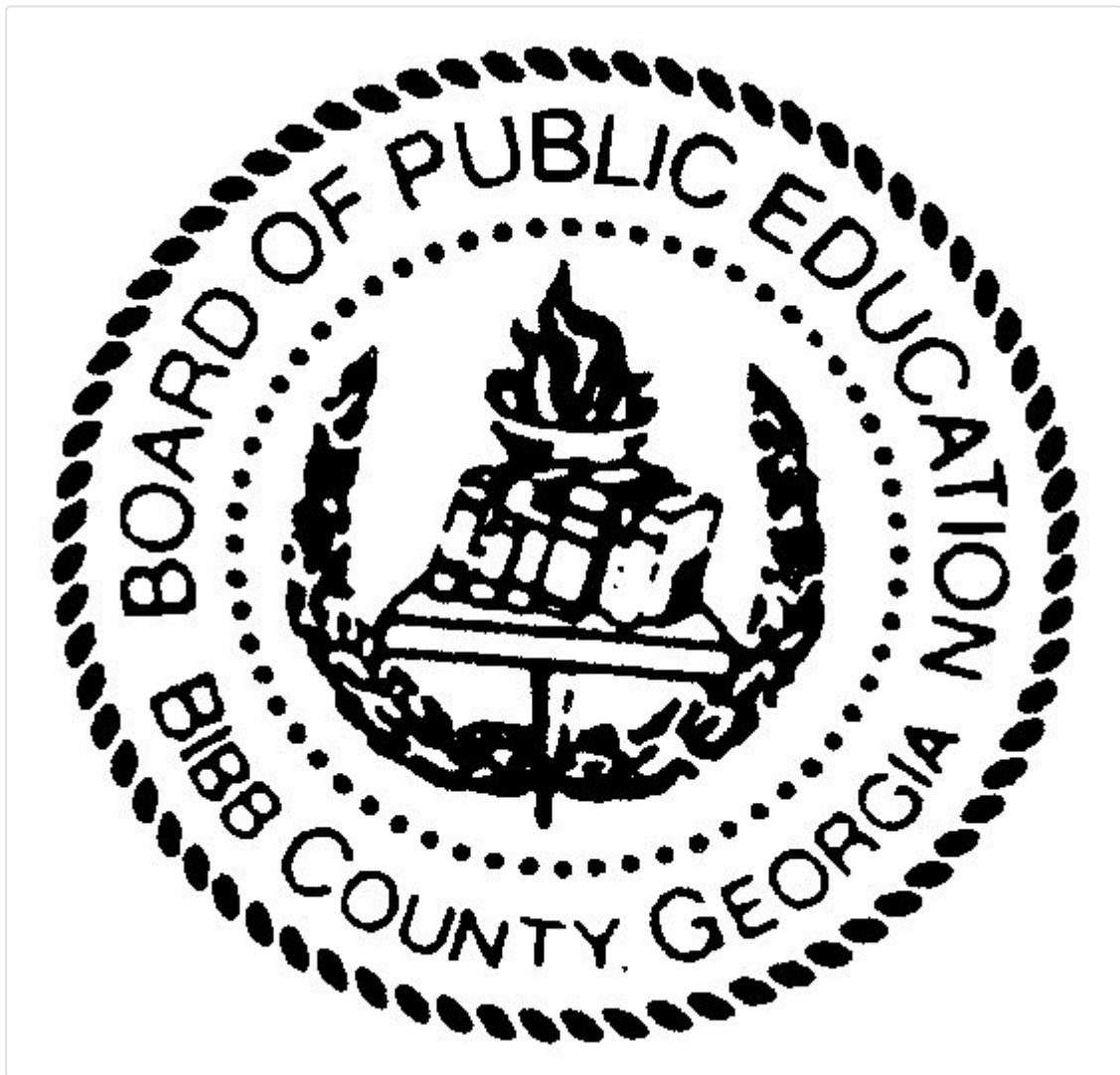


The Board Brief

January 19, 2023



This edition of The Board Brief is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education's meetings on January 19, 2023.

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Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Dan A. Sims shared a few of the highlights from the past month:

- **ARTWORK:** Thank you to Howard High School for the beautiful artwork featured in the Professional Learning Center this month! January is the month of new beginnings and resolutions. January is also named for the god "Janus" who had two faces – one face looking forward toward the future, but the other face looking to the past. The year 2023 is a year of renewal while at the same time we remember past experiences, so we asked our Howard High art students to read poetry about making choices and create artwork inspired by one of the given poems. The poems included were "Declaration" by Fred Appelhanz, "Invictus" by William E. Henley, "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost, and "Perseverance" by Johann W. von Goethe. We also asked students to share their goals and dreams for 2023 and these are reflected in the photos you see.
- **ATHLETIC CERTIFICATIONS:** Recently, three of our athletic administrators were recognized with certification by the NIAAA - National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. This voluntary certification process involves evaluation of each candidate's background and experience, as well as a written examination, and accepted candidates join "an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide." Congratulations to: Kevin Grooms, District Athletic Director, a Certified Master Athletic Administrator; Jennifer Raymond, Miller Magnet Middle School, a Certified Athletic Administrator; and Dr. Candice Roberson, Westside High School, a Certified Athletic Administrator.
- **WESTSIDE TENNIS CENTER:** This week, Westside High School and Sheridan Construction hosted a ribbon-cutting for the new tennis center at Westside. This center is home to six new courts, bleachers, sheltered areas and even pickleball markings on some of the courts. "I know athletics saved me as a kid, and I'm just glad that we have this opportunity today," Westside athletic director Dr. Candice Roberson told the crowd. On a special note – the photos featured in the presentation were taken by Westside High Class of 2022 graduate Romondo McCrary, who received a tennis scholarship to Fort Valley State University, where he is currently enrolled.
- **BIBB INDUSTRY TOURS:** Thank you to the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority for hosting an Industry Day for about 30 counselors and principals from our middle and high schools. During this full-day event, participants toured numerous industries to learn about the opportunities available to students after graduation. Thank you to Coca-Cola Bottling Company, UNITED Inc., Amazon.com, J.D. Irving Limited, Elliott Machine Shop, YKK USA, Kumho Tire USA and Dean Baldwin Painting for opening your doors to our educators! We are thankful to collaborate with MBCIA and industries to provide students with the ability to build skill-sets that match the real-world opportunities available to them.
- **LITTLE FREE LIBRARY:** It's important for our students to have access to opportunities, and last week Hartley Elementary School held a ribbon cutting for a new opportunity that will give back and support the community! Hartley Elementary's new Little Free Library allows students to borrow books to read at any time by simply walking up and choosing one from the shelves. Community partners are invited to donate their favorite books to the library, which is part of the school's selection for the Impact Library Award – the grant that funded this Little Free Library.
- **REACH SCHOLARS:** This month, we surprised middle school students around the district by letting them know they are REACH Scholars! The REACH Scholarship Program was launched in 2012 and is a needs-based mentorship and scholarship program designed to encourage students, starting in middle school, to persist in their educational pursuits.

Students are provided with the academic, social and financial support needed to graduate from high school, attend college, achieve post-secondary success and be prepared for the 21st century workforce. [Watch a video about these students here.](#)

- **RUTLAND AG BARN:** The District officially opened the new barn for the agriculture departments at Rutland High and Rutland Middle this month. This barn was funded through the American Recovery Plan and will support an ongoing partnership with Newberry Dairy as well as other livestock initiatives. "We're not just here to cut a ribbon on a building," Rutland High Principal Dr. Wendy Pooler shared with the crowd. "We're here to signify that an investment has been made for our students." The agriculture programs at Rutland are a continuation of a sustained effort throughout the schools in the lower Bibb County zone.
- **CAMPUS POLICE:** Thank you to the amazing administrative team at Weaver Middle School. They "SHOWED UP" and showed out. Not only did they recognize their School Resource Officer, but they also recognized the entire Campus Police Department this week by blessing them with a delicious Appreciation Luncheon.
- **ON THE HORIZON: SHOW UP!:** This week we are celebrating the launch of our SHOW UP Initiative! What exactly is the SHOW UP Initiative, you may ask? Well, let's watch this video together by Southwest High School, the winner of the SHOW UP video competition: https://youtu.be/glrR_qy-Kq4.
- **DUAL ENROLLMENT:** W.S. Hutchings College & Career Academy at 1780 Anthony Road will host an information night on Dual Enrollment on January 26 from 5 PM to 7 PM. All 9th - 11th grade students and parents need to attend this event to learn how to prepare your student for college while they are still in high school!
- **PRE-K REGISTRATION:** Dr. Sims sat down this month with Olena Stadnik-Floore, the Director of Elementary Programs, to discuss all things Bibb County Pre-K for his podcast! Pre-K registration is coming up February 1 through 17, so check out the latest "In the Loop With the Supe" to learn how you can register your child! [Listen to the podcast on Apple and Spotify!](#)
- **TEACHER RECRUITMENT:** Come be a part of our team!! Join us for our Recruitment Fair on Saturday, March 4, from 9 AM to 11 at Rutland High School, 6250 Skipper Road off Interstate 75! We would love to see you there, talk to you about the opportunities available in our district, and have you join our team where we are #Built4Bibb!

To view the full slideshow, [click here.](#)

Actions

Board Elects Officers for 2023

On Thursday, January 19, Board members elected new officers for the 2023 calendar year. Juawn Jackson was elected to serve as President, Myrtice C. Johnson was elected to serve as Vice President, and Kristin Hanlon was elected to serve as Treasurer. Outgoing officers for 2021 are Dr. Thelma Dillard, President; Dr. Lisa Garrett, Vice President; and Kristin Hanlon, Treasurer.

Board Approves General Fund Budget Amendment

On Thursday, January 19, Board members approved Budget Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 General Fund Budget. The General Fund Budget is a fluid document, which requires revisions as new data is received from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as from the Bibb County School District expenditure projections. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Budget & Millage Rate Calendar

On Thursday, January 19, Board members approve the District's Proposed FY 2024 Budget and CY 2023 Millage Rate Calendar. This calendar must provide target dates for meetings such as budget work sessions, public hearings, committee, and board meetings for tentative and final adoption of the budget. To view personnel items, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on January 19. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy IFBD - Media Centers
- Policy MFB - Student Teaching and Internships
- Policy BCAC - Special Board Meetings
- Policy BCAE - Public Hearing
- Policy IDA- Basic Program
- Policy KNBA - Complaints about Instructional Materials
- Policy IFAA - Instructional Materials Selection & Adoption

Stakeholders are encouraged to review policies posted after first reading and make public comment via Simbli before the proposed policies are brought back before the Board for action the following month. Simbli may be accessed through the District's website, www.bcsdk12.net, under "About Us" and "Simbli." On [Simbli](#), "Pending Policies" will appear on the right side of the screen.

Information

Board Members Receive Update on District's Magnet Schools

Director of Fine Arts and Magnet Programs, Ben Bridges, presented to the Board Member on January 19th about the districts Magnet schools. The magnet portfolio of schools involves diverse themes aimed at attracting and engaging students in specialized areas of learning. For more information, [click here](#).

District Receives Clean Financial Audit

On Thursday, January 19, Board members learned about the 2022 Fiscal Year Audit, which included no findings. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Review ARP, CARES Funding and Audit Information

On Thursday, January 19, Board members reviewed a presentation regarding ARP and CARES fund updates. For more information, [click here](#).

Bibb Families May Receive Support with Affordable Connectivity Program

The Bibb County School District is partnering with the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to promote the Affordable Connectivity Program to families. As a CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) district, all families with students in the District are eligible for a \$30 monthly credit on internet service through this program (one per household).

The Affordable Connectivity Program is a program administered by the Federal Communications Commission to assist families with access to internet services. GaDOE is working to ensure that all families who are eligible for an ACP credit understand how to apply and receive the monthly credit on internet service. GaDOE has contracted with CTC Technology & Energy to increase the success rate of families enrolling in this free program. CTC will assist districts with promotion, training, and enrollment of families into the program.

This program has a long-term funding source that is not associated with pandemic relief funds. GaDOE is promoting this program to increase equity of access to internet resources for families. The District is currently working with a CTC representative to schedule staff and family trainings. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Review Capital Improvement Programs

On Thursday, January 19, Board members received an update on the 2016 and 2021 Capital Improvement Programs. This includes the 2016 & 2021 ESPLOST reports. It also includes Bond of 2020 Report and Debt Services Report. For more information, [click here](#).

Investments and Investment Income Report

On Thursday, January 19, Board Members reviewed Investments and Investment Income Report for the five months ending November 30, 2022. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Monthly Financial Reports

On Thursday, January 19, Board members reviewed the District's monthly financial report and previous ESPLOST reports. Board members reviewed a presentation about the Investments and Investment Income. For more information, [click here](#).

Highlights and Recognitions

Meet New Leaders

Conodus Shuman, Director II of School Nutrition

Recognition of 2022 Board President

Service on the Board of Education requires a great deal of commitment and dedication on its own. Adding the responsibility of Board President reflects even more positively on the heart for students that all our members have shown. Dr. Thelma Dillard took on this mantle for the 2022 calendar year. Prior to her service on the Board of Education, Dr. Dillard was a longtime educator and a dedicated steward of what public service and community leadership should look like. Now in her third term as a Board member, her role as President included leading the

Board through the Superintendent selection and hiring process as well as other important endeavors. In honor of her role as President, Dr. Dillard was presented with a commemorative gavel.



Finance Receives GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

One of the District's strategic goals is to be a reliable organization. This effort extends through everything we do, from student services to administration, and it includes our financial practices. Chief Financial Officer Sharon Roberts and members of Finance and Accounting Team were recognized for achieving excellence for the 23rd consecutive year, as determined by the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This award honors our finance and accounting team for comprehensive and transparent annual reports.



Dupree Named Region 2-AA Athletic Director of the Year

Administration of school athletic departments requires more work than most people realize. Beyond coaching duties, athletic directors are tasked with making sure protocols are being followed with regard to rosters, practices and more. Recently, Southwest High School athletic director and football coach Joseph Dupree Jr. was recognized as the Region 2-AA Athletic Director of the Year for his leadership with the Patriots' athletic program.

FFA Winners - Rutland High School



CTAE Highlights Rutland High FFA Winners

Each year, students participate in various competitions and exhibitions as part of the Career, Technical and Agricultural Education program. In honor of the upcoming celebrations of

February as National CTAE Month, at this time, we'd like you to view this highlight video prepared by CTAE students and instructors, which features our FFA students.

Vineville Academy Student Wins Georgia Conservation Poster Contest

The Georgia Association of Conservation Districts hosts an annual poster contest to provide students the opportunity to have their artwork displayed as part of a national initiative. This year's theme was "Healthy Soil, Healthy Life." Vineville Academy of the Arts third grader Aji Wright was selected as the statewide winner in the second- and third-grade category. Aji's work reflected the specific role that quality soil plays in the life cycle for plants and humans as an extension.



Bernd Educator Installed as Georgia Junior Beta State Sponsor

National Beta provides opportunities for students to be enriched and recognized for their academic achievement. This effort requires adult leadership at every level, from local school chapters all the way up to the national organization. Recently, Bernd Elementary School academic coach Christi Williford was installed as a Georgia Junior Beta State Sponsor. This role will require her to help host the state convention over the next two years, as well as presiding over meetings and other duties.



Students Qualify for National Jr. BETA Competition

Additionally, Jr. Beta students from District schools compete in a variety of disciplines against students from across the state as part of state Jr. Beta Convention. This year, several students from Bernd and Springdale elementary schools placed high enough in these competitions to qualify for national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, this June. These students participated in the state convention, located in Savannah, both in person and virtually.

BERND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ben Shoultz, Naomi Pope, Allanah Ware, Passion Solomon - Musicology, Third Place
Ben Shoultz, Messiah Brown, Grace Sinyard, Passion Solomon - Quiz Bowl, Fourth Place
Naomi Pope - Spelling Bee, Fourth Place, Bernd

SPRINGDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Addie May, Lorelai Wall, Siler Hall - Book Battle, First Place
Siler Hall - Fifth Grade Language Arts, Second Place
Ashley Ouyang - Onsite Art Painting, Second Place
Corbin Pendergrass - Performing Arts Vocalist, First Place
Addie May, Lorelai Wall, Piper Reynolds, Ethan Spann - Quiz Bowl, Second Place
Tucker Gilbert - Fourth Grade Science, Fifth Place
Ray Timmerman - Fourth Grade Social Studies, Third Place



Schools Earn PBIS Distinguished School Awards

Proper implementation of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports initiative has been a central part of what we do as a District. Each year, schools are recognized by PBIS for various levels of achievement, with Distinguished School being the highest honor. This year, 18 Bibb County schools were honored as PBIS Distinguished Schools, which reflects exemplary PBIS implementation, as exemplified through data reviews, school visits, and more.

Additionally, three of just seven high schools that received this honor statewide are located in Bibb County.

Alexander II Magnet School
Bruce Elementary School
Carter Elementary School
Central High School
Elam Alexander Academy at Burke
Elam Alexander Academy at Southwest
Hartley Elementary School
Ingram-Pye Elementary School
John R. Lewis Elementary School
Taylor Elementary School
Rutland High School
Skyview Elementary School
SOAR Academy
Southwest High School
Union Elementary School
Veterans Elementary School
Vineville Academy of the Arts
W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy



Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nai'Asia Worthy, 8th Grade, Howard Middle School

