

THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
10910 Clarksville Pike
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Circular No. 11
Series 2020–2021

October 13, 2020

Deputy Superintendent
Policy Updates

Policy 1060 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation
Policy 1080 Educational Equity
Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5
Policy 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School
Policy 8040 Selection of Instructional Materials

To: All Staff

From: Karalee Turner-Little
Deputy Superintendent

On September 10, 2020, the Board of Education approved a request to temporarily suspend sections of Policies 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5 (IV.A.1-2 and IV.B.2) and 8020 Grading and Reporting: Middle and High School (IV.A.1-6) in order to institute grading procedures and calculations consistent with the HCPSS Reopening Plan for SY20-21.

The Board also approved a request to temporarily suspend the requirement for a public review of selected instructional materials during the HCPSS Reopening Plan for SY20-21 (Policy 8040 Selection of Instructional Materials, Section V.A-D.).

The above suspensions will terminate at the end of the 2020-21 school year.

In addition, the Superintendent provided to the Board a modification to Policy 8010 Grading and Reporting: Prekindergarten through Grade 5, implementation timeline, Appendix A. The implementation timeline was modified to reflect an updated schedule to transition to the new PreK-5 report card.

On October 8, 2020, the Board of Education approved new Policy 1080 Educational Equity. The purpose of this policy is to achieve educational equity by establishing expectations related to the identification and elimination of disparities in education outcomes. The policy holds HCPSS accountable by adding standards and related reporting requirements in the areas of academic achievement growth, school climate and culture, and staff capacity for educational equity.

Additionally, the Board adopted modifications to Policy 1060 Bullying, Cyberbully, Harassment, or Intimidation. The policy was modified to include language prohibiting the display of symbols, images, language, materials, or items that demean an identifiable person or group or are reasonably perceived as promoting hatred, intimidation, or harassment, such as but not limited to swastikas and confederate flags, are prohibited on school property or at school-related activities and are subject to the standards of

this policy. See Standard III.B., page 2 of 8. The related policy in the HCPSS Student Code of Conduct has also been updated.

The changes are effective immediately. These policies and implementation procedures in their entirety can be accessed on the HCPSS website at <http://www.hcpss.org/board/policies/>.

Thank you for your attention to this update.

KTL/CH//kb
Attachment