

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

June 12, 2018

Prepared by: Public Information Office

Board of Education Members: Mr. Matthew Paugh, President; Dr. Nathan Sorber, Vice President; Mrs. Monica Rinker, Member; Mrs. Charlotte Sebold, Member; Mr. M. Thomas Woods, Member; Ms. Sheyenne A. Tichnell, Student Member; Ms. Barbara L. Baker, Superintendent; Mr. Brandon Hoover, Attorney

PUBLIC SESSION

Hearing of Constituents

- There were no comments at this time.

Announcements

- June 13: Last Day of School for Students; Students Dismissed 2 Hours Early
- June 14: Professional Day; Last Day for Teachers
- June 18-21: Camp Caring at Yough Glades Elementary School
- July 4: Independence Day; Schools and Offices Closed
- June 25: Special Board of Education Meeting at 4:00 PM
- July 9-12: Camp Caring at Southern Garrett High School
- October 3-5: MABE Annual Conference in Ocean City, MD

New Business

Special Education Staffing Plan 2018-19

- Ms. Heather Raybold, Supervisor of Special Education, presented this action item.
- Ms. Raybold presented the Special Education Staffing Plan for 2018-19. There was one change in the staffing positions based on students' needs.
- She shared staff data and various funding sources for special education in the schools, as well as certain positions. A total of 50.6 staff (teachers–29.6; assistants–21) will be employed by the school system.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the staffing plan for 2018-19 school year.

Physical and Occupational Therapy RFP

- Ms. Heather Raybold, Supervisor of Special Education, presented this action item.
- Ms. Raybold indicated that it is the recommendation of the selection committee to enter into a 12-month (1 year) contract with School Therapy Services from Cumberland, MD, who has had a contract with Garrett County Public Schools for the past 26 years. The contract includes providing all physical and occupational therapy services for Infants and Toddlers, as well as school age students.

- On May 21, 2018, the Notice of Request for Proposals (RFP) was published. Only one proposal was received. The recommendation of School Therapy is based upon the selection criteria outlined in the Instructions for Proposal Submission and the Procurement Policy and Procedure DJ.
- The Board unanimously voted to enter into a contract with School Therapy Services.

Student Handbook for 2018-19 School Year

- Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, presented this informational item.
- The Student Handbook committee recently met to review and recommend any needed revisions. The committee included high school assistant principals, middle school principals, several elementary principals, a Pupil Personnel Worker, and the Supervisor of Pupil Services.
- Revisions to the Garrett County Public Schools Student Handbook for the 2018-19 school year were aligned to be consistent with the changes in COMAR, ESSA, and the State Code of Conduct by the State Board of Education.
- The majority of the changes in the Student Handbook were in regards to attendance and disciplinary matters. There were also revisions in the areas of pupil transportation, school investigations, and the Acknowledgement Form.
- The Student Handbook includes the Annual Notification of Rights to Student Records. The Acknowledgement Form is to be signed by both the student and parent/guardian. This will confirm the review of the Student Handbook and Annual Notification of Rights to Student Records, and provide information should the parent/guardian wish to refuse the release of directory information.
- The Board will revisit the ***Student Handbook for 2018-19*** at next month's meeting and consider it for adoption.

Organization Chart

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented this action item.
- Ms. Baker indicated that the organizational chart reflects the change in title from Supervisor to

Director of Special Education and expands the duty areas of the position.

- The Board unanimously voted to accept the realignment of the organizational chart.

Recognitions

Letters About Literature State Finalists – Leah Beckman and Olivia Rawe

- Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board member, recognized two students who were state finalists in the Letters About Literature.
- Leah Beckman, a 6th grade student at Swan Meadow School, and Olivia Rawe, a 6th grade student at Northern Middle School, were selected as state finalists for the 25th annual “Letters About Literature” contest, which is sponsored by the Center for the Book with the Library of Congress. This year over 46,000 entries were received for the national contest. Entries are letters written by students, in grades 4-12, to the author of a book whose impact they describe in a personal letter. Leah’s letter was written to author Pam Munoz Ryan, for her book “Riding Freedom”. Olivia’s letter was written to author R.J. Palacio after reading her book, “Wonder”. “Letters About Literature” promotes reading and writing, inspires creativity, and encourages young people to be lifelong readers.

Maryland Council on Economic Education Annual Poster Contest

- Mrs. Charlotte Sebold, Board member, recognized Derika Swartzentruber, a 5th grade student from Swan Meadow School, as a state finalist in a poster contest for the Maryland Council of Economics.
- Derika’s poster illustrated scarcity of natural resources through a scene in which animals were flocking to a few remaining trees because of deforestation.
- The Maryland Council on Economic Education’s annual poster contest for Maryland students in grades 1 through 8 was developed to help teachers stimulate interest in learning basic economic and personal finance concepts by giving students an opportunity to creatively demonstrate their understanding of one of the six economic concepts.

“Kids Helping Kids” Food Drive – Swan Meadow

- Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board member, recognized Swan Meadow School as a top achiever of The Kids Helping Kids Food and Funds Drive.
- The Kids Helping Kids Food Drive provides an opportunity for Maryland students to collect nonperishable food items and monetary donations for community food banks to distribute to soup kitchens, pantries, and shelters. The total pounds of food

donated by Swan Meadow School to The Oak Park Church of the Brethren Maryland Food Bank was 2,154 pounds. Swan Meadow School was the top donation school in Garrett County.

Maryland Green School Recertification Award – Swan Meadow School

- Mr. Thomas Woods, Board member, recognized Swan Meadow School for its recertification as a Maryland Green School.
- The Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education has recertified Swan Meadow School as a Maryland Green School for Environmental and Outdoor Education. After 14 years of demonstrating a continuous effort to integrate sustainable environmental management practices, environmental education curriculum, professional development opportunities, and community engagement, Swan Meadow has now earned Sustainable School Status of the Maryland Green School Program.

FIRST FRC Team 1629

- Mr. Thomas Woods, Board member, recognized the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 1629, GaCo, for its many accomplishments during the 2017-18 school year.
- FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 1629, GaCo, ended its 2018 season at the FIRST Championship in Detroit with a 49-14-1 record where the team was ranked third in its subdivision - the best the team has ever done at the Championship level. GaCo had 29 students participate from both Northern and Southern Garrett High Schools, with about as many girls as boys.

Hearing of Constituents

- Mr. Steve Kauffman, Swan Meadow School parent, addressed the Board regarding students attending Allegany County schools, RISE committees and the Strategic Plan, long-term substitutes, and funds requested, but not approved, of the County Commissioners.

Continuing Business

RISE Strategic Plan Identification of Issues

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented the RISE Strategic Plan Identification Issues as an informational item.
- RISE represents Reforming, Innovating, and Strengthening for Excellence.
- Ms. Baker shared the overarching strategic issues of the school system. In order for the Board to formulate strategies, the strategic issues must be identified. The Superintendent and administrative

team consolidated the 21 strategic issues into the "BIG 6" strategic issues facing the school system.

- The Board will revisit the RISE Strategic Plan Identification Issues at the special Board meeting on June 25, 2018.

Educational Facilities Master Plan

- Mr. William Swift, Director of Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Security, presented this action item.
- During last month's meeting, Mr. Swift presented the Educational Facilities Master Plan for 2018-19.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the Facilities Master Plan.

"Understanding HIV/AIDS" for Health Curriculum for 7th Grade

- Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, presented this action item on "Understanding HIV/AIDS" video series.
- Dr. Lauver requested that the Board adopt the "Understanding HIV/AIDS" by Redefine Positive-Educational Video Series. This video is recommended for inclusion in the 7th grade Health Class curriculum and was available for public review and feedback at the Central Office from May 9 through June 8, 2018. No feedback was received from the public regarding the recommended curriculum.
- The Board unanimously voted to adopt the "Understanding HIV/AIDS" by Redefine Positive-Educational Video Series.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Ms. Sheyenne Tichnell, Student Member of the Board, presented informational items.
- Ms. Tichnell shared activities in which the schools and student councils have been participating during the past month.
- Ms. Tichnell indicated that that new officers for 2018-19 will be sworn in at an upcoming GCASC meeting.
- This was Ms. Tichnell's last Board meeting as the student representative, serving for two years in this position. Ms. Katherine J. Catulle, Southern High School, will be the student representative to the Board for the 2018-19 school year.

Board Member Updates

- Mrs. Sebold attended both high school graduations and senior awards programs. She also attended the open house at Swan Meadow.

- Mrs. Rinker attended the Bio-MED white-coat ceremony, middle school success night, retirement dinner, and the bus driver appreciation picnic.
- Mr. Woods attended the recent GCPS Dr. Wendell Teets Foundation meeting.

Ratification of Employee Contracts

- Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources and Employee Relations, presented this action item to ratify the Unit 1 (Teachers) and Unit 3 (Support Personnel) comprehensive negotiated agreements.
- The Board unanimously voted to ratify the employee contracts.

Next Meeting

- A special Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, June 25, 2018, at 4:00 PM.
- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2018. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.