

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 06-0126R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: President Dixon, Councilmembers D'Adamo, Kraft, Young, Holton, Mitchell,  
Rawlings Blake, Reisinger, Clarke, Welch, Harris, Curran  
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2006  
Assigned to: Education, Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Adopted: May 1, 2006

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**1                    Informational Hearing – Baltimore City Public Schools –**  
**2                    Family and Community Engagement Policy**

3           FOR the purpose of inviting the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Public School  
4           System, the Director of Parent and Community Development of the Baltimore City Public  
5           School System, and the Legislative Liaison of the Baltimore City Board of School  
6           Commissioners to present the Board's "Family and Community Engagement Policy" and the  
7           progress made to date in implementing the provisions of the policy that seeks to engage  
8           parents, families, and community members in the education of our children by creating a  
9           positive bond between the home and the school.

**10                   Recitals**

11           On May 25, 2004, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners approved a Family  
12           and Community Engagement Policy, the stated purpose being: " This policy establishes the  
13           framework and responsibilities for the implementation of strategies to increase family and  
14           community engagement in schools and throughout the system. An effective school-family-  
15           community team assures parents, families, and community members the opportunity to be  
16           effective collaborators and decision-makers at all levels in support of improved academic  
17           performance for all students. The BCPSS will provide support and training for the engagement  
18           of all parents, families, and community members. The policy also supports the fulfillment of  
19           federal and state parent involvement mandates."

20           On Saturday, December 3, 2005, the Baltimore City Public School System Office of Parent  
21           Involvement and School, Family, Community Connections hosted a "Parent and Community  
22           Development Session" for PTA, PTO, PTSA , and other groups to meet with School  
23           Improvement Team and Community Representatives to share information about the BCPSS  
24           Family and Community Engagement Policy, the Title I Parent Involvement mandates, and the  
25           School Improvement Team guidelines, to ensure that all participating entities clearly understood  
26           their responsibilities to make certain that the school system has in place an effective parent-  
27           community-school paradigm.

28           A component of the Family and Community Engagement Policy is a requirement that the  
29           central office, area office, and school personnel annually assess the implementation of the policy  
30           and program. On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006, the Office will reconvene with parent/teacher/community

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
Strike out indicates matter stricken by amendment.

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1 groups to begin that assessment. At that time it will be determined what organizations officially  
2 represent schools throughout the system. If, at that time, any school does not have an officially  
3 recognized parent/teacher organization, the school administration will take steps to make sure  
4 one is formed, in keeping with the policy to “ensure that all families, regardless of income,  
5 ethnic background, or language – whose children attend BCPSS schools, share and receive  
6 school-to-home and home-to-school communications” concerning the educational welfare of  
7 their children.

8 The City Council, by passage of this Resolution, requests the Baltimore City Public School  
9 System to share the results of their progress toward implementation of the Family and  
10 Community Engagement Policy following the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this  
12 Body invites the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Public School System, the  
13 Director of Parent and Community Development of the Baltimore City Public School System,  
14 and the Legislative Liaison of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to present the  
15 Board’s “Family and Community Engagement Policy” and the progress made to date in  
16 implementing the provisions of the policy that seeks to engage parents, families, and community  
17 members in the education of our children by creating a positive bond between the home and the  
18 school.

19 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
20 Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City  
21 Public School System, the Director of Parent and Community Development, Baltimore City  
22 Public School System, the Legislative Liaison of the Baltimore City Board of School  
23 Commissioners, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City Council.