



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential*

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

**BILL:** HB1468  
**TITLE:** Education - Student Behavior - Parent Notice and Required Counseling  
(Parent Accountability Act)  
**DATE:** 3/4/2020  
**POSITION:** OPPOSE  
**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means  
**CONTACT:** Danielle M. Susskind, Coordinator, Legislative Affairs  
[Danielle\\_M\\_Susskind@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Danielle_M_Susskind@mcpsmd.org)

The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **opposes** HB1468.

This bill is consistent with Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) JGA-RA Classroom Management and Behavior Interventions and the Student Code of Conduct. These guidelines set clear expectations for the involvement of families, students, staff members, and the community in the process of fostering positive behavior and student engagement. Parents/guardians should work collaboratively with MCPS staff to address behavioral problems that their children may experience. Parents/guardians also should work with schools to help their children access supportive groups or programs designed to improve their conduct, such as counseling, after-school programs, and mental health services within the school and community.

MCPS also encourages community-based organizations and agencies to partner with schools on initiatives to create positive, safe, supportive, and welcoming environments. They are encouraged to provide supportive services, mentoring, and other resources to assist school staff in implementing restorative practices and addressing student discipline matters, consistent with the expectations in this Student Code of Conduct.

The guidance issued in this law that is missing from MCPS current practice is accountability for parents to follow-up on resources and supports recommended to them to support our students in crisis. The concern related to this inclusion is what resources and how will parents be held accountable to follow-through on recommendations made to them prior to the student's return to school?

For these reasons, the Board **opposes** this legislation and urges an unfavorable report.