AGENDA

I. Call to Order and Roll Call – Mr. Troy Andersen, Chair & Ms. Betty Jane Duncan, Deputy Clerk

II. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Andersen & Ms. Campbell Farina, SAC Representative

III. Approval of FY’16 Budget – Mr. Andersen & Dr. Walter Clemons, Superintendent

IV. Approval of GCPS Comprehensive Plan – Mr. Andersen & Dr. Clemons

V. Highlights from Black History Month Activities – Ms. LaQuiche Parrott & Ms. Sherri Miller

VI. Informational Report Mathematics Mid-Year Review – Mr. Alvin Coleman & Ms. Melanie Jenkins

VII. Informational Presentation on GHS e-Backpack Implementation – Mr. Coleman & Mr. David Pluim, Ms. Erin Pluim and Mr. Zach Pickard

VIII. Recommended Secondary Mathematics Textbook Adoption – Mr. Coleman


X. Update on Academic Reviews @ Page and GHS – Dr. Chuck Wagner

XI. Discussion of Lesson Plans – Ms. Kim Hensley

X. Public Announcements – Mr. Andersen
   A. County’s Public Hearing on Budget/Tax Rates – 7:00 pm on Monday, March 23, 2015 @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)
   B. Joint Budget Meeting w/Board of Supervisors – 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 26, 2015 @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)
   C. Makeup Day – School in Session – Friday, April 3, 2015
   D. Spring Break-All GCPS Schools and Offices Closed – Monday-Friday, April 6-10, 2015
(12-month employees on annual leave April 9-10)
E. Next Monthly School Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 7:00 pm @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)

XI. Call for Adjournment – Mr. Andersen
MEETING DATE: March 12, 2015

AGENDA SUBJECT: Black History Month

ATTACHMENTS: Compilation of school activities

TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM:

☐ CONSENT
☐ REGULAR
☒ INFORMATION ONLY – NO DISCUSSION
☐ INFORMATION ONLY – DISCUSSION
☐ DEPARTMENTAL REPORT/PRESENTATION
☐ ACTION

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY:

REQUESTED ACTION:

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT PRESENTER:

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Black History Month Activities

Abingdon Elementary School
- School-wide- School administration will share Black History facts over morning announcements.
- School-wide- School administration will share Black History instructional information with teachers and staff.
- School-wide- Teachers and students will continue to utilize the Standards of Learning (SOLs) to learn and research notable events and people in Black History across the curriculum.
- School-wide- An encouraging quote from Jesse Jackson, Civil Rights Activist is displayed on the school’s marquee supporting diversity: “Our Nation is a Rainbow, we are all precious”.
- School-wide- Bulletin Boards and posters will be displayed throughout the school building highlighting famous African-Americans in history.
- Third Grade Students- Each student will complete research on a Famous African American during technology class. Students will present an oral report using a poster or powerpoint. Famous African Americans that will be study include Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Fourth Grade Students- On February 4 students will begin research projects to include famous African Americans in history.
- Physical Education program- Student will learn about famous African American athletes in the Olympics. A bulletin board with pictures and facts will be used as a teaching tool with students in grades K- 5.

Achilles Elementary School
- Kindergarten focuses on inventors Garrett Morgan, the traffic light; J.A. Burr, the lawn motor; Alfred Cralle, the ice cream scooper; and Oscar Brown, the horseshoe.
- First grade is sharing non-fiction read-alouds, including reader response activities for Black History Month
- Second grade is having several discussions with a large focus on Martin Luther King Jr. We follow the KWL chart in our discussions. We read nonfiction stories for reading about Martin Luther King Jr. and Washington Carver.
- Third grade spends a week of visualizing and retelling in whole group reading using the biographies of Famous Black Americans such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver, Garrett Morgan, and others.
- Fourth grade is ongoing throughout year for Virginia Studies utilizing a Ruby Bridges biography reading lesson, a Black History Month bulletin board, and African Griot Reader’s Theaters.
- Fifth graders focus on the work of Carole Boston Weatherford, an African-American author whose biographies feature many unsung black heroes.

Bethel Elementary School
- Black History month will be celebrated though instruction at every grade level. Students will study famous African Americans in language arts classes. They will read, write and complete various language arts activities about famous African Americans.
- Students will read their written biographies of famous African Americans during the Bethel School News which will be viewed by the entire school.
- Third grade students with complete STEM packets about African American scientists.
- Fourth grade students will learn about the African American experience in colonial Virginia.
- Fifth grade students will complete booklets about the civil rights movement.
- In music class students will learn about African American composers.
Botetourt Elementary School
Lunch buddies and staff mentors have been assigned to 6 African American students in grades K-5.

Third Grade
- We will be reviewing the contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr. through nonfiction text, biographies, and picture books.
- Black History Month BINGO menu of extension projects. Students can choose from over 20 different projects to complete to demonstrate their understanding and appreciation of Black History Month. This is a perfect way to allow for differentiation and it is engaging for students because it provides them choice.
- Students will work with differentiated reading contracts (fictional) books written by notable African American authors.
- A study of African Folktales to include Anasi and John Henry, etc.
- Black History Month Character Education Activity - Daily mini lessons highlighting the contributions of a Black American.
- The African nation of Mali and its contributions will be taught in Social Studies

Online Resources that will be used:
- Black History Month Lesson Plans from TeacherVision https://www.teachervision.com/black-history-month/lesson-plan/48600.html
- Celebrate Black History Month from Education World http://www.educationworld.com/a_special/black_history.shtml
- ABC Teach printables, interactives, worksheets, bulletin board ideas (http://www.abcteach.com/
- Six Teaching Tools for Black History Month from Edutopia http://www.edutopia.org/blog/black-history-month-teaching-resources-matthew-davis
- In Guidance, all children are learning about equality and respect. Several lessons involve Jackie Robinson and Pee Wee Reese.
- In 5th grade, students are researching famous quotes from famous African American musicians, scientists and writers. The students are required to write the famous quote and then interpret the quote in his/her own words using complete sentences, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.
- 1st grade students learn history all year long that focuses on African Americans, women and other diverse groups. George Washington Carver, Thomas Calhoun Walker Martin Luther King are just a few of the famous Americans studied. The children complete projects on these and other famous Americans.

Music
- In K, 1st and 2nd grade we sing songs about "Martin Luther King," sing and study spirituals, study Africa and African beats, and jazz.
- 3rd grade we study jazz, spirituals, freedom songs and a song about "Rosa Parks".
- 4th and 5th grade we study African rhythms and their influence on music in America with the song "Follow the Drinking Gourd" and discuss the Underground Railroad and Harriet Tubman. We also touch slightly on jazz and blues music, and sing the freedom song "We Shall Overcome" as we incorporate part of Martin Luther King’s "I Have A Dream" speech.

Computer Resource Lab
- Kindergarten and 1st grade students will watch a short video about Civil Rights and the Underground Railroad. Then they will use Microsoft Paint to complete a sensory chart to describe what they might see, hear, feel, taste, and/or smell if they were a slave escaping on the Underground Railroad.
- 2nd grade students will use Microsoft Word to complete a fill in the blank activity titled "I Have a Dream, Too."
- 3rd grade students will experience an E-Learning Journey through the Underground Railroad that will
showcase why people fought for equal civil rights for all.  http://education.nationalgeographic.com/media/richmedia/0/195/project/j1.html

- 4th grade students will open a PowerPoint template titled "My Dream for..." and practice using PowerPoint to create a slideshow telling what their dream is for..."me, my family, Gloucester, Virginia, humanity, the world, etc."
- 5th grade students will experience an E-Learning Journey through the Civil Rights Era that will showcase this year’s Black History Month Theme: Civil Rights in America. http://www.civilrightsmuseum.org/BeforeTheBoycott/index.html

Petsworth Elementary School
- Kindergarten – Studying the history behind Martin Luther King Jr. and selectively chosen stories about famous Black Americans.
- Grade 1 - We worked cooperatively with second grade and have put up a Martin Luther King bulletin board in the 1st/2nd grade hall. We will study George Washington Carver this spring in conjunction with our science unit on plants.
- Grade 2 - We will be learning about Jackie Robinson. We will complete a timeline of important events in his life, cloze passage, quiz, and watch discovery streaming videos. We just studied MLK, so students will compare their lives and complete a writing prompt: If I lived during segregation....
- Grade 3 – In reading the students will be incorporating famous black Americans into the biography unit that she is currently teaching. This will also overlap with our social studies SOLs.
- Grade 4 - Students are reading passages about famous African-Americans. We have already written MLK bios, and we are writing 100 word essays (in honor of 100 days of school) about other historic African-Americans. The students get to choose their person, then choose a character trait that they exemplify. Since we are studying story elements, we will be looking at alternate ways to tell stories. We will look at examples of African American story quilts. We will put the writing with quilt squares the students design to tell their own stories. In Virginia Studies we will discuss the African's influence on Jamestown, Life in the Colony, and during the Revolutionary war. I will mention Harriet Tubman, Crispus Attucks, and the Black Regiments.
- Grade 5 – The students will focus on a group of male and female scientists and inventors who have made significant contributions to our culture. After a brief audiovisual presentation on each, there is a short assessment.

Page Middle School
- Civics - To celebrate Black History Month, the Civics Department has been studying famous African American Politicians and will continue to explore their contributions to our country in the next unit.
- Language Arts - The Language Arts Department just began unit one on etymology, paired texts, and sentence structure.
  - Mr. Stewart plans to use nonfiction and poetry related to the Civil Rights events in Birmingham in 1963.
  - Mrs. Drake has been teaching a unit on Marion Anderson using u-tube videos. The students are comparing an article about her struggles to her biography. They are also reading a children's book called When Marion Sang and comparing it to an article on African American heroes. The students have also read an article on Rosa Parks, Langston Hughes, Thurgood Marshall, and Jackie Robinson. They are comparing these Americans and discussing that they are African Americans that worked for equality. They also have to explain how they achieved this status of being a heroic African Americans. Mrs. Drake and Mrs. Carter plan to also explore the life of Martin Luther King Jr. in an upcoming unit.
Gloucester High School

- Mr. Eccleston’s Government classes spent a great deal of time in January studying the Civil Rights Movement, reviewing important people, places, and events in the shaping of African-American history in the 20th century.

- In Mr. Eccleston’s World War II class, they will read First-Person accounts of segregated military units, review photos, and discuss the 93rd Infantry Division (All-Black). The class will view slides of the Tuskegee Airmen and watch the movie Redtails, then go on to discuss the importance of Truman’s desegregation of the US military in 1947.

- Students in Ms. Johnson’s Health and Medical Sciences classes will watch the video “Gifted Hands” which is the story of Ben Carson, head of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University.

- Students in Ms. Sandifer’s Biology & Anatomy classes, will learn about Charles Drew, the African-American doctor that founded what is now the American Red Cross. The classes will discuss his other ground breaking work on blood studies and his medical contributions on the battlefield during WWI.

- For Black History month the students will in Ms. Blanton’s Spanish classes will study George Washington Carver. Students will read and translate a paragraph about Mr. Carver, and then they will participate orally by sharing one sentence at a time in both Spanish & English. In addition, students will be going over Latin American countries and making connections to their African-American cultural heritage.

- Mr. Ashworth’s French II students will be researching Victor Schoelcher and his movement to abolish slavery in the French colonies during the 19th century. The student’s curriculum is set on the island of Martinique for chapter 4 and this research enables them to understand the importance of Schoelcher’s work and the impact that it had for the people of this island. The students in French III will be researching Léopold Senghor and the impact that he had on the political history of free Sénégal in the mid-20th century and the importance of his writings to Black literature during this period. The student’s curriculum is set in Sénégal for chapter 5 and this research enables them to understand Senghor’s impact on Sénégal, Africa, France and the growing importance of Black literature during this period. The students in French IV will be researching African art and music and its impact on the 20th century.