The Harford County Public Schools provide a challenging and stimulating environment where students learn and practice the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. The rights of students in public schools are continuing to be defined through legislation and through the courts. As student rights are defined, those who must develop policies, and those who must administer these policies, must always understand that the public school environment is a limited open forum where the rights of all students are to be protected and respected. Consequently, education about responsible citizenship must also include instruction about freedoms that are stated in the Constitution.

The Board of Education policies on Student Rights and Responsibilities should not be interpreted as being all inclusive because students have rights that are guaranteed by the Constitution and by law. In addition to defining student rights, the Harford County Public Schools are responsible for ensuring that policies and procedures specify safeguards which protect individual rights and which provide a school environment that is conducive to learning. These policies include provisions for students to exercise their rights, and the policies serve as the foundation for the development of school rules and procedures. Students, school faculties, and parents are encouraged to participate in the process of modifying and adopting school rules and practices that can improve conditions for learning for all students.

Board Approval Acknowledged By:

Patricia L. Skebeck, Secretary and Treasurer
Board of Education of Harford County
### Policy Action Dates

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### Responsibility for Policy Maintenance & References

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**POLICY NUMBER PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1, 2005**: Students .07.01.090