

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

September 15, 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 live streamed, but closed to the public, due to COVID-19 and Governor Hogan's executive orders prohibiting public gatherings.

PUBLIC SESSION

Hearing of Constituents

- Mr. Michael Henderson addressed the Board regarding the Student Handbook and dress code revisions.
- Mr. Joshua Elmlinger addressed the Board regarding Board of Education and GCPS communications.

Announcements

- Sept. 23: Staff Development Day
- Sept. 29: Special Board of Education Meeting
- Oct. 8: Progress Reports for the First Grading Term
- Oct. 13: October Board Meeting
- Oct. 14-15: MABE Annual Conference Virtual

Recognitions

National Arts in Education Week: September 13-19, 2020

- The Board recognized National Arts in Education Week, September 13-19, 2020, by presenting a proclamation.
- Dr. Nicole Miller, Director of Elementary Education and Coordinator of Fine Arts, received the proclamation from Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board Vice President, on behalf of the Fine Arts teachers.

Policies and Procedures

Policy #JICA – Student Dress

- Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, presented this action item and second reading.
- At last month's meeting, Dr. Lauver discussed the new policy and procedure regarding student dress.
- The purpose is to establish a uniform, countywide policy that defines appropriate student dress worn during the school day.
- The Board voted to accept *Policy #JICA – Student Dress*.

Continuing Business

School Construction Project Update

- Mr. Richard Wesolowski, Director of Maintenance, Operations, Facilities, and Transportation, presented this information item.
- Mr. Wesolowski provided an update to the Board regarding various construction and maintenance projects at the schools over the summer.

Return to Learn

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented this informational item.
- Ms. Baker provided the Board and the public with an update on the first week of school and the GCPS Return to Learn plan.
- Approximately 10% of each school population returned for in-person learning.
- Schools must have an average of 3.5 hours of synchronous learning for students in K-12 and 1.5 hours from Prekindergarten spread out over the course of the day.
- During the week of September 8-11, schools conducted orientation sessions that included various activities: Schoology learning sessions; diagnostic assessments; meet and greets with teachers and school personnel; and lessons for students as appropriate.
- Week 2 had a mixture of at-home and in-person learning. There have been some challenges with internet speeds, learning Schoology, and accessing content.
- The Superintendent's goal for progression of students returning to school for in-person learning, two days a week, is:
 - September 14: 10% of students in school
 - September 28: 20% in school
 - October 12: 30% in school
 - October 26: 50% in school
 - November 9: 70% of students in school (year-long virtual students continue outside the school setting).

New Business

Multi-Function Digital Copiers/Printers Bid

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer requested the Board approve the recommended vendor, Landis Office Center, for

the school system's multi-function digital copiers/printers for FY2021.

- The Board unanimously voted to accept Landis Office Center as the vendor of copiers.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Mr. Jarrett Miller, Student Board Member, presented informational items.
- Mr. Miller thanked Mr. Germain for food preparations and Mr. Gank and Mr. Schilpp for the technology aspect to begin school. The biggest concern conveyed to him has been the communication from GCPS. He also recommended the rapid return of students to school since the Governor has Maryland in the opening of stage 3.

Board Member Updates

- Mr. Woods recently attended a Garrett County Public Schools Foundation meeting. He provided a treasurers report and updates from the recent meeting. He shared a new mini-grant opportunity for teachers.
- Mrs. Sebold discussed the upcoming Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) annual conference and requested a report from those Board members and staff attending this year's virtual sessions.

Next Meeting

- A special meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, from 5:00–7:00 PM, regarding the FY2020 Financial Statements and Single Audit results.
- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.