



BOARD BRIEFING

From the Garrett County Board of Education



December 13, 2022

Announcements

- 12/14 - School Closing Advisory Committee Orientation, Garrett College, 4:00-5:30 pm
- 12/15 - Progress Reports for Second Grading Period
- 12/21 – Grade Band and Facility Use Community Meeting (*later postponed until Jan 12, 2023*)
- 12/23 – Grantsville Elementary School Re-Opening Ceremony 10:00 am (*later postponed until Jan 17, 2023*)
- 12/23 - Three-hour early dismissal
- 12/24-1/2 - Winter Break - Schools Closed
- 1/3 - Schools Reopen
- 1/10 - School Closing Advisory Committee Recommendation to the Superintendent - Board Room at Central Office 4:00-6:00 pm (*later postponed – March 8th RF & 9th SM*)
- 1/16 - Martin Luther King Day - Schools Closed
- 1/17 - Board of Education Meeting - Public Session 6:00 pm - Grantsville Elementary School

Board Recognitions

- Dr. Matthew Paugh recognized Mr. Aaron Hordubay, Physical Education Teacher at Yough Glades Elementary School, for winning the Simon McNeely Award by the SHAPE Maryland (Society of Health and Physical Educators).
- Mr. Jason VanSickle recognized Northern Garrett High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams for each winning the 2022-2023 MPSSAA IA State Championships.
- Board members Mrs. Monica Rinker and Mr. Rodney Glotfelty recognized the Southern Garrett High School Marching

Band for winning the 2022 Tournament of Bands 1A Atlantic Coast Championship.

- The Board President, Mr. Tom Woods, recognized Mrs. Monica Rinker, Board Member, for her years of service as a Board Member from Jan 2015 through Dec 2022.

New Business

- Mr. Clark Warnick, Manager of Safety and Security, presented a brief overview of GCPS safety protocols. Mr. Warnick also gave a recap of the reunification drill recently held.

Continuing Business

- Dr. Nicole Miller, Chief Academic Officer, provided an update on the Advisory Committee process, along with the northern area grade band alignment and facility use committee. Meeting dates and times were reviewed and the scope of work was presented for the school closure advisory committees. Dr. Miller also reviewed the makeup of the GBA and Facility Use committee for the northern area schools. She detailed the structure of the school closure advisory committees and indicated they would be given goals for the committee at the upcoming meeting. Additionally, she spoke regarding the grade band alignment committee and its structure. She answered questions from the Board.

Public Comment

- Mrs. Beverly Malone, a former Kindergarten teacher, expressed her desire to see Route 40 Elementary remain open. She expressed compliments on the quality of the building and the education that students receive there. She

Garrett County Board of Education Meeting – December 13, 2022

Prepared by: Public Relations Office

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

expressed concerns over long bus rides for students and the potential future economic impact of the Finzel area.

- Parent Allie McKenzie expressed concerns over changes pertaining to Route 40 Elementary and asked that things remain the same for students at the school.
- Parent Amy Rowe spoke to the Board about keeping Route 40 Elementary open. She stressed the need to keep community schools open. She proposed sending Route 40 students to Grantsville at the same time when the schools reopen.
- Public citizen Michael Henderson spoke about concerns over the proposed costs of repairs to facilities.
- Mrs. Arlene Lantz, teacher, spoke to the Board regarding grade band alignment. She asked that meetings be postponed until after the holiday season. She asked that the Board reconsider the larger school format in favor of smaller community schools, citing improved test scores over larger schools.
- Rebecca Gordon spoke to the Board about the notification for committee members and the timeliness of meetings.

Policies and Procedures

- Mr. Mark Greene, Communications and Public Relations Manager, presented revisions to the KHC Distribution of Materials Procedure. He answered questions from the Board. No action was required by the Board.

Student Member of the Board

- Ms. Alexis Shaffer, Student Member of the Board, stated that members of GCASC met at a local restaurant on Nov 28th to discuss plans for their General Assembly which was conducted on Dec 8th at Garrett College.
- They are coordinating spirit day on Jan 16th at the Greene Turtle to raise funds.
- At the General Assembly, they held a workshop for students to learn the etiquette of speaking in public. Many of the students found this to be very informative.

Additionally, they conducted several discussion groups for students to voice their concerns.

- GCASC members will meet virtually on Dec 22nd.
- Southern High held its annual Ram Rumble on Nov 23rd. Their light show is two weeks in, with two weeks to go. All proceeds are being donated back to the community, most recently to St. Jude/Fletcher Layne. Additionally, they are hosting an "Operation Christmas" for families in need. Southern is also planning their Winter Homecoming, which is set for Feb 18th.
- Northern High also conducted its Tournament of Classes before the Thanksgiving Break. They are holding a "hat day" with donations going to Heavenly Hats, an organization helping children with cancer. They are offering a Secret Santa to give back to kids in need.
- Southern High students are concerned about using school-issued computers during the school day instead of personal devices.

Board Business

- Jason VanSickle stated that First United Bank hosted FBLA students from both Northern and Southern High Schools. Just over 40 students attended.
- Tom Woods met with GCPS-Foundation and stated that five mini-grants will be coming out in Jan. He also went to Grantsville Elementary for the Christmas program and stated that the students did a fantastic job in their performance. Additionally, he attended the performance of Young Frankenstein at Southern High. He was very complimentary of the show.
- Rodney Glotfelty will be virtually attending the MABE meeting on Friday, Dec 16th.
- Monica Rinker attended the Swan Meadow School Christmas program.
- Several Board members and the Superintendent attended a ribbon cutting for the Garrett College Performing Arts Center on Dec 3rd.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023, at Grantsville Elementary School. Details of the meeting will be announced ahead of time.