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Policy

1. Purpose

To implement an immigration enforcement policy, as required by State law, consistent with the guidance issued by the Attorney General of Maryland.

2. Statement

The Board of Education of Carroll County (The "Board") implements this policy consistent with the guidance and model policy provided by the Attorney General of Maryland's *Immigration Guidance for Facilities that Serve the Public: Implementation of HB1222*.

3. Exceptions

None.

4. Guidelines


A. Nondiscriminatory Service & Protected Spaces

1. Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) provides educational services to students regardless of their immigration or citizenship status.
2. All areas in CCPS buildings are considered nonpublic spaces *except* the following:
 - i. Central Office reception area; and
 - ii. Board of Education meeting room; and
 - iii. ~~School reception areas or open office areas.~~
3. Nonpublic spaces shall be marked with clear signage (i.e., classroom, office, laboratory, etc).
4. Access to nonpublic spaces is limited to school system staff, students, parents/community members with permission of the school administrator.

B. Immigration Enforcement at CCPS

1. This policy is required under state law, Annotated Code of Maryland, Criminal Procedure Article §2-104.2 and State Government Article §6-111.

- ~~1.2.~~ Law enforcement must have proper authorization to enter nonpublic spaces at CCPS facilities.

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2.3. Law enforcement officials seeking to enforce immigration laws are authorized to access only nonpublic spaces of CCPS facilities with a judicial warrant (as opposed to an administrative warrant) or where exigent circumstances require such access.

- a. For purposes of this policy, "exigent circumstances" means emergency situations that require law enforcement to act immediately to address a threat to public safety, without pausing to obtain the prior approval from a judge. Exigent circumstances include the following: imminent risk of death, violence, or harm to a person or property; hot pursuit of a dangerous suspect; and the imminent risk of the destruction of evidence of a crime.
- b. The warrant requirement discussed above does not apply to compliance visits by immigration officers, such as site visits to confirm compliance with certain immigration rules. For example, officials from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") occasionally visit the offices of employers with professional nonimmigrant workers to verify the nature of the work being performed and/or to verify compliance with student visa program rules. Such compliance visits do not entail "enforcement" of the immigration laws.

3.4. The building administrator shall be the primary point of contact for issues related to immigration enforcement. The building administrator shall contact the Chief of School Security immediately to serve as the liaison between CCPS and immigration enforcement.

4.5. If United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents or other immigration authorities appear at CCPS, staff shall presume that they are engaged in immigration enforcement. Staff shall proceed as follows:

- Contact the Chief of School Security immediately. Ask the ICE agents to wait in a reception area or other public space.
- The Chief of School Security shall immediately contact the Carroll County Sheriff's Office to coordinate for appropriate action and interaction with the ICE agents.
- If the ICE agents demand immediate access to private spaces without waiting for Chief of School Security, staff should ask the agent to wait in the public space for the Chief of School Security to arrive and, shall, as promptly as possible, contact the Chief of School Security and make a record of the incident for the Chief of School Security, including notes about the verbal exchange with the ICE

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agents, identifying details about the ICE agents, the ICE agents' actions, any arrests or other results of those actions, and the identity of other staff witnesses.

- In no circumstances should staff interfere with the ICE agents, attempt to make them leave a public space, attempt to conceal any person from ICE, or attempt to assist any person in evading ICE.

5.6. The Chief of School Security shall make and maintain records of all immigration enforcement activity at CCPS.

6.7. The Chief of School Security shall request and record the following information from any ICE agent or other federal official who appears at CCPS on immigration business:

- Name
 - Badge number or other official identifying information
 - Agency
 - Purpose of visit
 - Proposed action to be taken at CCPS
7. If an immigration officer requests access to private spaces within CCPS in order to conduct enforcement action, the Chief of School Security may authorize such access only if the officer (1) asserts that exigent circumstances exist; or (2) possesses a valid judicial warrant. To confirm the existence of a valid judicial warrant, the Chief of School Security shall:
- Obtain a copy of the document;
 - Confirm that the heading shows the document was issued by a court;
 - Confirm that a U.S. District Court Judge or Magistrate signed it;
 - Confirm that it lists CCPS among the places to be searched for a wanted person or evidence; and
 - Verify that the document is not expired.
8. The Chief of School Security should ask to consult with CCPS's legal counsel about any questions concerning a judicial warrant or the existence of exigent circumstances.
9. If immigration officers proceed into a private space without exigent circumstances or a judicial warrant, the Chief of School Security shall document the incident but shall make no effort to resist or block the officers.

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10. The building administrator and Chief of School Security shall follow the requirements of COMAR 13A.08.01.12 governing arrests on school premises and COMAR 13A.08.01.13 governing law enforcement questioning on school premises, during immigration enforcement activities on school property, including having a school official present, notifying a student's parent/guardian, preserving the student's dignity, and maintaining the safety and security of other students and staff in the school building.

C. Requests by Immigration Officers for Records or Information

1. The confidentiality of information about students served by CCPS is generally protected by federal and state laws, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; and COMAR 13A.08.02 as well as Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-320.1. The "personal information" protected by Gen. Prov. § 4-320.1 does not include information regarding citizenship or immigration status.
2. CCPS does not release student education records or personally identifiable information (PII) without a valid court order or subpoena, in compliance with FERPA.
3. If ICE agents or other immigration officers request records or information about students, the school administrator shall contact the Director of Student Services for consultation.
4. The school administrator shall request and record the immigration officer's identifying information as listed in Section B.6 of this Policy. The school administrator shall also obtain a copy of any documentation supporting the officer's request, such as an administrative subpoena, judicial subpoena, or court order.
5. If immigration officers present a judicial search warrant or assert that exigent circumstances exist to search a private space, staff shall follow Section B.7 and B.8 of this Policy.
6. If immigration officers proceed to search a private space without exigent circumstances or a judicial warrant, the school administrator shall notify the Chief of School Security, and should ask the officer to wait in the public space for the Chief of School Security to arrive, but make no effort to resist or block the officers.

5. Reports

N/A

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6. **References**

HB 1222 of the 2025 General Assembly, as enacted.
Attorney General of Maryland's *Immigration Guidance for Facilities that Serve the Public: Implementation of HB1222*, issued July 2025.
COMAR 13A.08.01.12 and COMAR 13A.08.01.13