

BOARDROOM CHATTER

PUBLICATION PREPARED BY: THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Board of Education

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Dr. David Cox, Superintendent
Ms. Alexis Lashbaugh, SMOB

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Recognize All State Chorus Students

The school board recognized the following students for their participation in All State Chorus:

- Michael Quach, Mountain Ridge, Jr. All State Chorus
- Guy Witt, Mt. Savage, Jr. All State Chorus
- Jessica Farrell, Mountain Ridge, Sr. All State Treble Chorus
- Eliza Griffith, Allegany, Sr. All State Treble Chorus
- Audrey Jones, Mountain Ridge, Sr. All State Treble Chorus

Recognize Allegany High School Varsity Mock Trial Team State Champions

The school board recognized Allegany High School's varsity Mock Trial team, under the direction of Brian White, as 2018 State Champions for defeating Richard Montgomery High School (Montgomery County) at the Maryland Court of Appeals in Annapolis. These two top high school mock trial teams faced off before Court of Appeals Judge Joseph M. Getty.

Allegany's Varsity Mock Trial Team consists of the following members: Delanie Blubaugh, Umailla Fatima, Ben Fiscus, Clay Hoover, Evan Hostetler, Alexis Lashbaugh, Melissa Magrath, Omaer Naeem, Chris Palasik, Addison Stroup, Hannah Willetts, and Jie Zheng.

Recognize Carson Scholar

The school board recognized Emilia Porter, 8th grade student at Mt. Savage Middle School, for being selected as a 2018 Carson Scholar. Each year, the

Carson Scholars Fund recognizes a select group of high achieving students in grades 4-11 who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and humanitarian qualities. Emilia will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship for her selection.

Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month

Dr. Stephen Thompson, ACPS Assistant Supervisor of Math, recognized Braddock Middle School's Math Counts team for their performance at the Maryland State Math Counts competition. Colin Sheehe, 6th grader, medaled at this event for top scorer at his school and finished 39th out of approximately 300 student finalists. Additionally, he was the only 6th grade representative from Braddock that qualified to attend the Johns Hopkins competition. Colin finished among the top 40 students in the State.

The four-person Braddock team also successfully represented the county with a placement of 14th out of 27 team finalists. The team consisted of Drake Rose, 8th grade; Sofiia Kucher, 8th grade; Cole Fiscus, 7th grade; and Colin Sheehe 6th grade. Also qualifying for the finals were Brianna Palasik, Quinn Cohen, Daniel Gregory, Eli Litman, Erica Metheny, and Ian Kiddy. The Math Counts team is coached by Ray Short and Sheila Greise.

Recognize Student Volunteers of the Month and Service Star Recipients

The school board honored the following students for being selected

as Student Volunteers of the Month this school year:

- September – Aisa Wrights and Alexis Lashbaugh
- October – Samuel Arnone and Umailla Fatima
- November – Delanie Blubaugh and Ashley Armbruster
- December – Eliza Jackowski and Madison McKay
- January – Rachel Hare and Audrey Jones
- February – Emily Welch and Peyton Porter
- March – Jocelyn Weston and Grace McGraw
- April – Haley Llewellyn and Morgan Edwards

Student volunteers are nominated by teachers for demonstrating outstanding service to their schools and community.

The school board also recognized Samuel Arnone, Umailla Fatima, William Burke, and Chloe Wildman as 2018 Service Stars. These students are nominated by high school service-learning coordinators for displaying exemplary attributes and dedication to the field of service within their schools and community. These students also exceeded expectation for the district's service-learning graduation requirement and are excellent role models for other students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT CONT.

Recognize ACASC Executive Board Members and Advisors

The school board recognized the following executive board members of the Allegany County Association of Student Councils for their service during the 2017-2018 school year:

- Alexis Lashbaugh – Student Member of the Board
- Delanie Blubaugh – President
- Peyton Porter – Parliamentarian
- Jocelyn Weston – Public Relations Officer
- Umailla Fatima – Secretary
- Haley Llewellyn – Second Vice President
- Rachel Hare – Fort Hill Representative
- Madison McKay – Career Center Representative
- Morgan Edwards – Environmental Affairs Coordinator

The school board also honored the following student council advisors:

- Washington Middle School – Beth Harper
- Braddock Middle School – Chase Crislip
- Mt. Savage Middle School – John Shaw
- Westmar Middle School – Christon Wilson
- Allegany High School – Tammy Twigg
- Mountain Ridge High School – Megan Bittinger
- Career Center – Brenda Blackburn
- Fort Hill High School – Robby May and Yvonne Imes

Recognize Superintendent's Student Advisory Council Members

Dr. Cox honored the following students for their commitment and service over the past school year on his Student Advisory Council: Alexis Lashbaugh, Delanie Blubaugh, Morgan Edwards, Peyton Porter, Jocelyn Weston, Umailla Fatima, Haley Llewellyn, Rachel Hare, Carmel Fox, Courtney Schlotterbeck, Madison McKay, Emily Welch, Grace McGraw, Audrey Jones, and Katie Sterne.

Introduce Allegany County Teacher of the Year

The school board honored Westernport Elementary School teacher, Tiffany Moran, for being named the 2018-2019 Allegany County Teacher of the Year. Tiffany is a 2004 graduate for Frostburg State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. She has continued her education with Master level classes at Walden University. Tiffany is a fourteen-

year veteran at Westernport Elementary, where she has taught first and third grades as well as reading intervention. She is an active member of the school's PBIS team, the MCIE Leadership team, and the Partnership Action Team. In 2017, Tiffany began teaching English as a second language through VIPKid.

Present Proclamation Recognizing April as Library Media Month

The school board presented a proclamation to Dr. Lisa Stevenson, ACPS Coordinator of Library Media, recognizing April as Library Media Month.

The library media program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. The library media specialist's role is to provide the leadership and expertise necessary to ensure that the library media program is an integral part of the instructional program of the school.

The school board has entrusted the library media specialist in each school to teach the skills of locating and using information through traditional resources and new technologies, to provide literature appreciation activities, and to guide and encourage content and recreational reading to every student.

Lifelong learning begins and is systematically developed through the library media curriculum of the elementary and secondary schools. The library media program contributes to the individual growth and development of all students, while fostering both excellence and equity in education.

Consider Approving the Purchase of Furniture for New Allegany High School

The school board heard a presentation from Kieran Wilmes, partner at Grimm and Parker Architects, and Kerry Hill, senior associate at Grimm and Parker Architects, on the recommend furniture for the new Allegany High School. The selected furniture type was based on input provided by teachers, staff, and administrators through a survey developed by Grimm and Parker.

Samples of the classroom furniture were provided and evaluated by the staff and administrators. The selection of the furniture and purchase recommendations are based on expected durability, the preferences of staff, and cost. Additional furnishings, not available through a previously bid contract will be purchased separately. This will include some specialized furniture for the ALL science labs, shop equipment for technology labs, art rooms, and additional computer labs.

The contracts for the purchase of furniture total \$517,968.48. This purchase will be funded through an appropriation of the County's casino gaming funds and remaining construction contingency funds. Members voted to approve this purchase.

Consider Approving the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar

The school board voted to approve the 2018-2019 academic calendar. The calendar can be viewed on the school system's website at www.acpsmd.org.

Consider Approving the Health Care Management Bids

The school board approved renewing three and four year contracts with the school system's current providers – Cigna, Delta Dental, and NVA. After reviewing RFPs from several other providers, it was recommended by staff and a third party administrator to continue with the current providers.

Consider Approving Request for a Post-Labor Day Waiver from MSDE

The school board voted to approve the request by Dr. Cox to submit a waiver to the Maryland State Department of Education for a post Labor Day start for the 2018-2019 school year.

Consider First Reading of Policy for Board Meetings (File: BE)

The school board approved the first reading of the above policy, whose purpose is "to establish guidelines for conducting business, receiving and/or discussing matters of concern, and providing an opportunity for citizens to voice opinions or identify problems in an orderly and efficient manner."

Consider First Reading of Policy for Student Financial Obligations (File: JN)

The school board approved the first reading of the above policy, which states, "Students who have lost, damaged, or destroyed textbooks or library books, equipment or other school property are to be responsible and

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Consider the Second Reading of Policy for Federal Awards and Grants (File: DDC)

The school board approved the second reading of the above policy, whose purpose states, "The Super Circular has imposed a duty on a recipient of federal awards to establish written procedures to comply with federal requirements in order to receive federal awards. As to all federal awards, Allegany County Public Schools is required to establish written procedures for 1) administration of funds; 2) determining the allowability of costs; 3) regulating procurement; and 4) identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest.

accountable for such items. The student may be charged a reasonable amount for such damage or loss, with consideration for the age and condition of the items. Students who do not satisfy financial obligations owed to ACPS may be denied certain privileges including but not limited to participating in graduation ceremonies."

Consider Repealing Policy for Grouping for Instruction (File: IHA)

The school board voted to repeal the above policy from 1993 that stated, "Children will be grouped for instruction within a school and within a classroom so that each child may learn to a greater extent than otherwise possible."

Vote to Meet in Executive Session in May

The school board voted to meet in Executive Session on May 8, 2018.