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BOARDROOM CHATTER

Prepared by Public Information Officer

February 13, 2024

The Board Office of Allegany County Public Schools

Consent Agenda

Early Childhood Center to be built at Washington Middle School

- ACPS working in collaboration with the state and county

New Lighting Installed at Greenway Avenue Stadium

- Greenway Avenue Stadium Committee, along with other community members made the project possible
- Project was completed during the off-time so as not to disrupt any extracurricular activities

Superintendent's Report

Maryland School Board Recognition Month

- January was School Board Recognition Month
 - Received a proclamation from the Governor, for dedication and work for the school board
 - Received a certificate from the Maryland State School Board for work and dedication to the school board and for helping students and community of Allegany County



Pictured left to right: Tammy Fraley, Dr. David Bohn, Robert Farrell, Crystal Bender, and Lori Lepley

Superintendent's Report (cont.)

Present Proclamation Recognizing February as African American History Month

- Presented by Mrs. Crystal Bender to the Allegany Chapter 7007 of the NAACP
- Dr. Sarah Welsh accepted on behalf of Ms. Tifani Fisher

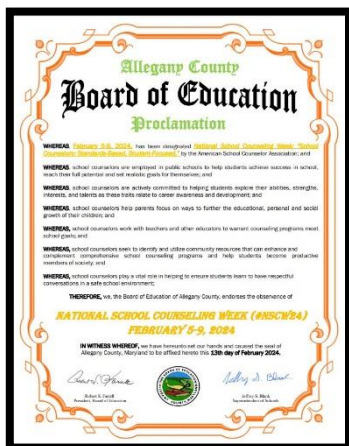
"I appreciate the opportunity to receive this proclamation on behalf of the NAACP Chapter 707. I'd like to point out, in the 2023 Voice of Freedom Awards, one of our own school counselors, Dr. Kristine Jackson, won that educator award for the year."

- Dr. Sarah Welsh
Assistant Supervisor of Student Services & Equity Coordinator



Present Proclamation Recognizing School Counselor Week – February 5-9, 2024

- Presented by Ms. Lori Lepley to Dr. Sarah Welsh



"Thank you again so much for the opportunity to receive this on behalf of our school counselors. They absolutely are the glue that sticks our schools together and keeps them running. We for sure appreciate our counselors, and ACPS has really tried to take the opportunity to expand that celebration and recognize our Mental Health Specialists and our school social workers also who have become such a strong part of that team and supporting the school counselors in all the different ways to really identify and support students in the best way that we can while they're with us in the buildings."

- Dr. Sarah Welsh
Assistant Supervisor of Student Services & Equity Coordinator

Superintendent's Report (cont.)

Present Proclamation Recognizing February as Career and Technical Education Month

- Presented by Dr. David Bohn to Mr. Joe Brewer on behalf of Mr. Richard King, Principal of CTE

“Thank you for recognizing CTE month and providing the support for all of our CTE programs whether it’s at the Career Center or at our comprehensive high schools. Mr. King wanted to make sure I highlighted our exceptional staff at the Career Center, on both the skill side and the academic side. These teachers go beyond what they need to do to prepare our students for success in the workforce and also for post-secondary education. We are proud of our students, the hard work that they’ve done and the skill set that they really get at the end of their career.”

- Mr. Joe Brewer
CTE Supervisor



Finance

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

Draft State Aid

- Snapshot of state aid received as part of the governor's budget.
 - Foundation Programs – for all students
 - Transportation Grants – applies to regular transportation as well as for special education programs
 - Compensatory Education – students who have free and reduced meals

Finance (cont.)

Draft State Aid

- English Learners – students with English as a second language
- Special Education – students who require additional support
- Guaranteed Tax Base – One of 8 districts in the state to receive this benefit
- Blueprint Transition Grant Program – setting the state for the full implementation of Blueprint
- College & Career Readiness
- Concentration of Poverty – receiving funds to help certain impoverished areas of our community
- Transitional Supplemental Instruction
- Pre-Kindergarten
- Teacher Salary Career Ladder
- School district wealth is based on:
 - Half of the personal property base
 - 100% of the net taxable income base
 - 40% of the real property base
- Allegany County's wealth decreased significantly this year, by 12.15%
 - Only district that did decline in wealth, increasing additional state aid
- Enrollment has a direct impact on state aid
 - Allegany County had a slight decrease of 3.50 students
 - The number of students who qualify for free and reduced meals increased
 - The number of special education students increased by 117
 - The state's overall enrollment increased by 1,126
- CARES Funding
 - Final funding goes away September 30, 2024
- PSSAM and MABE continue to monitor several bills which could potentially impact school system finances

Unfinished Business

Consider Second Reading of Behavioral Threat Assessment Policy

- Approved

New Business

Consider First Reading of Early Admission Policy

- Approved

New Business (cont.)

Consider Regulation of Procurement of Goods and/or Services

- No objections

Vote to meet in Executive Session March 12, 2024

- Approved

Reports of Special of Advisory Committees

Board Member Updates

- Reminder to the public, the Hooley Plunge is scheduled for Saturday, March 2nd. It does provide some funding to our students.