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BOARDROOM CHATTER

Prepared by Public Information Officer

February 18, 2025

The Board Office of Allegany County Public Schools

Opening Ceremonies

"I would like to congratulate Ms. Heidi Laupert on her retirement as of February 1st. She taught at Allegany for 9.5 years and she was assistant principal for 21.5 years, and she was a principal for 6 years. Her whole career was at Allegany High School. We wish her the best and I personally will miss her input, her leadership, her knowledge, and her friendship. So, congratulations Heidi, on a great career."

- Jeffrey Blank, *Superintendent*

Superintendent's Report

Present Proclamation Recognizing February as African American History Month

- Presented by Lori Lepley
- Presented to Dr. Sarah Welsh – Supervisor of Equity

"I very happily accept this on behalf of the local branch of the NAACP. We'll be sure to pass it along to President Fisher."

- Dr. Sarah Welsh, *Supervisor of Equity*



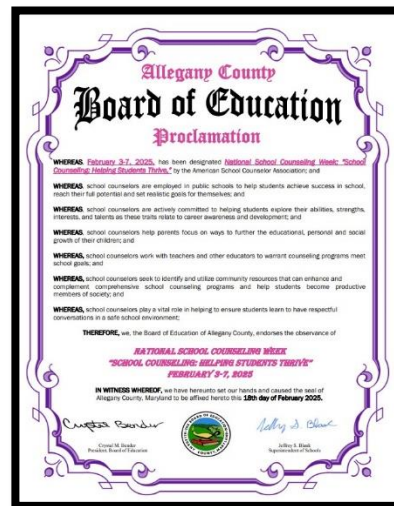
Superintendent's Report cont.

Present Proclamation Recognizing National School Counselor Week – February 3-7, 2025

- Presented by Max Green
- Presented to Dr. Sarah Welsh – Supervisor of Secondary School Counselors

“We absolutely appreciate and I’m thrilled to take this on behalf of our amazing school counseling staff. They truly are the glue that holds our schools together. They are such a critical role to keep our students safe, and healthy, and learning.”

- Dr. Sarah Welsh, *Supervisor of Secondary School Counselors*



Present Proclamation Recognizing February as Career and Technical Education Month

- Presented by Dr. Bohn
- Presented to Mr. Richard King – Principal of CCTE



“Thank you for recognizing the Career Center with this proclamation during CTE month, here in February. Our teachers work very hard in preparing our students for competitions, whether it’s regional, state, national. We’ve had a number of students going to National competitions. Not only do our skill teachers work very hard, but our academic teachers with our students, helping prepare for the real world coming down the road once they graduate.”

- Mr. Richard King, Principal of CCTE

Instructional Update

Program of Study

- Programs of study for the 2025-2026 school year
 - Center for Career and Technical Education (CCTE)
 - 14 different Career and Technical Programs at CCTE
 - Agricultural Sciences and Operations Expansion
 - New course – Agriculture Sciences and Operations Capstone
 - Advanced Placement (AP) Program Expansion
 - Will offer the Maryland AP Option, which requires students take 5 more AP courses in high school
 - Recognizes high school students who demonstrate exemplary college-level achievement on AP exams
 - Advanced Placement Pathways
 - Offers 3 pathways that will enable students to satisfy the Maryland AP Option: General, STEM, and Humanities
 - Dual Enrollment Expansion Pilot
 - Expand dual enrollment opportunities to Grade 11 students who have met certain criteria – pilot through ACM
 - Spring scheduling timeline
 - February – counselors visit classrooms and recruitment presentations
 - Late Feb / March – Students select courses online via Aspen
 - March – Meetings with students on their four-year plans
 - March – Principals and counselors determine course offerings and staffing needs based on number of sections needed – schedule builds

Unfinished Business

Consider Second Reading of Food Services Policy

- Approved

Finance Update

Budget Priorities

- Maintain and enhance resources and programs for early childhood development utilizing various funding streams and/or re-allocation of facilities where possible
- Maintain and enhance student safety and mental health by providing appropriate worker support and specialized programming based upon demonstrated student need and increasing school safety where possible considering local law enforcement recommendations and the Maryland Center for School Safety Policies and Regulations
- Make every effort to provide employees with cost effective negotiated benefits, including salary and health insurance, that incorporate changes established by the Blueprint for Maryland's future and provides pay increases where possible
- Provide summer educational support programs across all grade levels in addition to credit recovery

Hearing of Constituents

Public Comment

- Serge Babo
- Carmen Jackson
- Ed Taylor
- Tiffany Frazier

New Business

Consider Regulations Review of Food Services Policy

- Approved

Consider Approval of Contract with MABE for the Superintendent Search and President to be Spokesperson

- Approved

Reports of Special or Advisory Committees

Student Member of the Board

- Youth Summit coming up
- Ocean City trip coming up
- Next GA meeting will be soon

Board Member Updates

- Max Green
 - Local Advisory Council met at ACM
 - Industry recognized credentials and blueprint implementation – an overview of pillar 3 was provided
 - Each agency must apply through the state for approval of IRC's and they have to meet certain criteria. Once they are approved, through the state, anyone can use them. ACPS has requested approval for an IRC related incident response

April meeting has been moved up one week to April 1, 2025.