



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential*

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

**BILL:** HB1407  
**TITLE:** Primary and Secondary Education – Student Discipline (Right to Teach Act of 2020)  
**DATE:** 3/4/2020  
**POSITION:** OPPOSE  
**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means  
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **opposes** HB1407.

House Bill 1407 authorizes a teacher to implement specific disciplinary methods in certain circumstances. Montgomery County Public Schools values our teachers and students and has invested in restorative practices as a way to respond to disciplinary infractions.

Currently, 99 (of 208) Montgomery County Public Schools are implementing Restorative Practice in some form, and many others have adopted informal restorative practices as part of their disciplinary approach. MCPS is also in the beginning stages of a 1.5 million dollar grant from the Rand Corporation to analyze the use and effectiveness of restorative practices and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports in schools. Additionally, MCPS currently implements a Student Code of Conduct that advocates the use of restorative practices and identifies the use of out-of-school suspension as a last resort.

Therefore, the Board opposes HB1407 because it is not aligned with the restorative justice approach.

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