

BOARDROOM REVIEW

Garrett County Board of Education

June 8, 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.

PUBLIC SESSION

Public Comments

- There were no public comments at this time.

Announcements

- June 9: Last Day for Teachers; Professional Day
- June 15: Return to Learn Check-In with the Swan Meadow Community at Pleasant Valley Community Center 6:30 p.m.
- June 15-17: Summer Program Curriculum Development for PK-8th
- June 17: MABE Board Service Academy: Ethics; Virtual Meeting 9:30-12:30 p.m.
- June 21-30: High School Summer Programming
- June 29: MABE Board Service Academy: Communications and the Role of a Board Member; Virtual Meeting 9:30-12:30 p.m.
- July 5: Holiday (as July 4 is Sunday) - Offices Closed
- July 13: Board Meeting at Central Office Board Room 6:00 p.m. Public Session
- July 12-16 and July 19-23: Summer Learning Camp for Elementary and Middle School Students at Accident and Broad Ford Elementary Schools, 9:00-2:00 p.m. with breakfast and lunch provided. Transportation will also be provided.
- Garrett County Public School System will begin the compressed four (4)-day/ten (10)-hour summer schedule for all twelve (12)-month secretaries and certificated employees. This schedule will begin on June 14 and continue through August 20. Regular work hours will resume on August 23.
- Due to the nature of their work, Food and Nutrition Services employees will be exempt from the compressed summer schedule. Those employees will work a five (5)-day/eight (8)-hour summer schedule.

Recognitions

Mideast Section Coach of the Year – Dave Taylor

- Mr. Thomas Woods, Board President, recognized Dave Taylor, Southern Garrett High School Wrestling Coach, for receiving the Mideast Section Coach of the Year award.
- The Mideast section of the NFHS includes seven states and the District of Columbia. Honorees were selected based upon their performance in the 2019-2020 school year, lifetime community involvement, school involvement, and philosophy of coaching. Mr. Taylor was nominated by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association to receive this award, and he was confirmed as the most deserving recipient by NFHS.

2021-22 Garrett County Teacher of the Year – Lindsay Krisher

- Mr. Jason VanSickle, Board member, recognized Lindsay Krisher for being named the 2021-22 Garrett County Teacher of the Year.
- Ms. Lindsay Krisher is the Computer Science teacher at Southern Garrett High School. Ms. Krisher began her career with Garrett County Schools in 2015. Her computer science program is the 3-time recipient of the College Board's Female Diversity Award. Ms. Krisher made significant contributions to the launch of the AP *Computer Science Principles* course and exam through her work with the College Board

Southern Garrett Envirothon – 4th Place at State Championship

- Dr. Matthew Paugh, Board member, recognized the Southern Garrett High School Envirothon Team for receiving 4th Place at the State Envirothon Competition.
- The team spent their own time outside of school preparing for this competition, as well as staying after school to participate in the competition. This team has worked together for the past 4 years and has improved each year. Placing 4th in the State Envirothon Competition is the best this team has ever performed.
- The team consists of four seniors (Jalen Beeman, Zhou Dong, Alex Schofield, and Kyus Spencer) and

two juniors (Olivia Cassada and Noah Beakes) who served as an alternate for the team. Erin Coffman, a Biology teacher at Southern Garrett High School, coached the team.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration (CIA) Report

Maryland Accelerates Program Presentation

- Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources, introduced Frostburg State University's Maryland Accelerates Program.
- The Maryland Accelerates Teacher-Residency Program provides a Master of Arts in Teaching degree in conjunction with a year-long experiential teacher residency in Garrett County Public Schools. Students accepted into the program will receive a \$30,000 living-wage stipend and will earn micro-credentials across multiple areas during their residency and internship.
- Mr. Rohit Tandon, edBridge Partner Principal, provided the program presentation.

New Business

Food and Nutrition Services Bid

- Mr. Scott Germain, Supervisor of Food Services, present this action item.
- Mr. Germain requested the Board approve food service bids for ice cream, bread, milk, groceries, and chemicals.
- The Board voted to accept the bids from Potomac Farms, Schmidt Baking Co., Hershey Creamery Co., US Foods, A. F. Wendling's, Gordon's, Janitor's Supply, and Ecolab, Inc.

Special Education Staffing Plan 2021-22

- Dr. Chelsie Manges, Director of Special Education, presented this action item.
- Dr. Manges presented the Special Education Staffing Plan for 2021-22. There were changes in the staffing positions based on students' needs.
- She shared staff data and various funding sources for special education in the schools, as well as other positions. A total of 73.5 staff (31.5 teachers; 42 assistants) will be employed by the school system in special education.
- The Board voted to accept the staffing plan for the 2021-22 school year.

Physical and Occupational Therapy RFP

- Dr. Chelsie Manges, Director of Special Education, presented this action item.
- Dr. Manges indicated that it is the recommendation of the selection committee to enter into a 12-month (1 year) contract with School Therapy Services from Cumberland, MD, which has had a contract with

GCPS for the past 29 years. The contract includes providing all physical and occupational therapy services for Infants and Toddlers, as well as school-age students.

- On April 29, 2021, a Notice of Request for Proposals (RFP) was published. Three proposals were received. The recommendation of School Therapy Service is based upon the selection criteria outlined in the Instructions for Proposal Submission and the Procurement Policy and Procedure #DJ.
- The Board voted to enter into a contract with School Therapy Services.

Budget Transfer Request

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer recommended budget transfers to the Board:
 - Instructional Other: Communications – GCPS received federal funding for hotspots and their service for a large portion of the school year. The unrestricted fund must cover the cost of data for the last quarter of the fiscal year. There is a need to transfer \$50,000 from Special Education Nonpublic Transfer to Instructional Other to cover this cost.
 - Operations: Custodial Supplies – On the return to school, while the system was fortunate to receive restricted funding for reopening expenses, not all additional PPE and additional cleaning expenses were covered. There is a need to transfer \$64,050 from Transportation to Operations to cover these expenses.
 - Operations: Equipment for Air Quality Project – The Board recently approved an air quality project. The vast majority of the project's expense was covered by Federal CARES Act funding. However, the project is \$37,000 over the available funding. There is a need to transfer \$37,000 from Transportation Field Trips to Operations to cover these expenses.
- The Board voted to accept the budget transfers.

FY2022 Supplemental Budget - Action

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented this action item.
- Mrs. Sweitzer indicated that at the April 13, 2021 Board Meeting when the Board approved the FY2022 Operating & Capital Budget, the legislative session was not completed. Since that time, the amounts for Local Maintenance of Effort and State Capital Grant award have changed.
- **Operating Budget:** Local Maintenance of Effort revenue has increased \$250,720 to \$28,705,313 from \$28,454,593. The increase is due to a change in

legislation in which the September 2020 enrollment count is not included in the formula. The use of the Board's Fund balance has increased \$656,270 from \$71,810 to \$728,080. Expenditures increased in salary due to an increase of one teacher and contractual obligations.

- **Capital Budget:** The State Capital Grant amount increased due to language in the legislation. The amount is applied to planned expenditures for stadium renovations at both high schools.
- The Board voted to accept the supplemental budget.

Superintendent Updates

- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent of Schools, presented this informational item.
- Ms. Baker provided an update and logistics to the summer school programs for elementary/middle and high schools.

Continuing Business

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 voted to accept the ***Student Handbook for 2021-22***.

Board Business

Student Board Member Report

- Ms. Leah Wilt, Alternate Student Board Member, presented informational items.
- Ms. Wilt discussed Garrett County Association of Student Councils (GCASC) elections and goals for the upcoming school year. She also discussed the

activities of the high school student councils from the past several weeks.

Board Member Updates

- Mr. Woods commented on the success of the high school graduations and the retirement dinner.

Ratification of Employee Contracts

- Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources and Employee Relations, presented this action item of the AFT (Head Custodian and Cafeteria Workers) comprehensive negotiated agreements.
- The Board voted to ratify the employee contracts.

Next Meeting

- The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Details will be announced prior to the meeting.