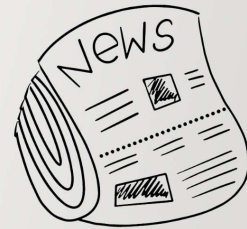




BOARD BRIEFING

An Update from the GCPS Public Relations Office



Public Session

Announcements

- 2/17 Staff Development, 3-hour Early Dismissal
- 2/20 Presidents' Day, Schools Closed
- 2/23 MABE Board Service Academy: The Open Meetings Act 9:00 am-12:00 pm (virtual)
- 2/24 Cool Schools Dunk, Uno's 10:00 am-1:00 pm
- 3/2 State Superintendent visiting GCPS
- 3/3 Progress Reports Released – Grade Period 3
- 3/4 and 3/7 MABE Board Service Academy School Boards Operating in a New Age 9:00 am-12:00 pm (virtual)
- 3/8 Route 40 Elementary School Closure Advisory Presentation/Hearing, at Route 40 Elementary 6:00-8:30 pm
- 3/9 Swan Meadow School Closure Advisory Presentation/Hearing, at Pleasant Valley Community Center 6:00-8:30 pm

Board Recognitions

- On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jason VanSickle recognized Northern Garrett High School for winning the AP Computer Science Diversity Award. Ms. Laurie Walker, Computer Science Teacher, accepted the award on behalf of the school. She commented on building the program to bring it to an excellent level.

Policies and Procedures

- On behalf of Mr. Jeff Gank, Director of Information and Technology, Superintendent Barbara Baker requested the Board's approval for ECH Use of the Work Order System Policy. As Superintendent, Ms. Baker recommended approval of the policy to the Board. The Board

voted unanimously to adopt the revisions to the policy as presented.

- The revised BED Board Meeting Procedures Policy and the corresponding new procedure adoption were tabled until next month.
- Ms. Barbara Baker, Superintendent, presented the new LC Requests to do Research in Garrett County Public Schools Policy and the revised Procedure to the Board. Ms. Baker answered various questions from the Board. This was the first read and no action was taken by the Board.
- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented the revised DFA Investments from Operating Funds Policy to the Board for their first review. She also presented the revised GBEAA Whistle Blower Policy and the new GBEAA Whistle Blower Procedure to the Board for review. No action was taken on either policy.
- Mr. Paul Edwards, Directory of Secondary Education, presented the revised IKABB Reporting Student Progress in Garrett County Public Schools Procedure to the Board. He explained the reasons for the consolidation of several procedures to create one, according to COMAR regulations. Mr. Edwards answered various questions from the Board. This was a first read and no action was taken.
- Mr. Edwards recommended the IKD Honor Roll Procedure be retired due to the revised IKABB Reporting Student Progress in Garrett County Public Schools Procedure. He also recommended the IKC Cumulative Grade Averages; Graduation Status; Class Rank; and College Admissions/Scholarship Procedure be retired for the same reasons.

Public Comment

- Mrs. Terah Crawford, parent, spoke to the Board about potential declining enrollment if grade band alignment goes through. She also expressed

Garrett County Board of Education Meeting – February 14, 2023

Prepared by: Public Relations Office

Board of Education Members: Mr. M. Thomas Woods, President; Mr. Rodney Glotfelty, Vice President; Mr. Joshua D. Hinebaugh, Dr. Matthew A. Paugh, and Mr. Jason E. VanSickle, Associate Members; Ms. Alexis X. Shaffer, Student Board Member; Ms. Barbara L. Baker, Superintendent; Mr. Brandon Hoover, Attorney

concerns over the pace of the process occurring for northern area schools.

- Mr. Michael Henderson, a public citizen, spoke to the Board regarding the condition of school buildings, his concerns over purchases, and asked for spending figures for the last ten years on schools, as well as projections for the next 10 years.
- Ms. Allie McKenzie, parent, spoke to the Board regarding the closure of Route 40 Elementary and grade band alignment, along with petitions sent to the Board and the grade band alignment committee. She expressed concerns over long bus rides and the lack of oversight on buses. She has concerns over school bus emissions and student health as well.
- Ms. Linda Bradley, a public citizen, addressed the Board regarding the closure of Swan Meadow. She questioned the costs associated with Dennett Road and what it may look like for future facilities. She also expressed concerns from parents over proposed grade band alignments. She urged the Board to read an article from West Virginia pertaining to the closure of multiple schools there.
- Ms. Cheryl Smith, a retired GCPS teacher, indicated that she has subbed and tutored since retiring. She discussed some ongoing health issues and the well-wishes from students at Swan Meadow. She asked the Board to consider keeping Swan Meadow open and seeking special funding to do so.

New Business

- Mr. Paul Edwards, Director of Secondary Education, requested the Board approve the proposed last day for seniors as Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Superintendent Baker recommended approval of the date, citing the memo and collaboration from both high schools. The Board voted unanimously for approval.
- Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources, presented the draft Pre-Labor Day and Post-Labor Day FY24 School Calendars to the Board for their first review and indicated the committee voted to recommend a Pre-Labor Day start. She answered various questions from the Board. The calendars are out for public comment from February 15, 2023, until noon, March 10, 2023. The Board is expected to take action on this topic at the March 14, 2023, Board Meeting.

Continuing Business

- Dr. Nicole Miller, Chief Academic Officer, provided an update on the progress of the Grade Band Alignment and Facility Utilization Advisory Committees. She also provided an update on the progress of the School Closure Advisory Committees.

New Business (cont.)

- Mrs. Alison Sweitzer, Director of Finance, presented the Budget Development Presentation to the Board. She explained the status of budgets within the finance department and changes occurring as a result of Blueprint. The Board did not take action on this.

Continuing Business

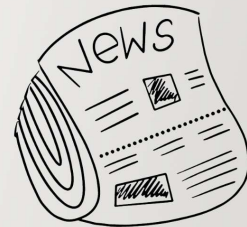
- Dr. Nicole Miller, Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Jane Wildesen, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Paul Edwards, Director of Secondary Education; and Mr. John Hummel, Director of Student Services, presented an overview of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future implementation and provided specific details of Pillars 2, 3, and 4. Dr. Miller indicated that a Public Feedback Meeting will be held at Garrett College on March 1, 2023, 6-7 p.m.

Student Member of the Board

- Ms. Alexis Shaffer, Student Member of the Board, shared that GCASC members met virtually on January 22nd where they planned workshops and discussion groups for the General Assembly set for February 15, 2023. They will also hold SMOB elections at the meeting to elect a new SMOB candidate for the 2023-2024 school year. Additionally, they are holding a hygiene product drive where each student council member will donate a product.
- The Greene Turtle fundraiser was a huge success and the members are currently working to plan another fundraiser at UNO, on February 20, 2023.
- Southern High Student council is adding finishing touches on decorations for the Winter Homecoming that is set for February 18, 2023. They will hold a blood drive on March 6, 2023. Also, they are working with the nurse to help spread awareness about vaping/smoking. Currently, they have a pledge for students to not vape, which can be signed during lunch shifts.



BOARD BRIEFING



An Update from the GCPS Public Relations Office

- Northern High Student Council is wrapping up a wooden rose fundraiser that was successful.
- Northern High School hosted a winter formal Saturday, February 11, 2023. Many students shared pictures and it looked to be a huge success.
- Southern Middle students toured Southern High on February 8th.
- Mr. VanSickle thanked the Student Services staff for the Real Deal programs occurring in Northern and Southern Middle Schools.
- Mr. Hinebaugh recognized GCPS for their participation in the Deep Creek Lake Lions Club "Blind Skier Program" and the partnership between the organization and the school system.
- Mr. Woods congratulated the Northern Garrett High Wrestling team on their second-place finish in the state tournament.

Superintendent's Response

This is a new portion of the monthly Board meetings that will be used for clarification of topics covered during the meeting.

- Ms. Baker addressed the Swan Meadow out-of-area requests as follows: five students were initially denied, but three appealed and were later approved. Two others transferred to a school in the northern area of the county.
- She discussed reports from the community regarding misinformation regarding the salaries of staff members. She indicated that the salary for the Superintendent is the lowest in the state, the Chief Academic Officer's salary is the second lowest in the state, directors are second to third lowest, principals are second to fourth lowest, and teachers are the lowest to third lowest in the state.
- Mr. VanSickle asked for clarification on the public comment referencing building conditions. Ms. Baker assured the Board that the condition of the building is safe for student attendance, but stated that repairs cannot be postponed indefinitely.
- Mr. Glotfelty asked that the public hearing for Swan Meadow be adjusted to 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Board Updates

- Mr. Glotfelty encouraged everyone to look at the legislative agenda items. Many pertain to current happenings in GCPS and state-wide.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at Northern Garrett High School, Accident, MD, in the cafeteria. Details of the meeting will be announced ahead of time.

Garrett County Board of Education Meeting – February 14, 2023

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