interventions, and supports.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 5 on July 12, 2023.

Policy 8000 Curriculum

Effective: July 1, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 8000 Curriculum on March 9, 2023. Revisions to the policy include the curriculum will promote congruence among written, taught, and assessed content; the written curriculum will include a representation of diverse perspectives and experiences, including those of historically marginalized and oppressed peoples who have been traditionally excluded or underrepresented in curriculum; HCPSS families will have access to curriculum standards via the HCPSS website; school administrators and HCPSS employees will work to maintain consistency among the written curriculum, the taught curriculum, and what students have learned as measured by assessments; and school-based administrators are responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the written curriculum.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 5 on July 12, 2023.

Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5

Effective: August 16, 2022

On August 16, 2022, the Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5. The policy was modified to align language with recent revisions to Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle through High School.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School

Effective: April 13, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School on August 16, 2022. Revisions to the policy included updates to promotion requirements for grade 11 students; updates to standards for homework; and reorganization of standards for grades and codes in middle and high school. Revisions to the implementation procedures included updates to criteria for assessments for courses taken for high school credit; updates to criteria for determining final grades and credit for middle and high school; revision of guidelines for students transferring into the HCPSS or into Alternative Education Placement; and revision of criteria for high school courses taken in middle school.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Additionally, the Board was provided modifications to Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School, Implementation Procedures on April 13, 2023. The modification provides greater detail for grade change procedures and clarity throughout.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 32 on April 18, 2023.

Policy 8030 Graduation Requirements

Effective: July 1, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 8030 Graduation Requirements on June 8, 2023. Revisions to the policy include updated credit requirements for students who entered Grade 9 beginning in school year 2021-22 in Computer Science, Engineering, or Technology Education; Mathematics; and Science and for students who entered Grade 9 prior to school year 2021-22 in Mathematics. Additionally, criteria for awarding credit from schools in other states and non-public Maryland schools and standards for the Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion were updated.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 5 on July 12, 2023.

Policy 8040 Selection of Instructional Resources

(formerly Selection of Instructional Materials)

Effective: July 1, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 8040 Selection of Instructional Materials on June 8, 2023. Revisions include changing “materials” to “resources” throughout the policy and implementation procedures; all approved curriculum instructional resources for use by students are to be selected consistent with HCPSS established procedures and selection criteria; updates HCPSS selection criteria requirements for approved curriculum, supplemental curriculum, teacher-selected, and teacher-created instructional resources; and HCPSS employees will define a process for reevaluation of supplemental curriculum, teacher-selected, and teacher-created instructional resources. The title of the policy was changed to “Selection of Instructional Resources”.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 5 on July 12, 2023.

Policy 9000 Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment and Assignment

Effective: December 5, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 9000 Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment, and Assignment, Implementation Procedures on December 5, 2022. The implementation procedures were modified to refine the appeal process for parents requesting reassignment of students.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 27 on March 13, 2023.

Policy 9010 Attendance

Effective: June 8, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 9010 Attendance on August 16, 2022. The purpose of the modification was to align language with changes in current laws and the Maryland Student Records System Manual.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 22 on December 21, 2022.

Additionally, the Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to the policy on June 8, 2023. The policy was modified to provide clarity on discretionary absences by including language related to civic engagement.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 37 on June 14, 2023.

Policy 9060 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Compliance: Section 504

Effective: December 5, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 9060 Rehabilitation Act of 1973: Compliance Section 504 on December 5, 2022. The purpose of the modification was to update language, definitions, and references within the policy and to align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 27 on March 13, 2023.

Policy 9280 School Use of Community or Reportable Offenses

Effective: January 12, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 9280 School Use of Community or Reportable Offenses on January 12, 2023. The policy and implementation procedures were modified to align with House Bill 146. Language was added to clarify that a reportable offense only applies to student conduct off school property/non-school events. Modified language was included to clarify the requirement to invite the student's attorney to participate in the conference between student, parent, and principal or Superintendent and the manifestation determination review, if a student is removed or excluded from their regular school program for a reportable offense.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 32 on April 18, 2023.

Policy 9400 Student Behavior Intervention

Effective: August 16, 2022

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 9400 Student Behavior Intervention on August 16, 2022. The policy was modified to align with the HCPSS Board of Education Action to ban the use of seclusion in the Howard County Public School setting.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 36 on May 25, 2023.

Policy 9460 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Involving Students

(formerly Policy 1060 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation)

Effective: July 1, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 1060 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation on June 8, 2023. During the review, it was decided to restructure as a student focused policy updating the policy number and title as Policy 9460 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Involving Students and creating an additional policy focused on employee bullying and harassment (see Policy 7140). Revisions to the policy include annual professional development for employees and school bus contractors; school administrators/supervisors will investigate and address all reported incidents of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation in accordance with this policy and applicable laws; the HCPSS will ensure the Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation (BCHI) form is used to report alleged incidents of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation that occur on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or have a connection or nexus back to the school setting the create a risk of harm to other students while they are at school, or interfere with the educational environment; and all HCPSS schools will follow established procedures for bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and intimidation prevention, investigation, intervention, and provision of supports outline in the implementation procedures.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 5 on July 12, 2023.

Policy 9500 Educating Student Sex Offenders (new)

Effective: February 9, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted new Policy 9500 Educating Student Sex Offenders on February 9, 2023. The policy was developed in accordance with Maryland Annotated Code, Criminal Procedure Article, Section 11-722 that enables a registered sex offender who is a student to receive an education.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 27 on March 13, 2023.

Policy 10010 Distribution and Display of Materials and Announcements

Effective: July 14, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 10010 Distribution and Display of Materials and Announcements on July 14, 2022. The policy was modified to update titles and to determine how information will be shared with students and parents from approved organizations.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 17 on September 27, 2022.

Policy 10040 Charter Schools

Effective: April 13, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 10040 Charter Schools on April 13, 2023. The policy and implementation procedures were modified to update language, definitions, and references and to align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2022-2023, Circular No. 32 on April 18, 2023.

The following policies were approved by the Board of Education to add the most current “Reviewed” date as no revisions or modifications were required:

Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5

Policy 8080 Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media