

**A015-0304**

10 AN ACT concerning

20 **Education – Local School Administration – Harford County**

30 FOR the purpose of establishing a set bureaucratic system by which high schools in Harford  
40 County are administered; providing for positions and the appointment of officials; pertaining to  
50 the duties of said officials; setting a sunset clause and review of the trial; and generally relating to  
60 the administration of public high schools in Harford County.

70 BY creating  
80 Article- Education – Local School Administration – Harford County  
90 Section §4-126  
100 Annotated Code of Maryland  
110 (2003 Replacement Volume)

120 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, That the  
130 Law of Maryland read as follows:

140 **Article - High School Administration**

150 §4-126

160 (1) The position of the Administrative Principal shall be maintained in the following manner:

170 (a) The Board of Education of Harford County shall appoint one (1) acting principal  
180 of each public high school in its jurisdiction. This position shall be held in a  
190 four (4) year term.

200 (b) The Board of Education of Harford County shall convene on the third Tuesday  
210 following the culmination of every fourth academic school year. The cycle will  
220 set the fourth year to be two years after the public election of a County  
230 Executive of Harford County. This meeting will be convened for a full review  
240 of all acting principals within its jurisdiction. Three (3) meetings are to be held,  
250 each in a different high school in a different area of the county, to receive citizen  
260 input concerning the performance of acting principals. The Board of Education  
270 of Harford County will determine to retain or seek replacements for each  
280 position on an individual basis. All acting principal positions are to be filled no  
290 later than two (2) weeks prior to the beginning of an academic school year.

300 (c) The Board of Education of Harford County may convene upon a majority vote  
310 of its members to review an individual principal position at its discretion.

320 (d) A petition signed by 1/4 of the student’s parents or legal guardians of an  
330 individual high school may be presented to the Board of Education of Harford  
340 County in order to call for a review of the administration of said school.

350 (2) The duties of the Administrative Principal of a high school shall include:

360 (a) Financial responsibility and oversight for all expenditures of their school. A  
370 report of the status of accounts and expenditures is to be presented to the Board  
380 of Education of Harford County on the final day of every calendar month. All  
390 such records are to be considered public information.

400 (b) The administration of all student’s schedules and the organization of classes

410 shall be the responsibility of the acting principal.

420 (c) The Board of Education may elect to assign additional duties to the  
430 Administrative Principal by a 2/3 vote.

440 (a) Prepare and deliver, in person, a Status Report to the Referendum Committee  
450 a minimum of twice every academic semester.

460 (3) The position of the Headmaster shall be maintained in the following manner:

470 (a) A yearly election shall be in accordance with guidelines established by the  
480 local Board of Elections.

490 (b) Candidacy shall be open to all citizens of the school district.

500 (c) The Referendum Committee shall conduct a plurality vote to determine the  
510 Headmaster for each school year

520 (4) The duties of the Headmaster of a high school shall include:

530 (a) Overseeing a Guidance Counselors office to discuss life decisions with  
540 students.

550 (b) Ensuring that the school's code of conduct is upheld.

560 (c) Reviewing all cases of policy and rule dilemmas reported according to  
570 guidelines.

580 (d) Reporting any suspected illegal activities on school grounds to the local law  
590 enforcement agency.

600 (e) Negotiating disputes between and amongst employees and students of the  
610 school system.

620 (f) Meet with the Referendum Committee a minimum of 1 (one) meeting a  
630 month.

640 (5) The formation of the Referendum Committee shall be comprised as follows:

650 (a) A Student Government Association, established by the students of the high  
660 school, shall be accorded five (5) representatives on the Referendum Committee.

670 (b) A Parent, Teacher, and Student Association, established in each high school,  
680 shall be accorded nine (9) representatives on the Referendum Committee.

690 (c) A Faculty Council, established by faculty members in each high school, shall  
700 be accorded eight (8) representatives on the Referendum Committee.

710 (d) A Staff Council, established by all staff members in each high school,  
720 shall be accorded one (1) representative on the Referendum Committee.

730 (e) The Referendum Committee shall elect the Headmaster as provided in  
740 Section 4 of this Article

750 (f) The Referendum Committee shall consider all proposals forwarded by any  
760 member organization, or another other proposal upon a 2/3 vote by the

770 Referendum Committee, and make recommendations thereof to the Headmaster,  
780 Administrative Principal, Board of Education, Board of Elections, or  
790 Community Officials, determined by a plurality vote.

800 SECTION 2: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a sunset of date of July 1, 2010 shall  
810 apply to this Article, pending recommendations from the County Executive, Board of  
820 Education, and School Governing entities and review by the General Assembly of  
830 Maryland.

840 SECTION 3: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect on July 1, 2004.

850 MANDATES: Governor Robert L. Ehrlich  
860 Lt. Governor Michael S. Steele  
870 Comptroller William Donald Schaffer  
880 Senate President Thomas V. "Mike" Miller  
890 Speaker of the House of Delegates Michael E. Busch  
900 Harford County Executive James M. Harkins  
910 State Superintendent of Schools Nancy S. Grasmick  
920 Harford County Superintendent Jacqueline C. Haas  
930 Harford County Board of Education President Mr. Robert S. Magee

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