

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

RECOMMENDATION ON NEW

BOARD POLICY

04-0024-000

EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF SCHOOL LIBRARY MATERIALS

MARCH 10, 2025

Background Information:

The Board maintains various policies of the Harford County Public Schools. These policies are either required by federal and state law and regulation, or are, in the Board's judgment necessary and appropriate for the school system to operate in a lawful, appropriate, and effective manner.

Discussion:

The Board Policy Review Committee, under the guidance of Kimberly H. Neal, Esquire, General Counsel for Harford County Public Schools, has worked closely with Dr. Martha Barwick, Supervisor of Innovation in Learning, to draft a revision to the draft Board policy entitled Evaluation and Selection of School Library Materials. The original draft policy was brought before the Board's Policy Review Committee for review at its October meeting. It was presented at the December 10, 2024 Board of Education open meeting, and posted for public review and comment.

The policy for discussion on March 10, 2025 reflects revisions to the original December 10, 2024 policy. The revisions are based on public and board comment received. This policy will affirm the commitment of Harford County Public Schools to follow the guidance and expectations set by the Maryland State Department of Education as well as applicable laws concerning the selection and approval of school library media materials.

Attachments:

1. Proposed New Board Policy 04-0024-000 Evaluation and Selection of School Library Materials.
2. Comparison of New Board Policy 04-0024-000, December 10, 2024 version and March 10, 2025 version

Superintendent's Recommendation:

For the foregoing reasons, the Superintendent recommends the following:

1. That the Board review for possible approval at a future meeting the proposed new policy entitled 04-0024-000 Evaluation and Selection of School Library Materials, as amended and presented on March 10, 2025.