



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**POLICY 9270**  
**STUDENT ASSAULT AND/OR**  
**BATTERY ON STAFF**

Effective: July 1, 2010

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**I. Policy Statement**

The Board of Education recognizes the need for a school environment that is safe, secure, and nurturing. This environment must allow staff to be free from any assault and/or battery by students. Therefore, any assault and/or battery by a student directed towards a staff member or service provider is strictly forbidden.

**II. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to help ensure a safe and secure environment for all staff members by outlining the process that administrators must use if a student engages in assault and/or battery directed towards a staff member or service provider.

**III. Definitions**

Within the context of this policy, the following definitions apply:

- A. Assault – Any willful attempt or threat to inflict harm upon another person or any display of force or expression that would give the victim reasonable fear of harm. An assault may be physical, oral, or written.
- B. Battery I – The unlawful touching of another person by the aggressor or by some substance or force put in motion by the aggressor, which is not consented to by the other person.
- C. Battery II – Battery I accompanied by circumstances which reflect the student’s blatant disregard for the safety of staff members or other persons evidenced by, but not limited to, the student’s intentional conduct, disregard of directions, or the fact that the battery resulted in serious bodily harm.
- D. Extracurricular Activities – School-sponsored activities other than regular class activities in which the student represents the school.
- E. Regular Class Activities – Activities which are countywide expectations for a particular class and in which all students in the class must participate as a part of their grade.

- F. Service Provider – An individual who provides services to the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) through contract or volunteer service, including student teachers and interns.
- G. Suspension – The denial of a student’s right to attend regular classes or school (including extracurricular activities) for a specified period of time for cause.

**IV. Standards**

- A. Information regarding assault and/or battery by a student on staff or service provider will be made known to students, parents/guardians, and staff members at the beginning of the school year and when deemed necessary by the principal.
- B. It is a violation of this policy for any student to assault and/or batter a staff member or service provider at any time or any place.
- C. Any student who violates this policy will be suspended from school and may be subject to transfer or expulsion.
- D. If a student receives special education services or has a 504 plan, procedures consistent with COMAR 13A.08.01.11 and HCPSS Policy 9200 Discipline Implementation Procedure VIII. must be followed.

**V. Compliance**

- A. The Superintendent/Designee is responsible for publishing information on the standards and penalties of this policy.
- B. Principals are responsible for disseminating information on the standards and penalties of this policy at their school.

**VI. Delegation of Authority**

The Superintendent is authorized to develop appropriate procedures to implement this policy.

**VII. Reference**

- A. Legal  
The Annotated Code of Maryland, Criminal Law Article, Section 3-202  
The Annotated Code of Maryland, Criminal Law Article, Section 3-303  
The Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Section 26-101  
COMAR 13A.08.01.11

- B. Other Board Policies
  - Policy 1000 Civility
  - Policy 1040 Safe School Environments
  - Policy 1060 Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation
  - Policy 9200 Discipline
  
- C. Other
  - Student Code of Conduct

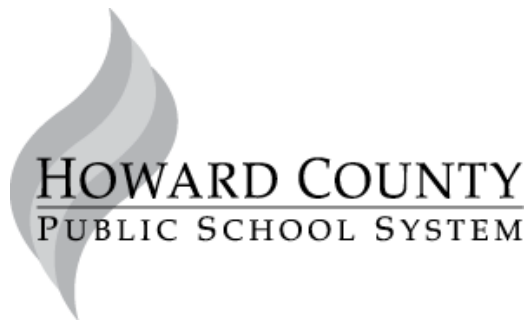
ADOPTED: June 14, 1990

AMENDED: September 6, 1996

August 27, 1998

June 10, 2010

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2010



**POLICY 9270-PR**  
IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES  
**STUDENT ASSAULT AND/OR**  
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- I.** All students, parents, guardians, staff, and service providers will be informed of this policy at the beginning of each school year.
  - A.** The principal will:
    - 1. Make at least three announcements to students at the beginning of the school year.
    - 2. Publish the information electronically.
    - 3. Make the information available to all new students.
  - B.** The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) will:
    - 1. Publish the information in the Secondary Student Handbook.
    - 2. Publish the information in the Calendar and Handbook.
    - 3. Publish the information on the school system website.
- II.** If any student is suspected of being in violation of this policy, the student must be referred to an administrator who will determine if a violation has occurred. The threat assessment process (a process used for determining the level of a threat) may be used as part of the investigation. Depending on the severity of the offense, the administrator or a staff member may contact law enforcement.
- III.** Disciplinary action assigned to a student as a result of an assault and/or battery on a staff member or service provider will be taken in accordance with this policy and Policy 9200 Discipline. For any student receiving special education services or having a 504 plan, procedures in Policy 9200 Discipline Implementation Procedures VIII. will be followed.
- IV.** Consequences for violations of this policy:
  - A.** Assault – Consequences range from a minimum of suspension to a maximum of expulsion.
  - B.** Battery I – Suspension for up to a period of 45 days.

- C. Battery II – Suspension for a minimum period of 45 days to a maximum of expulsion.
  - D. Second offense of Battery II – Expulsion.
  - E. The student is declared ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities for duration of a suspension.
- V. A student who violates this policy will be referred to the school guidance counselor for follow up.
- VI. Any disciplinary action taken against a student who violates this policy will be taken in accordance with this policy and Policy 9200 Discipline.

ADOPTED: June 14, 1990  
AMENDED: May 14, 1992  
          June 23, 1994  
          September 8, 1994  
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          September 5, 1996  
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          June 10, 2010  
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