

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

November 14, 2018

Prepared by: Public Information Office

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Hearing of Constituents

- Mr. Andy Durst, Accident Elementary School parent and community member, would like to see the data behind the RISE Strategic Plan information.
- Mr. Jason King, Accident Elementary School parent, expressed concerns regarding options in the RISE Strategic Plan regarding grade band alignment.

Announcements

- Nov. 12-16: American Education Week
- Nov. 12-16: School Psychology Awareness Week
- Nov. 14: National Education Support Professionals Day
- Nov. 21: Students Dismissed 3 hours early
- Nov. 22-23: Thanksgiving Holiday, schools closed
- Dec. 5: Staff Development; Students Dismissed 3 hours early; Progress Reports for Second Grading Period
- Dec. 5: Allegany and Garrett County Public Schools Pre-Legislative Breakfast at Center for Career and Technical Education Culinary Arts Building, 14211 McMullen Highway Cresaptown, MD, 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Recognition / Proclamation

School Librarian of the Year Award – Ali Schilpp

- Mr. Matthew Paugh, Board President, recognized Ali Schilpp as the 2018 School Librarian of the Year on the national level.
- *School Library Journal (SLJ)* announced on August 21, 2018, that Ali Schilpp, a library media specialist from Northern Middle School, was the 2018 School Librarian of the Year. The School Librarian of the Year is selected by a panel of qualified judges. Mrs. Schilpp was featured on the cover of the September 2018 issue of SLJ. She received a cash prize and Scholastic products.

North Garrett FFA

- Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board Member, recognized the North Garrett FFA Livestock Evaluation Team for

its recent accomplishments at the State level, as well as at the National FFA Convention.

- The North Garrett FFA Livestock Evaluation Team placed first in the State and advanced to compete at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Team members consisted of Rileigh Lowdermilk, who placed 4th individually at the state level, Caleb Rush, who placed 5th, Luke Canan, who placed 11th, and Samantha Wilt, who placed 17th.
- At the national level, Rileigh Lowdermilk, Caleb Rush, and Luke Canan were silver ranked individuals, and Samantha Wilt was a bronze ranked individual.

Veterans Day Proclamation - November 11, 2018

- Mrs. Charlotte Sebold, Board Member, read a Resolution in honor of Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, which was signed by Board members and Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Sebold presented the proclamation to LTC Ralph Sheaffer, Southern High JROTC teacher. View the [Veterans Day proclamation](#).

American Education Week Proclamation – November 12-16, 2018

- Mr. Matthew Paugh, Board President, read a Proclamation in honor of American Education Week, November 12-16, 2018, which was signed by Board members and Ms. Baker. The Proclamation was a salute to the dedicated employees of Garrett County Public Schools. Mr. Paugh presented the Proclamation to various Garrett County educators present at the meeting. View the [American Education Week proclamation](#).

School Psychologist Week Proclamation – November 12-16, 2018

- Mr. Tom Woods, Board Member, read a Proclamation in honor of School Psychologist Week, November 12-16, 2018, which was signed by Board members and Ms. Baker. Mr. Woods presented the proclamation to Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, and Ms. Susan Thatcher, school psychologist. View the [School Psychologist Week proclamation](#).

Continuing Business

Quarterly Financial Report

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this informational item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer shared the FY2019 first quarter financial review by showing the school system's expenditure/balances by category.
- For the Unrestricted Expenditure Variances to this point, the system has spent 10.9% of the FY19 budget. Compared to the percentage (10.5%) at this time last year, \$54,914 more was expended compared to FY18.
- Mrs. Charlotte Sebold requested to view monthly financial reports. Mrs. Sweitzer will examine the new Finance and Accounting system, Tyler Munis, to determine the process for preparing monthly reports.

RISE Strategic Plan Progress Update

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, provided an update on the progress of the RISE Strategic Plan.
- RISE represents Reforming, Innovating, and Strengthening for Excellence.
- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, stated that representatives from Maryland State Department of Education visited the school system on November 9 to look at the facilities and provide feedback regarding their expertise and experience. Mr. Bob Gorrell, Director of IAC, stated that maintenance costs are approximately \$8 per foot per building. Ms. Baker stated that the average age of GCPS buildings is 48 years and that buildings over 35 years old (with no major renovations) become difficult to perform preventative maintenance. They recommended that a scenario expert review the GCPS facilities and generate recommendations moving forward.
- Dr. Sorber discussed the upcoming meeting on November 26 at 4:00 PM with the Garrett County Board of Commissioners and stated that the Board must work towards a better partnership with them. The Board and public must advocate for the school system and continue to seek more funding from local and state government.
- Mr. Woods made a motion to hire a consulting firm to examine the present strategic options, cost saving analysis, and other possible options before moving forward with strategic planning and continue to seek community engagement during the process.
- The Board unanimously voted to hire a consulting firm to look at present strategic options and to provide the Board with additional options.

Hearing of Constituents

- Mrs. Kendall Ludwig, Yough Glades Elementary School parent, spoke to the Board regarding her concerns that the school lost two teacher positions and this was having an impact on programs.
- Mr. Andy Durst, an Accident Elementary School parent, requested more statistics regarding the RISE strategic plan.
- Mr. Dan Besseck, Uniserve Director for GASA (Administrators and Supervisors Association), spoke about staff and community concerns with the Board's delay in completing the strategic planning process.
- Mr. Mike Henderson, community member, inquired how the Maryland constitutional amendment (Gambling Revenue Dedicated to Education Lockbox Amendment) that recently passed will impact the school funding issues.
- Mr. Brian Schilpp, Northern Middle School, spoke to the Board regarding the school's concerns and questions. He will send to the Board a summary of the concerns and questions.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Ms. Katherine Catulle, Student Member of the Board, presented informational items.
- Ms. Catulle shared activities that various student councils have been actively engaged.
- The Garrett County Association of Student Councils (GCASC) will participate in the Festival of Lights on November 23-24.

Board Member Updates

- Mrs. Rinker attended the Northern-Southern football game. She attended an event at Accident School which included an author book signing. She also visited several schools.
- Dr. Sorber attended a Friendsville School pumpkin drop activity and praised all the schools for their activities supporting Veterans Day.
- Mrs. Sebold stated that a highlight from the past month was the meeting with MSDE representatives. She also visited several schools.
- Mr. Paugh indicated he visited schools and observed the Crellin School Chorus singing at a local bank.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.