

# BOARDROOM REVIEW

## Garrett County Board of Education

July 14, 2020

Prepared by: Public Information Office

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

***The meeting was conducted virtually due to COVID-19 and Governor Hogan's executive orders prohibiting public gatherings.***

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

#### **Hearing of Constituents**

- Lynne Elmlinger addressed the Board regarding COVID and the opening of schools.

#### **Announcements**

- July 28: Special Board Meeting - 5 Year Strategic Plan Virtual Meeting 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- Aug. 5: MABE New Student Board Member Orientation Virtual Meeting 9:30 am - 4:00 pm
- Oct. 14-15: MABE Annual Conference Virtual Meeting
- The Garrett County Graduation 2020 committee, composed of Mr. Edwards, principals, senior class advisors, student leaders, and parents from both high schools, reconvened on June 24 to assess the potential to have a more traditional graduation on July 25, as originally called for in the initial planning stage. The committee was very happy with the "ceremonies" and video release and agreed that all expectations had been met. It was extremely unlikely that Maryland would enter stage 3 of the Roadmap to Recovery by July 11, the date laid out to make a final decision on further ceremonies. Unanimously, the committee voted to not pursue the July 25 event. In light of not meeting the stage 3 threshold by July 11 and the recent increases in COVID cases in Garrett County over the past 2 weeks, the secondary education department and both high schools feel it would be irresponsible to try to hold a large gathering at this point and request to honor the committee's recommendation of officially cancelling the July 25 date.
- FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 1629 (GaCo), has officially finished its 2020 season. Even though the team did not get to compete with the robot, through virtual interviews and written submissions, the team won the Chairman's Award at the District level, which is the highest award one could receive, with or without the robot. There are

approximately 120 teams in the Maryland/DC/Virginia District.

- Ms. Laura Huelskamp, Northern Middle School student, won first place at the national competition of National History Day! Ms. Huelskamp won first place in the Junior Individual Exhibit for her work titled "Aren't Lights Grand? Breaking Barriers in History with Rural Electrification". Established in 1974, the National History Day Contest encourages more than half a million middle and high school students around the world to conduct original research on historical topics of interest. Students present projects at the local and affiliate levels.

#### **New Business**

##### ***Recovery Plan for Summer, Extracurricular, and Reopening of 2020-2021 School Year***

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented this informational item.
- Ms. Baker discussed a safe reopening plan for the 2020-2021 school year. She discussed the extracurricular activities over the summer, including athletics and the "Jumpstart 20-21" learning opportunities for grades K-8.
- Ms. Baker reviewed the TIGER (Targeted, Immediate, Group Execution, and Response) teams and focus groups that have been meeting to develop the GCPS Recovery Plan for the opening of schools.
- Ms. Baker reviewed in detail each of the Red, Yellow, Green, and Blue phases of the recovery plan for the opening of schools.
  - **Red** (when the state is in Stage 1): All school activities to be conducted online and through distance learning platforms.
  - **Yellow** (when the state is in Stage 2): Some in-person school activities may commence in accordance with the Governor's social distancing measures. (AA/DL/BB days for students)
  - **Green** (when the state is in Stage 3): In-person activities may fully resume, and schools can begin normal operations consistent with additional safety measures.
  - **Blue** (regardless of the stage): All students enrolled in this model will participate virtually full time.

- Ms. Baker recommended changing the school calendar for the start of school for students to Tuesday, September 8, 2020, for scheduling and Schoology purposes.
- The Board unanimously voted to postpone the school start date to September 8, 2020, for students.

#### ***5-Year Strategic Plan/Capital Projects***

- Mr. Richard Wesolowski, Director of Maintenance, Operations, Facilities, and Transportation, presented this informational item.
- Mr. Wesolowski outlined the prioritization process in the proposed 5-year strategic plan regarding capital projects.
- The Board will review the 5-year strategic plan at a special Board meeting on July 28, 2020.

#### **Policies and Procedures**

##### ***Policy and Procedure #DKA – Payroll Administration and Schedules***

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this information item and first reading.
- Mrs. Sweitzer presented the new DKA Payroll Administration and Schedules policy and procedure to the Board.
- The new policy and procedure will replace former procedures: 533.110 Work Year Procedure; 615.20 Work Year Procedure; 725.110 Payment of Salaries Procedure; and 725.121 Payroll Arrangement for Cafeteria Staff Procedure.
- The purpose of Policy DKA is to set forth the protocols for the administration of the employee payroll system.
- The procedure outlines the schedule of payroll payment, payment of salaries, and the work year.
- The Board will revisit this policy at the August meeting.

##### ***Policy #725.01 – Financial Reporting Fund Balance Classifications***

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer recommended the Board retire Policy #725.01 - Financial Reporting Fund Balance Classifications. This policy has been replaced with Policy #DFAB, the unrestricted fund balance policy adopted at the June 9, 2020, Board meeting.
- The Board unanimously voted to retire Policy #725.01 - Financial Reporting Fund Balance Classifications.

#### **Continuing Business**

##### ***Student Handbook for 2019-20 School Year***

- Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, presented this action item.
- During last month's meeting, Dr. Lauver reviewed the revisions and updates to the *Student Handbook: Rights, Responsibilities, and Discipline* for the 2020-21 school year.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the *Student Handbook: Rights, Responsibilities, and Discipline for 2020-21* with revisions on student expression and a handout for the preface and school meals section.

#### **Board Business**

##### ***Student Board Member Report***

- Mr. Jarrett Miller, Student Board Member, presented informational items.
- Mr. Miller thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as a Student Board Member. He indicated that he would provide monthly reports and activities. He discussed summer dual enrollment at Garrett College and the fall elections of the secondary student governments.

##### ***Board Member Updates***

- Mr. Woods recognized Mr. Trautwein's 2020 "at Home" Summer Technology Camp. The GCPS Summer Tech Camp transitioned to a "virtual" model for 2020.

#### **Next Meeting**

- A special Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, from 5:00-6:30 PM.
- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.