

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY**

**INFORMATIONAL REPORT**

**DECISION ON THE OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT'S CHARTER**

**June 27, 2016**

Background Information:

The Office of Internal Audit (Office) provides independent, objective assurance and auditing, and investigative services designed to add value, improve internal controls and strengthen Harford County Public Schools' operations. The Internal Auditor plans, organizes, and performs a variety of internal financial, compliance, and operational audits with an independent evaluation of risk, compliance and functional efficiency and effectiveness. The Internal Audit Office adheres to the *International Standards for the Professional Practices of Internal Auditing (Standard)*, professional's code of ethics and the confidentiality of information. The Standards require that the purpose, authority and responsibility of the internal audit activity be formally defined in an internal audit charter, consistent with the Standards.

Discussion:

The internal audit charter is a formal document that defines the internal audit activity's purpose, authority and responsibility. The internal audit charter establishes the internal audit activity's position within the organization, including the nature of the Internal Auditor's functional reporting relationship with the board; authorizes access to records, personnel and physical properties relevant to the performance of the audit engagements; and defines the scope of internal audit activities. The charter was presented to the Board of Education's Audit Committee at the meeting on May 19, 2016. The Charter language was taken from the Standards and the Internal Auditor's Job Description. According to the standards, final approval of the internal audit charter resides with the Board of Education.

Board of Education's Audit Committee Request:

The Board of Education's Audit Committee and Office of Internal Audit request approval of the Office of Internal Audit's Charter from the Board of Education.