
PARENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Education is responsible for establishing policies for the operation of a public school system for Prince George's County, within the framework of laws enacted by the Maryland General Assembly and policies and regulations established by the Maryland State Board of Education.

The Prince George's County Board of Education recognizes that its policies, rules, and procedures have a direct impact on the rights and responsibilities of individuals, groups, and organizations which are part of the total school community.

PARENTS' RIGHTS

The Board has consistently affirmed and endorsed its policies, principles, and beliefs that parents of children in Prince George's County Public Schools shall have the following rights:

- 1. To be treated** with courtesy by all members of the school staff.
- 2. To request** a conference to inspect their child's cumulative record and to request the correction of any false or misleading statements in conformity with Administrative Procedure No. 5125 and current guidelines established by the state and federal governments.
- 3. To visit** schools and classes after a request to the principal to do so, and in accordance with guidelines which establish the rights of parents while protecting the rights of teachers and students.
- 4. To be informed** of academic requirements of any school program.
- 5. To be informed** of school policies and administrative decisions.
- 6. To be informed** of approved procedures for seeking changes in school policies and for appealing administrative decisions.
- 7. To be informed** of all programs in special education.
- 8. To appeal** the placement, in accordance with established guidelines, of their child in a special education class.
- 9. To expect** that every attempt will be made by school personnel to distribute to students or otherwise seek to communicate with parents important news and messages from the school system and/or individual schools.
- 10. To participate** in meaningful parent-teacher conferences to discuss their child's school progress and welfare.
- 11. To expect** reasonable protection for their child from physical harm while under school authority.
- 12. To organize and participate** in organizations for parents.
- 13. To seek** information from school personnel to further the progress and improvement of their child, which includes but is not limited to counseling, tutorial and remedial programs, as well as information about academic and psychological services both in and outside of the school district.
- 14. To obtain** a full-day of education for their child within the legally defined number of hours and days, or to consent to modifications in the hours as may be educationally sound.



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- 15. To be informed** of the procedures, data, and information required to properly select and assign administrators, principals, and faculty.
 - 16. To be informed** of the services data that enable administrators and principals to properly carry out their functions, powers, and duties.
 - 17. To be respected** as individuals, regardless of race, creed, national origin, economic status, sex, or age.
 - 18. To have** a friend or third party observer present during any conference with school authorities when such a conference is requested by a parent.
 - 19. To have** long-term suspension conferences at a staff development center during the regularly scheduled school day if, in the opinion of both the parent and school principal, the holding of the conference at such a “neutral” site would be more conducive to the resolution of the problem.
 - 20. To request** reconsideration of the appropriateness of specific instructional materials for their child.
 - 21. To appeal** any adverse decision involving their child through the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education. Such a decision shall be subject of further appeal to the State Board of Education if stated in writing within 30 days following the final decision of the Prince George’s County Board of Education.

PARENTS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board also continues its policies that parents shall have the following responsibilities:

- 1. To provide** proof of bona fide residence in Prince George’s County, Maryland.
- 2. To furnish** to the school system, at the time of registering their child for kindergarten or first grade, proof of the child’s age.
- 3. To provide** the school system with proof that the child has received all immunizations required by the Board on the enrollment of their child in school.
- 4. To notify** the school whenever their child is to be absent (COMAR 13A.08.01, Administrative Procedure No. 5113).
- 5. To comply** with the compulsory attendance law for their child (*Annotated Code of Maryland Education Article, Section 7-301*), which states that “every child between the age of 5 and under 16 years must attend school regularly.” (Administrative Procedure No. 5113).
- 6. To assume** as parents the primary responsibility for the discipline of the child.
- 7. To acknowledge** the child’s responsibilities and obligations in the school as well as in the community.
- 8. To recognize** that school personnel must necessarily concern themselves primarily with educational responsibilities.
- 9. To cooperate** with school personnel by willing and timely response to requests for conferring on the behavior, health, and/or academic progress of their child, as well as information about academic and psychological services both in and outside of the school district.

The Board of Education of Prince George’s County does not discriminate in admissions, treatment or employment on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. For TTD Services/Hearing & Speech Impaired, call 301-952-6068.

