

WELLNESS SUB-COMMITTEE
Howard County School Health Council

Charge Statement: Whereas, the Howard County School Health Council Bylaws from March 27, 2013 provide for a Wellness Sub-Committee to the School Health Council, and whereas, Policy 9090 “Wellness through Nutrition and Physical Activity” effective July 1, 2014 provides that, “The Howard County School Health Council, which serves in an advisory capacity, will provide feedback annually to the Board,” and that the “Superintendent/Designee will”...”Establish a process to gather feedback from individual schools, community partners, students, and parents on the implementation of the policy,” now, therefore, the School Health Council is issuing the charge to form the Sub-Committee and recruit members, the majority of whom should represent the community. Per the Council Bylaws, the Council Chairperson, with the approval of the Executive Board, will appoint the Sub-Committee Chairpersons. Per the Council Bylaws, the Sub-Committee will present reports of its activities as requested by the Chairperson or Executive Board.

Goal of Work: Once established, the Wellness Sub-Committee will review Policy 9090 implementation and activities throughout each school year and provide a written and oral report to the Chairperson or Executive Board of the School Health Council by the end of the school year in order for the Council to include it in the Council’s annual report to the Superintendent, Health Officer, Board of Health, and Board of Education, which is due by the first of July of each year.

Scope of Work: The Wellness Sub-Committee provides an opportunity for parents and members of the community to be involved in the implementation of the Wellness Policy approved by the Board of Education in 2014. The Sub-Committee will gather input from its members based on their observations and review of available data on how the policy has been implemented, and will seek to answer questions about the process and status of implementing the policy, such as: What has been done districtwide to date? What has been done in individual schools and how generalized is it throughout the county? What is working well or not working well according to observation and/or the metrics identified for any given initiative? The Sub-Committee, once constituted, will be able to further refine its scope, subject to review by the Chairperson or Executive Board.

Sub-Committee Members: Members should represent both organized and non-organized interests of the county’s diverse community. The Sub-Committee will also include representatives from the health department and the school system, but in no case will they be the majority. One of the Council Officers or Executive Board Members will be appointed Co-Chair of the Sub-Committee.

Timeline: Recruitment for the Sub-Committee will commence in January 2015 with the goal of having a fully functioning body by March 1, 2015. This proposed timeline would give the Sub-Committee a period of 3 months to begin its work of gathering information about the implementation of the policy. The Sub-Committee would provide its first written and oral report to the Chairperson or Executive Board by June 15 in order for the Council to include it in the Council’s annual report to the Superintendent, Health Officer, Board of Health, and Board of Education, which is due July 1, 2015.