



BOARD BRIEFING

An Update from the GCPS Public Relations Office



Public Session 12/10/24

Recognitions

- On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jason VanSickle recognized Crellin Elementary School as the only 2022-23 Five-Star Title I school in Maryland. Dana McCauley, Principal; Carrie Hordubay, Amanda Maybe, Jennifer Rohrbaugh, and Brittany German, Teachers, were present to receive the recognition. The school also received a check for a pizza party from Andrew S. Woods Memorial Scholarships.



New Business

- Dr. Brenda McCartney, Superintendent, shared the legislative position statements for the 2025 General Assembly. She received comments from the Board, but no action was taken as this was an informational item.
- Dr. Brenda McCartney requested the Board approve seeking a waiver from the State Board to use Monday, February 17, 2025, and Monday, April 21, 2025, as make-up days for the two inclement weather days incurred thus far. The Board voted unanimously to approve this request. This request will go to the State Board for approval at their January meeting.

Policies and Procedures

- Mr. John Hummel, Director of Student Services, and Mrs. Rebecca Aiken, School Health Nurse Manager, presented the draft JLIE Student Sunscreen Use and Sun

Safety Policy and Procedure to the Board for review. The Board commented on the Policy & Procedure. They also recommended revisions to the JLCE First Aid and Emergency Medical Care Policy and Procedure. The Board is expected to take action on these policies during the January Board meeting under the consent agenda.

Continuing Business

- Dr. Nicole Miller, Chief Academic Officer, presented the GCPS Strategic Plan, which is aligned with the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, for Board review. The Board was complimentary of the plan. This was an informational item. No action was taken.

Student Board Member Report

Ms. Cadence Natividad, Student Member of the Board, shared the following updates:

Student Reports

- Athletics—Winter sports have begun. The NGHS flag football team is the state champion, and the NGHS Football team placed second in the state's 1A division.
- Arts—Isabelle Savage & Lani Daughtery competed in the "Rethink Recycling" sculpture competition. Savage earned second place in people's choice.

Student Council (GCASC)

- GCASC held its first General Assembly at the PAC, led by President Kambria Kyle.
- The Winter Leadership Conference will occur on Jan 15th.
- SGHS 7th-8th grades are running a food drive.
- SGHS 9th-12th hosted a Ram Rumble in November. Currently they are hosting the light display at Broadford Park. They also have "Operation Gift Giving" taking place in December.
- NGMS held a "Turkey Tuesday for Giving Thanks" event supporting needy families. They also provided blankets for Appalachian Crossroads. The school is having a Holiday Dance Party on Dec 13th.

- NGHS students are collecting orders for butter braids. They are also planning the Dec 20th War of the Classes.

SMOB Initiatives/Agenda

- She received approved student outreach and will visit all schools in the coming year.

Board Member Updates

- Mr. Rodney Glotfelty attended the Elf Jr. production by the SGHS Junior Theatre. He was complimentary of the performance. Mrs. Sadie Liller also attended the production. She was complimentary of the performance and the teamwork displayed.
- Mr. Tom Woods recognized the NGHS Football team for making it to the state championship and was complimentary of the way the staff and players finished out the season.
- Mr. Jason VanSickle announced that they will be hosting the FBLA groups. They are also planning for the Real Deal events at both NGHS and SGHS.
- Mr. Woods indicated that the GCPS Foundation has received numerous mini-grant applications.
- Mr. VanSickle thanked the Board and community members for allowing him to serve. He encouraged everyone to continue reaching out to the Board.

Superintendent Updates

Dr. McCartney provided the following updates:

- She noted the many events taking place at various schools leading up to the holiday break and noted to contact the schools for more info.
- She announced that the progress reports for the second grading period are scheduled for release on Monday, December 16th.
- She noted a 3-hour early dismissal on Fri, Dec 20th, and that GCPS will be closed Dec 23rd-Jan 1st.
- Finally, she spoke of Jason VanSickle's tenure on the Board and thanked him for his service, including programs he is involved with in our schools.

Public Comment

- Mrs. Stephanie Boyd, a parent, spoke to the Board about the proposed changes to Accident Elementary and the Northern Garrett Educational Campus. She provided statistics

from a study performed regarding school closures and student performance. She asked that the Board make an evidence-based decision on the future of the schools.

- Mrs. Jes Brown, a parent, addressed the Board regarding the proposed relocation of Accident Elementary. She provided the Board members with the results of the AES PTO survey.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in the Cafeteria of Northern Middle School in Accident, MD. The executive session will start at 2:30 p.m., the public session at 4:00 p.m., and a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. Details of the meeting will be announced ahead of time.