

## Access to Curriculum

As a parent of BCPS children, I have noticed the decline in transparency in the school system as to parents having access to instructional materials since the inception of the use of student computers. During the pandemic it was prevalent. Numerous times I tried to click on the assignments and was given the warning of "No Access". I tried to contact the schools, principals, and teachers' numerous times to understand why parents cannot see what is taught.

I have asked the principals and the educators, where are the books and power points? The following excuses and messages I have received:

1. the material is copyrighted and therefore you can't see it,
2. you can look on the Scope and Sequence write ups; "Guidance is given in Policy and Rule 6000, the written curriculum includes "scope and sequence, goals and objectives, assessments, sample instructional activities and suggested resources."
3. You can see students', worksheets, and documents in the school website.
4. An assistant principal said parents do not have "full access" and I could get pieces from teachers.

My rebuttals are the following:

1. In the past, books were sent home and those were copyrighted, no problem there. Teachers also put book chapters and videos on their school sites for all to see when the computers first started use in BCPS.
2. This is a policy written by bureaucrats and doesn't include the actual teaching materials. Parents do not want to see these long and boring documents, we want to see the actual books, websites, power points with sources and whatever else is utilized.
3. No, most of those are restricted with the "NO Access" tab coming up most of the time. We are only seeing the grades and the names of the assignments, not the actual assignments. We only see the assignments if our child brings paper home or ask what they are learning.
4. Most teachers are helpful, it the 20-25% who are not. A history teacher outright lied by saying he didn't use Power Points and didn't have any to show me. Even though my child said he does use them. What's the hidden agenda?

One teacher gave me a clear answer when he said: "The access is limited to google accounts within BCPS. Unfortunately, the easiest sharing options is only within the organization BCPS". Clearly, the administrators are asking parents to go through hoops and labyrinths to actually look at what is being taught? What is the purpose of hiding the materials?

This is wrong. As a taxpayer and parent, I should have access to ALL teaching materials without having to spend hours, days and weeks navigating the system. I was so frustrated I began writing my delegates. Other parents are saying the same thing and having the same frustration.

Please pass HB0758.

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