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BOARDROOM CHATTER

Prepared by Public Information Officer

June 6, 2023

The Board Office of Allegany County Public Schools

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of ACPS Retirees

2023 ACPS Retirees

Raymond Short, 46 years
Carmel Goodwin, 42 years
Elizabeth Geiger, 42 years
James Bucy, 37 years
Kristi Athey, 36 years
Diane Crabtree, 35 years
Randy Stewart, 34 years
Susan Duckworth, 34 years
Jayne Lechlitter, 33 years
Diann Grove, 33 years
Kimberly Kyle, 32 years
Debra Bohrer, 32 years
Diana Aikman, 31 years
Cynthia Folk, 30 years
Yvonne Imes, 30 years
Braden Shober, 30 years
Barbara Lambert, 29 years
Nicole Logsdon, 28 years
Nadine Beechie, 27 years
Margaret Garver, 24 years
Linda Kalbaugh, 24 years
Margie Rawlings, 22 years
Michaela Hale, 21 years
Sheila Riggelman, 21 years
Timothy Young, 20 years
Dianna Taylor, 19 years
Gina Nesmith, 19 years
Nancy Smith, 17 years
Tina Mullan, 15 years
David Dickel, 13 years
Michael Dignan, 9 years
Phyllis Washington, 6 years



Superintendent's Report

Finance Update

- Numbers mirror what was presented and approved at the March 14 Board Meeting, checking all the boxes of priorities
- As presented, it's a balanced budget without using fund balance at this time
 - Modernize current student programs and associated equipment for CTE
 - Provide for educational recovery programs
 - Maintain and enhance student safety
 - Provide for all of the negotiated agreements as outlined
 - Maintain and enhance the development for Pre-K and our early childhood development
 - Provide some transportation stabilization
 - Provide support through special education to the infants and toddlers segment
 - Support an additional school security officer

Recognition of MPSSAA State Championship Winners

- Mountain Ridge High School
- 4x800m Relay Team – New 1A State Record:
 - Ackerly Mulcaster
 - Brendan Kline
 - Will Haberlein
 - Casey Culler
- Mary Delaney – New 1A State Records:
 - 800m
 - 1600m
 - 3200m



“It’s a pleasure to be back at the board meeting for more recognition for kids who really don’t understand when to stop. Our county is just really gifted. At our meets, our kids root for each other, at the region they root for each other, and at the state meet, they were some of the first people to congratulate neighbor people from other schools. You don’t earn respect without being a good person and these are five really good ones.”

- Doug Baker, MRHS Track Coach

Pictured left to right, front row: Ackerly Mulcaster, Mary Delaney, and Brendan Kline; second row: Will Haberlein, and Casey Culler

“You all represent the schools in Allegany County and the community so well. And Coach Baker, you are the true definition of coach. Congratulations to everyone.

- Jeffrey Blank, Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of MPSSAA State Championship Winners

- Fort Hill High School
- Carter Hess – New 1A State Record
 - Discus

“Carter is definitely one of the humblest athletes that I’ve ever had a chance to coach. He’s definitely one that will show you his talent instead of tell you about his talent. He goes in the discus ring every single time and just takes care of business. In the past 2 years, he has never lost a discus event, which gives him 24 wins in a row. This year, not only did he win the state championship, but he broke the 1A state record.”

- Sarah Bennett, FHHS Track Coach



Pictured: Carter Hess

- Fort Hill High School
- Unified Track and Field Team – 1st place
 - Wyatt Swanger
 - Leland Garcia
 - Jett McCullough
 - Amos Stickley
 - Taten Shambaugh
 - Gabrielle Dixon
 - Karras Canfield
 - Logan VanMeter
 - Emily Carroll



Pictured left to right: Amos Stickley, Karras Canfield, and Emily Carroll

“This has been a great group. It’s been a fun group. They’ve done a very good job throughout the track season. They love participating and they do a great job.”

- Chad Knippenberg, FHHS Unified Track and Field Coach

- Allegany High School
- Brandi Gochenauer – State Champion
 - Shot Put
- Avery Miller – State Champion
 - 100m
 - 200m
 - 400m
 - Long Jump

“It’s been amazing what Brandi has been able to accomplish. She puts everything she has into it and I think that shows in her results. And Avery has a work ethic that most of us could only hope to have. She never gives up.”

- Bill Hughes, AHS Coach



Pictured left to right: Avery Miller and Brandi Gochenauer

IT Update

“Data is not information, information is not knowledge, knowledge is not understanding, and understanding is not wisdom.”

PowerSchool

– Clifford Stoll

- ACPS currently uses several systems that are disparate and make pulling data together difficult
- PowerSchool will provide a unified platform, where all the data comes and allows reports to be generated
- MSDE and 17 out of 25 counties have begun using PowerSchool
- Future Blueprint reports, required on a monthly basis will be difficult to perform using the separate systems currently in place
- PowerSchool will provide automation – giving the ability to schedule reports to generate month after month
- We are currently using three PowerSchool products already: Schoology, Naviance, and Recruitment
- Key benefits of PowerSchool
 - Secured, Unified, and Integrated Data – the reason most organizations have begun using this platform
 - Empower Stakeholders with Key Insights – better communication with parents
 - All Data in One Location
- Implementation – purchase this summer and begin pushing out to schools in fall of 2024

“On the surface, our student information system is where we store our grades, attendance, and other elements of a student’s progress through our system. Under the surface, it’s where we turn student data into knowledge, and hopefully wisdom later on.”

– Jeff T. Blank, Director of IT

Unfinished Business

Consider Repealing Administrative Goals Policy

- Approved

Consider Repealing Superintendent’s Cabinet & Council Policy and Regulations

- Approved

Consider Second Reading of School Attendance Areas Policy

- Approved

Consider Repealing JC – School Attendance Areas

- Approved

New Business

Consider Approval of FY 24 Operating Budget

- Dr. Bohn moved to direct Superintendent Blank to amend the budget in regard to security, with an increase of \$250,000 to fund support of expanding school security needs
 - Approved

Consider Approval of the Special Education Staffing Plan FY 24

- Plan will meet maintenance of effort this year and the criteria established in the IDEA concerning maintenance of effort
- Total expenditures for state and local funds meet FY 24 standard
- Application for federal funds is due and will be submitted on June 14
- Current Allegany County Special Education numbers:
 - 1,199 students receiving special education services
 - Attempt to maintain a ratio of one teacher for every 12-15 students
 - 500 students receive occupational therapy
 - 298 students receive physical therapy
 - 814 students receive speech therapy
 - 98.4 full-time teaching positions
 - 102 instructional assistants
 - 37.5 part-time instructional assistants
 - 29.4 related service providers
 - 26.2 SEFs and Specialists
 - Approved

Vote to meet in Executive Session, August 15, 2023

- Approved