

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

May 11, 2021

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, Mr. Jason VanSickle, 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.

and would like to do a budget amendment at next month's meeting to retain the two music teachers at Southern Middle School.

PUBLIC SESSION

Public Comments

- Mr. Jason Shaw, Southern Garrett High School Band Director, addressed the Board regarding music and teacher positions at Southern Middle School.
- Ms. Savannah Hamilton, sophomore at Southern Garrett High School, addressed the Board regarding music and teacher positions at Southern Middle School.
- Mr. Charlie McClosky and Mrs. June McClosky, Samantha Funding the Arts, addressed the Board regarding music and teacher positions at Southern Middle School.
- Mr. Michael Henderson addressed the Board regarding textbook review procedures.
- Ms. Laura Dahlen, music teacher, addressed the Board regarding music and teacher positions at Southern Middle School.

Announcements

- May 20: Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent, Visit to GCPS - Grantsville Elementary 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.; Route 40 Elementary 10:00 - 11:15 a.m.
- May 27: MABE Board Service Academy (Virtual): Legislative Policy Implications 9:30-12:30
- May 31: Memorial Day - Schools Closed
- June 2: Seniors Last Day of School
- June 5: Graduation Ceremonies - Garrett County Agricultural Hall Building at Fairgrounds in McHenry; Northern Garrett High School at 10:00 a.m.; Southern Garrett High School at 2:00 p.m.
- June 7: Students Dismissed 3 Hours Early
- June 8: Last Day for Students - Students Dismissed 3 Hours Early; Board Meeting at Central Office - Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. and Public Session at 6:00 p.m.
- June 9: Professional Day - Last Day for Teachers
- The Superintendent also announced that new maintenance of efforts funding became available

Recognitions

National School Nurse Day – May 12, 2021

- Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board Vice President, recognized National School Nurse Day, May 12, 2021, with a proclamation.
- Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, Nurse Manager, and Dr. Phil Lauver, Supervisor of Pupil Services, received the proclamation.

Pupil Personnel Worker Week – May 10-17, 2021

- Mr. Rodney Glotfelty, Board member, recognized Maryland Pupil Personnel Worker Week, May 10-17, 2021, with a proclamation.
- Ms. Lindsey Strubin, Pupil Personnel Worker (PPW), and Dr. Phil Lauver, Director of Pupil Services, received the proclamation.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration (CIA) Report

Employee Observation and Evaluation Application

- Mrs. Karen DeVore, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration, presented this informational item.
- Mrs. DeVore presented to the Board the Employee Observation and Evaluation Apps in the GCPS Apps Portal. Mr. Eric Cosner, Software Developer, assisted in the development of the apps.
- This app is used to conduct principal and teacher observations and evaluations.

National Board Certification Program Overview

- Mrs. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources, presented this informational item.
- Dr. Wildesen provided an overview of the National Board Certification and the proven impact of board-certified teachers on student achievement. In addition, she identified the teachers in the school system that are nationally board certificated and candidates that are "in the process" of obtaining their certification.

- Currently, there are eight GCPS teachers with National Board Certification and ten teachers in the process of obtaining this certification.
- The impact of National Board Certified Teachers, a Gold Standard in teacher certification, involves demonstrating a commitment to excellence, improving teacher practice, and students learning more.

Overview of GCASC for FY2020-21

- Ms. Sara Huelskamp, President of GCASC, and Ms. Leah Wilt, Treasurer of GCASC, presented this informational item.
- Ms. Huelskamp and Ms. Wilt provided an overview of the Garrett County Association of Student Councils (GCASC) meetings, activities, and goals for the FY2020-21 school year.

Continuing Business

Comprehensive Middle School ELA Curriculum: StudySync 6-8 Grade

- Mrs. Stephanie Wesolowski, Supervisor of English Language Arts (ELA) and Social Studies, presented this action item.
- At last month's meeting, Mrs. Wesolowski presented and recommended a middle school ELA curriculum to the Board for review. The recommended ELA curriculum for grades 6 - 8 is "***StudySync 6-8: A Comprehensive Middle School ELA Curriculum***".
- The curriculum was available for the public to review during the past month.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the ELA curriculum for grades 6-8, "***StudySync 6-8: A Comprehensive Middle School ELA Curriculum***".

History and Government Curriculum

- Mrs. Stephanie Wesolowski, Supervisor of English Language Arts (ELA) and Social Studies, presented this action item.
- At last month's meeting, Mrs. Wesolowski presented and recommended a high school History and Government curriculum. The three curriculum resources were:
 - "***United States History Interactive High School Reconstruction to the Present***" published by Savaas Learning Company LLC (formerly Pearson Publishing).
 - "***World History and Geography: Modern Times***" published by McGraw Hill.
 - "***Building Citizenship: Civics & Economics***" published by McGraw Hill.

- The curriculum was available for the public to review during the past month.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the three history and government curriculum resources.

Grantsville Elementary Open Space Conversion Project Update

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, and Dr. Nicole Miller, Director of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, provided an update to the Board regarding the Grantsville open space conversion project.
- Dr. Nicole Miller shared that the 8th grade students will remain at Northern Middle School and not move to portables at the high school in the fall. There will be five lunch shifts during the day at Northern Middle (2 for Grantsville and 3 for Northern Middle). It is anticipated that June 4, 2021, will be the last day of on-campus school for Grantsville Elementary School.

New Business

Refrigerated Van Bid

- Mr. Scott Germain, Supervisor of Food Services, present this action item.
- Mr. Germain presented a bid for a refrigerated van. In April, the bid for a "Refrigerated Van" was posted on the Garrett County Public Schools website, the Maryland Marketplace website, and in the Republican newspaper. Submissions were due May 3, 2021. There was one bid received.
- The bid from Mobile Cold Solutions meets or exceeds all the specifications and is believed to be a reasonable bid after researching other similar vehicles.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the bid from Mobile Cold Solutions of \$67,733.00 for a refrigerated van.

NH and SH Electronic Sign Project Bid

- Mr. Richard Wesolowski, Director of Maintenance, Facilities, Operations, and Transportation, presented this action item.
- Mr. Wesolowski recommended the approval of Kenney Signs, Inc., to complete the Northern and Southern Garrett High School electronic sign projects.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the bid from Kenney Signs, Inc. of \$68,852.00.

Student Handbook for 2021-22 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 2021-22 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 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 2021-22* at next month's meeting to seek approval.

Budget Transfer Request

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer recommended budget transfers to the Board:
 - **Instructional Resources** – Resources for the new curricular resources for Middle School ELA and High School History and Government. The total cost of this purchase is \$212,212 (\$149,360 for ELA, \$40,030 for World History/Government, and \$22,822 for U.S. History). There is a need to transfer \$149,360 to Instructional Textbooks and Supplies and \$62,852 to Instructional Other (contracted services) from Instructional Salaries.
 - **Operations: Safety & Security Vehicle** – In the vehicle rotation cycle, the plan is to purchase a new vehicle for the Safety and Security Manager in FY2022. There is a need to transfer \$35,000 from Transportation to Operations.
 - **Operations: Safety & Security Phones** – With an importance on safety, Mrs. Baker desires a phone be placed in each classroom in the system. It is required to transfer funds to Operations Communications to finish this project. There is a need to transfer \$15,000 from Mid-Level Administration to Operations.
 - **Capital Outlay** – The Board approved an emergency repair of the Route Forty Elementary sewage treatment system at the February 9, 2021, Board meeting. Also, there is the replacement of kiosk signs at both high schools. There is a need

to transfer \$50,344 from Transportation to Capital Outlay to cover these expenses.

- The Board unanimously voted to accept the budget transfers.

Legislative Update

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this informational item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer provided an update to the 2021 Maryland Legislation session.
- One particular bill of interest for Garrett County was HB1128 – Virtual Education Days. This bill would have allowed Garrett County Public Schools to use virtual learning days when schools are closed because of inclement weather. However, the bill failed to make it out of the House.
- See the Legislative Update presentation [here](#).

Insurance Bid Approval

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer presented the liability insurance premium for the school system from CBIZ.
- CBIZ presented a recommended proposal as a broker, which included seven vendors submitting some combination of coverages, and only one vendor bid on the package for property, auto, and excess liability. The MABE Group Insurance Pool's premium renewal for the FY2022 is \$275,014.
- The Board unanimously voted to accept the MABE Group Insurance Pool's property and liability insurance bid.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Mr. Jarrett Miller, Student Board Member, presented informational items.
- Mr. Miller discussed student council activities from the past several weeks.
- Virtual AP tests are coming up in the next several weeks for high school students.
- He discussed school activities such as the prom and graduation.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be Tuesday, June 8, 2021. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.