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The Board of Education of Harford County met for an open business meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013 in the Board Room of the HCPS/A.A. Roberty Building and took the following actions or received the following presentations:

- Recognized the following:
 - Hall of Fame Educator – Dr. Dennis L. Kirkwood
 - Hickory Elementary School, Maryland Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education School Award
 - Ms. Jessica Hoover, Outstanding Educator in Gifted and Talented Education
 - 2012 National Board Certified Teachers
- Board President Rick Grambo read the following statement regarding the superintendent search process:
“As you are aware, on Monday, February 4, Superintendent Robert M. Tomback announced that at the conclusion of his term in June he would be moving on to pursue other opportunities. As he moves forward, we wish Dr. Tomback well on his future endeavors and are grateful for his service to our students, staff and community over the last four years.

Upon receiving this information, my Board colleagues and I immediately began working to create a timeline and process for selecting Dr. Tomback’s successor. While we, as a community, have the critical task of selecting the next Superintendent to lead our school system, we must ensure that this process does not interfere with our mission and responsibility of instructing our students and preparing them for a successful life beyond Harford County Public Schools. In order to allow more time to sufficiently gather feedback and input from the parents, students, staff and community regarding desired criteria for our next Superintendent, we have decided that it would be prudent to appoint an interim superintendent to serve a one-year term.

We are currently working to select an Interim Superintendent and hope to make an announcement by June 10 of this school year. The Interim Superintendent will be allowed to apply for the permanent position.

This Board feels it is vital that it seek input from all of our stakeholders before making the decision to appoint the next Superintendent.

The search for the permanent Superintendent will commence in the fall and will begin with the critical task of developing the criteria for the selection of the next Superintendent of Harford County Public Schools. We are committed to communicating with you regularly throughout the search process. A communication plan and search process timeline will be developed over the summer and made promptly

available to the public. We encourage you to become involved in the search process for the permanent Superintendent as this decision is one that affects all of us.”

- Approved the Consent Agenda:
 - Minutes of Previous Board Meeting: February 11, 2013
 - Monthly Report on Personnel
 - [Resolutions](#):
 - Gifted and Talented Education Month
 - National Music in Our Schools and Youth Art Month
 - Maryland Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day
 - Decision on School/Organization Sponsored Project: Norrisville Elementary School [Bioretention and Rain Garden Facilities](#)
 - Decision on School/Organization Sponsored Project: Patterson Mill Middle/High School [Riparian Forest Buffer Planting](#)
- Approved the appointment of Ms. Jennifer R. Myers to the position of Pupil Personnel Worker (PPW). Ms. Myers currently serves as a school counselor at the Alternative Education Program at the Center for Educational Opportunity in Aberdeen.
- Received a presentation on the following HCPS Board Policies:
 - [Advertising](#) (Policy No. 06-0024-000)
 - [Memorials on School Grounds](#) (Policy No. 06-0025-000)
 - [Naming of Public School Buildings or Facilities](#) (Policy No. 20-0024-000)
- Received a [presentation](#) on the Strategic Plan Update #4 which reviews data from the Student and Parent Satisfaction Survey. Presenters were Teri Kranefeld, manager of communications; Leeann Schubert, coordinator of school improvement; and, Phil Snyder, supervisor of accountability.
- Received a presentation regarding the [Legislative Update](#) by Kathy Carmello, coordinator of government relations. Voted to accept section one of the Legislative Update as presented.
- During the Superintendent’s Report:
 - Announced that several students at Havre de Grace High School will be participating in the Verizon Wireless Educational Empowerment Program. This program will provide an opportunity to help further the collegiate studies and enhance the career development for these students. It is also Verizon’s goal through this program to enhance the teaching and learning environment by introducing students and teachers to wireless technology, products and services.

The Havre de Grace High School administration will be the facilitators of this program, and the students who participate will be provided with a Samsung Galaxy Tablet, wireless service to access the use of the Android application, and an online social learning tool for education entitled, Edmodo. Bi-weekly workshops conducted by Verizon Wireless employees will inspire and empower students to pursue higher education and assist them in career planning. The presentation will take place on Thursday, February 28, 2013, at Havre de Grace High School at 12:45 p.m. in the Havre de Grace High School auditorium.

- Regarding our academic calendar for this school year, the last day of school, as of today, will be Friday, June 14 for kindergarten through 11th grade students and Wednesday, June 12 for our pre-K students. As communicated through the Parent-Student Handbook Calendar distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year, parents were asked to plan on Monday, June 17th as the last day of school with eight inclement weather make-up days used. We have used four of those inclement weather make-up days resulting in the last day of school being Friday, June 14. In addition, Tuesday, April 30th will now be a regular school day.

A common misconception exists regarding waivers at the state level. Regardless as to whether the Governor declares a State of Emergency during an inclement weather event, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) would still need to approve any days to be

waived. MSDE expects a reasonable effort to be made to make-up lost school days to ensure 180 days of instruction before waivers are submitted. Therefore, waivers are not reviewed by MSDE until after the inclement weather season concludes. Information regarding inclement weather make-up days has been posted on the homepage of the school system website and will be updated as we move through the remainder of the inclement weather season.

- The top five finalists for the 2013 Harford County Teacher of the Year award were released today. The judging panel had a difficult and unenviable task again this year with many outstanding teachers nominated for the award. Just to have been deemed worthy by a student, parent, administrator or community member to be Harford County's Teacher of the Year from among the more than 3,200 teachers in the system is remarkable. Our five finalists are as follows in alphabetical order:
 - **Tara N. Buecker**, *Jarrettsville Elementary School Physical Education/Health Teacher*
 - **J. Laura Childs**, *Edgewood High School English Teacher*
 - **Kimberly A. Harner**, *Southampton Middle School Special Educator*
 - **Kristine E. M. Jurgs**, *Southampton Middle School Special Educator*
 - **Kristin M. Schaub**, *Havre de Grace Elementary School Fifth Grade Teacher*

After this year's Teacher of the Year Judging Committee reviewed and scored all nomination packets, the points were tallied resulting in a group of ten candidates that participated in an interview with a panel of eight judges. The judges narrowed the pool to the top five finalists, one of which will be crowned the 2013 Harford County Teacher of the Year.

A surprise announcement of the winner will take place at the annual Harford County Teacher of the Year banquet to be held on Wednesday, March 27, at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace. Again this year, the banquet is being provided by HARCO Federal Credit Union with numerous outstanding Harford County businesses donating gifts to our finalists.

The next Board of Education business meeting will be held on Monday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m. All Board meetings are held at the A.A. Roberty Building in Bel Air. To access all future Board meeting dates, log onto the school system website at www.hcps.org.