

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

March 10, 2020

Prepared by: Public Information Office

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

The information contained herein is a summary of the Board meeting. Much of the content has changed due to the statewide closure.

PUBLIC SESSION

Hearing of Constituents

- There were no comments at this time.

Announcements

- March 25: Staff Development, 3-Hour Early Dismissal
- March 30: End of 3rd Grading Term
- April 6: Report Cards Released
- April 3-6: NSBA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- April 10: Good Friday, Schools Closed
- April 13: Easter Monday, Schools Closed
- April 16: Board Service Academy: Parliamentary Procedure, MABE Office in Annapolis 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration

Report

Accident Elementary School

- Mrs. Jessica Fratz, principal, Mr. Steve Savage, teacher, and Mrs. Kenya Wilt, teacher, provided the Board with updates on Accident Elementary School programs and activities.
- Mrs. Fratz and her staff shared various data related to the RTI Math Support Program, Ascend Math, HMH Math Inventory, and the School Improvement Plan.

Behavioral Procedures and Data Review

- Dr. Chelsie Manges, Interim Director of Special Education, provided the Board with an update on student behavioral procedures and data review.
- Garrett County Public Schools uses the RTI Behavior Process to address at-risk behavior using a 3-tiered approach.
- The goals of safety care /crisis intervention are:
 - 1) Create a positive, supportive, and enriched physical and social environment.

- 2) Teach functional alternatives to challenging behavior.
- 3) Prevent behavioral crises whenever possible.
- 4) Manage behavioral crises safely and therapeutically.
- 5) Minimize the intensity and duration of behavioral crises.
- 6) Decrease the future likelihood of behavioral crises.

- Dr. Manges also discussed the training involved and steps moving forward.

Comprehensive Literacy Program Support

- Mrs. Stephanie Wesolowski, Supervisor of English Language Arts and Social Studies, and Literacy Coaches: Dara McGettigan, Erica Foley, and Sandy Coluzzi, provided the Board with an update on the school system's comprehensive literacy program.
- The Literacy Program provides implementation, data analysis, and technical support for GCPS English/Language Arts programs (ISME Orton-Gillingham, Reading Inventory, Read 180 Intervention, System 44 Intervention, and Harcourt Journey reading series).
- The coaches also discussed achievements and future support for the Comprehensive Literacy Program.

Proposed Reading/Language Arts Curriculum Purchase

- Mrs. Penny Proudfoot, Director of Early Childhood/Elementary Education, Mrs. Stephanie Wesolowski, Supervisor of English Language Arts and Social Studies, and Mrs. Carrie Hordubay, teacher at Crellin Elementary School, presented the recommended reading and language arts curriculum.
- As members of the Reading Series Selection Committee, they recommend the ***American Reading Company (ARC) Core*** curriculum for PreK-5th grade and ***Amplify ELA*** for 8th grade.
- The material will be on display for a month at the Central Office, Ruth Enlow Library in Oakland, and Accident Elementary School for public review and comments.

Recognitions

Southern Garrett High School Wrestling Team

- Mr. Woods, Board President, recognized the Southern Garrett High School Wrestling Team for winning the 2020 Maryland IA State Dual Meet Championship for the third straight year.
- The wrestling team finished with a record of 33-9 and four individual placed at the state tournament.

Hearing of Constituents

- Evan West, GCEA UniServ Director, addressed the Board regarding staff safety.
- Lois Lipscomb, Instructional Assistant, addressed the Board regarding student behavior and physical aggression in the STARS program.
- Angie Harris, teacher, addressed the Board regarding student behavior and staff safety.
- Steven Hughes, parent, addressed the Board regarding the School Facilities Committee's plan and school closings.
- Corrine Clark, Behavior Support Coach, addressed the Board regarding student behavior.
- Cheryl Smith, retired teacher, addressed the Board to keep the remaining Garrett County schools open.

Policies and Procedures

Policy #JLCBA – Health Requirements for Entry to School

- Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, Nurse Manager, presented this second reading and action item.
- The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all students meet the immunization, lead testing, and physical assessment standards for admission to Garrett County Public Schools as set forth by Maryland law.
- All students must meet the eligibility requirements for school admission established by the State of Maryland, including immunizations, lead testing, and health assessment.
- Maryland State law mandates immunizations for students as an evidence based strategy to control vaccine-preventable diseases. Maryland has enacted vaccine requirements for entry into school to protect students' health and welfare.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept Policy #JLCBA - Health Requirements for Entry to School

Continuing Business

Health Materials

- Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, Nurse Manager, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Aiken reviewed health materials presented the previous two months, which included online video

resources from amaze.org to be used by health teachers, school counselors, and nurses.

- Six short videos were recommended by the Advisory Committee for use at specific grade levels.
- Several public comments were received regarding the recommendations.
- The Board voted not to accept the adoption of the health videos, but voted to accept the health posters.

FY21 Revenue and Budget Update

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented this informational item.
- Ms. Baker shared the FY2021 revenue and budget information to the Board.
- The FY21 Initiatives are:
 - Implement Blueprint and ESSA Requirements: Address Behavior and Health
 - Close the Achievement Gap: English/Language Arts and Mathematics
 - Support Students & Staff Needs: A) Provide a safe, secure environment for students, staff, and stakeholders; B) Continue to attract, develop, and maintain highly qualified staff.
- The Superintendent indicated that the Local Government requests are for Maintenance of Effort (\$28.1 Million) and Year over Year increase of 1.6% (\$430,356).

New Business

System-Wide Coronavirus Preparations and Precautions

- Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, Nurse Manager, and Ms. Barbara Baker discussed the system-wide Coronavirus COVID-19 preparations and precautions with the Board.
- Nurses are continuing to use the protocol they have for the flu season:
 - Sending students home with fevers and flu-like symptoms.
 - Encouraging staff and students to stay home until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.
 - Posting hand washing and good health hygiene posters in all GCPS buildings.
 - Providing handwashing lessons with students and staff. They are checking classrooms to ensure safety practices are being followed.
 - Offering masks for ill students and staff, as well as N95 masks for our nurses. They have also purchased additional gloves for the health rooms and the staff.
 - Working with the Maintenance Department to alert them if the restrooms need soap, towels, and hand sanitizer.

- Continually touching base with the Child Care and Head Start programs to make sure they are also encouraging the same practices.
- Sending hand wipes and/or hand sanitizer with teacher supplies on field trips. School field trips have not been canceled at this point, but will be if warranted.
- Stepping up the student and staff education with more information on bulletin boards and included in the morning news at schools.
- Continuing to monitor changes to the local situation and respond accordingly.

Athletic Fields Project

- Mr. Richard Wesolowski, Director of Maintenance, Facilities, Operations, and Transportation, provided an update on the athletic field project.
- Mr. Wesolowski indicated that the Northern and Southern High School turf field installations are made possible by the Maryland Capital Grant Program for \$1.5 million.
- For Northern High School, the field remains in the same location with the entrance upgraded to be ADA compliant.
- For Southern High School, the field will be installed at the current track location. The current home bleachers will be relocated to the softball field side of the complex.
- Mr. Wesolowski also discussed three other projects: the Southern High school front facade, and the Yough Glades and Accident Elementary Schools security vestibules.

Budget Transfer Request

- Mrs. Sweitzer requested the Board approve a FY2020 budget transfer.
- The transfer of funds is as follows:
 - \$40,000 in Salaries from Pupil Services to Health Services.
 - \$135,000 in Salaries from Maintenance to Operations
- The Board unanimously voted to approve the transfer.

2019-20 School Calendar (Easter Monday Makeup Day)

- Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources, provided this action item.
- The Board discussed the possibility of using Easter Monday, April 13, 2020, as a makeup snow day.
- Easter Monday will not be used as a makeup day.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Ms. Katherine Catulle, Student Board Member, presented informational items.
- Ms. Catulle provided an update to the Board regarding student activities and GCASC events.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.