

Highlights of Changes to Policies and Implementation Procedures: 2023–2024 School Year

Policy 2060 Advisory Committees to the Board of Education

Effective: November 2, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 2060 Advisory Committees to the Board of Education on November 2, 2023. The policy was modified to update language and align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 16 on November 15, 2023.

Policy 3040 Technology Security

Effective: January 11, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 3040 Technology Security on January 11, 2024. The policy was modified to align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 30 on May 31, 2024.

Policy 3050 Records Management

Effective: July 1, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 3050 Records Management on June 6, 2024. Revisions to the policy include an annual review of each office, department, and school's current Records and Information Disposition Schedules (RIDs), HCPSS records custodians will complete an HCPSS Off-site Transfer Request or Retrieval Form and obtain approval from the records officer prior to transferring or receiving records from an off-site storage facility, and prior to transfer, relocate, and decide the disposition of records, each office, department, and school will notify the Records Management Oversight.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2024-2025, Circular No. 5 on July 22, 2024.

Policy 3060 Student Data Governance and Privacy

Effective: February 8, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 3060 Student Data Governance and Privacy on February 8, 2024. The policy was modified to align with current best practices.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 21 on February 14, 2024.

Policy 4080 Disposition of Property

Effective: March 7, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 4080 Disposition of Property on March 7, 2024. 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 2023-2024, Circular No. 30 on May 31, 2024.

Policy 4200 Meal Charges

Effective: July 1, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 4200 Meal Charges on June 6, 2024. Revisions to the policy includes language stating that no student will be denied a meal regardless of unpaid food service accounts; all students who attend schools operating under the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) may have breakfast and lunch at no cost; and families may be encouraged to apply for FARMs benefits for their children anytime during the school year, where appropriate.

Revisions to the implementation procedures include students may be eligible for free meals if the student meets the definition of homeless or runaway; donated funds will be applied based on a Tier level and donated funds received for specific schools will be applied to those schools.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2024-2025, Circular No. 5 on July 22, 2024.

Policy 7020 Nepotism

Effective: December 5, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 7020 Nepotism on December 5, 2023. The policy was modified to update language regarding the procedures for HCPSS employees to disclose close relationships and family members with another HCPSS employee or Board member.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 20 on February 1, 2024.

Policy 7070 Appointments to Certificated Administrator and Supervisor Positions
Formerly (Appointments to Administrative and Supervisory Certificated Positions)
Effective: July 1, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 7070 Appointments to Certificated Administrator and Supervisor Positions on March 7, 2024. Revisions to the policy include updating the title of the policy, consistent procedures for accepting, screening, and selecting candidates who are most qualified to meet the needs of the HCPSS, including a review of pertinent records for violations or Board policies related to bullying, harassment, discrimination, and sexual harassment, and clarifying the Superintendent has the authority to assign and reassign certificated administrators and supervisors, in accordance with Maryland law.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2024-2025, Circular No. 5 on July 22, 2024.

Policy 7080 Transfer of School-Based Administrators
Effective: July 1, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education approved rescinding Policy 7080 Transfer of School-Based Administrators. The transfer of school-based administrators is an internal process guided by the HCASA agreement that does not require Board oversight.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2024-2025, Circular No. 5 on July 22, 2024.

Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5
Effective: June 6, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5 on June 6, 2024. The policy was modified to update language and definitions within the policy and to align with recent changes to Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2024-2025, Circular No. 4 on July 22, 2024.

Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School
Effective: December 5, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School on December 5, 2023. The policy was modified to align with changes to COMAR.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 20 on February 1, 2024.

Policy 8030 Graduation Requirements

Effective: December 5, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 8030 Graduation Requirements on December 5, 2023. The policy was modified to align with changes to COMAR.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 20 on February 1, 2024.

Additionally, the Board was provided modifications to Policy 8030 Graduation Requirements, Implementation Procedures on December 5, 2023. The implementation procedures were modified to include guidelines for student service requirements.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 21 on February 14, 2024.

Policy 8100 Field Trips

Effective: October 12, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 8100 Field Trips, Implementation Procedures on October 12, 2023. The implementation procedures were modified to provide clarity and include other general updates as they relate to language use.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 16 on November 15, 2023.

Policy 8200 Digital Education

Effective: June 6, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 8200 on June 6, 2024. The policy was modified to update language and definitions within the policy and align with new legislation.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 31 on June 20, 2024.

Policy 9000 Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment, and Assignment

Effective: January 11, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 9000 Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment, and Assignment, Implementation Procedures on January 11, 2024. The implementation procedures were modified to include language that aligns with the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and to clarify language regarding appeal stages.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 21 on February 14, 2024.

Additionally, the Board was provided modifications to Policy 9000 Student Residency, Eligibility, Enrollment, and Assignment on June 6, 2024. The policy was modified to add language regarding reassignment for students of HCPSS employees that allows them to remain at their current school if the parent/HCPSS employee is involuntarily reassigned to another placement.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 31 on June 20, 2024.

Policy 9010 Attendance

Effective: November 2, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education was provided modifications to Policy 9010 Attendance, Implementation Procedures on November 2, 2023. The implementation procedures were modified to align with the Maryland Student Records System Manual.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 16 on November 15, 2023.

Policy 9030 School-Sponsored Publications and Productions

Effective: July 13, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 9030 School-Sponsored Publications and Productions on July 13, 2023. Revisions to the policy include content or activity of a school-sponsored publication or production may be disapproved if it might reasonably be perceived to advocate intolerance or illegal or prohibited activities, including alcohol, drug, or tobacco use, violence and discrimination; school administrators have the responsibility of providing justification for any action taken to restrict publication of student writing and productions; and advisors/sponsors may not be dismissed, suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred or otherwise retaliated against for acting to protect a student for exercising freedom of expression.

Revisions to the implementation procedures include advisors/sponsors and principal/designees are responsible for ensuring that expenses for school-sponsored publications and productions are covered in the budget.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 7 on July 20, 2023.

Policy 9100 Educational Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Students

Effective: March 7, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 9100 Educational Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Students on March 7, 2024. 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 2023-2024, Circular No. 30 on May 31, 2024.

Policy 9400 Student Behavior Intervention

Effective: May 9, 2024

The Howard County Board of Education adopted revisions to Policy 9400 Student Behavior Intervention on May 9, 2024. The policy was modified to update language within the policy and to align with changes to COMAR.

The policy was issued in a Circular Series 2023-2024, Circular No. 30 on May 31, 2024.

Policy 10000 Student, Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Effective: December 5, 2023

The Howard County Board of Education adopted modifications to Policy 10000 Student, Parent, Family, and Community Engagement on December 5, 2023. 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 2023-2024, Circular No. 20 on February 1, 2024.