

SAFE SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To involve the public in the promotion of school safety, the Washington County Board of Education has created a standing Board of Education advisory committee, known as the Safe Schools Advisory Committee ("Committee"). The Committee shall be comprised of representative parents, businesspersons, and community leaders who are interested in the development of policies and procedures, which promote school safety. The Safe Schools Advisory Committee serves as an advisory committee to the Board of Education.

THE CHARGE TO THE SAFE SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Review safety programs and strategies, and make recommendations as appropriate to increase the effectiveness of addressing school safety issues.
2. Review the Emergency Plan Book and other safety materials based on best practices regarding school safety issues.
3. Examine safety and security issues related to the school system's physical safety and make recommendations as appropriate.
4. Explore ways to involve the community in promoting school safety.
5. Assist with training recommendations as necessary to meet the State Mandated Gang Policy requirements.
6. Regularly review the emergency preparedness of the school system.

MEMBERSHIP SPECIFICATIONS

The members of the Safe Schools Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Education. Membership on the Safe Schools Advisory Committee shall be limited to no more than 20 members of the staff and community. Appointments shall include: three (3) school-based administrators (one elementary, one middle, and one high); three (3) parents-at-large; three (3) representatives from the county Sheriff's Office, Hagerstown Police Department, and Maryland State Police (one each, school resource officers preferred); three (3) teachers (one elementary, one middle, and one high); one (1) representative from the Washington County Association of Student Councils; one (1) Student Services representative; one (1) EPS representative; and one (1) representative from the Facilities Management Department. The Safety and Security/Risk Manager is designated as Chair and as a voting member.

OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS

1. The Committee chair or representative will report to the Board as requested.
2. The reports to the Board shall focus on the following criteria of review:
 - a. School system policies and enforcement.
 - b. Safety programs and strategies.
 - c. Security status of school system facilities.
 - d. Community and agency involvement.
3. The Committee may be divided into sub-committees at the will of the Committee or the direction of the Board of Education to complete specific tasks.
4. Assist the School Safety Coordinators with meeting the requirements of the Gang policy.