



Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks

The Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) recognizes that as telecommunications and other new technologies change the ways that information may be accessed, communicated, and transferred by members of society, those changes may also alter instruction and student learning. The Board expects that the employees will integrate thoughtful use of electronic resources throughout the curriculum. The Board supports access by students to information resources along with the development by employees of appropriate skills to access, analyze, and evaluate such resources.

For students, telecommunications in the Baltimore County Public Schools are for educational purposes, such as accessing curriculum-related information, sharing resources, and promoting innovation in learning. Learning how to use this wealth of information and how to communicate electronically are fundamental to prepare citizens and future employees for the 21st century. Students shall be held responsible for appropriate behavior as specified in the Telecommunications Acceptable Use Policy for Students form (Series 6202, Form A).

Telecommunications extend the classroom beyond the school building by providing access to information resources on local, state, national, international, and commercial electronic networks. Telecommunications, because they may lead students to any publicly available fileserver in the world, will open classrooms to electronic information resources that may change daily and which have not been evaluated by educators for use by students of various ages. The Board of Education expects that employees will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of such resources as specified in the Telecommunications Acceptable Use Policy for Students Form (Series 6202, Form A) and the Telecommunications Acceptable Use Policy for Employees Form (Series 4006, Form A).

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop appropriate procedures for implementing this policy, to review and evaluate its effect on student achievement and instruction, and to develop appropriate discipline procedures.

Legal References: 47 U.S.C. §254(h) (Children’s Internet Protection Act)
18 U.S.C. §§2701-2711 (Electronic Communications Privacy Act)
20 U.S.C. §1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
20 U.S.C. §794d (Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-305
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-308
Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §26-101
COMAR 13A.05.02.13H
COMAR 13A.05.04.01
COMAR 13A.08.01.11
COMAR 13A.08.01.14

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5550
Board of Education Policy 5570
Board of Education Policy 5660

Policy

Board of Education of Baltimore County

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