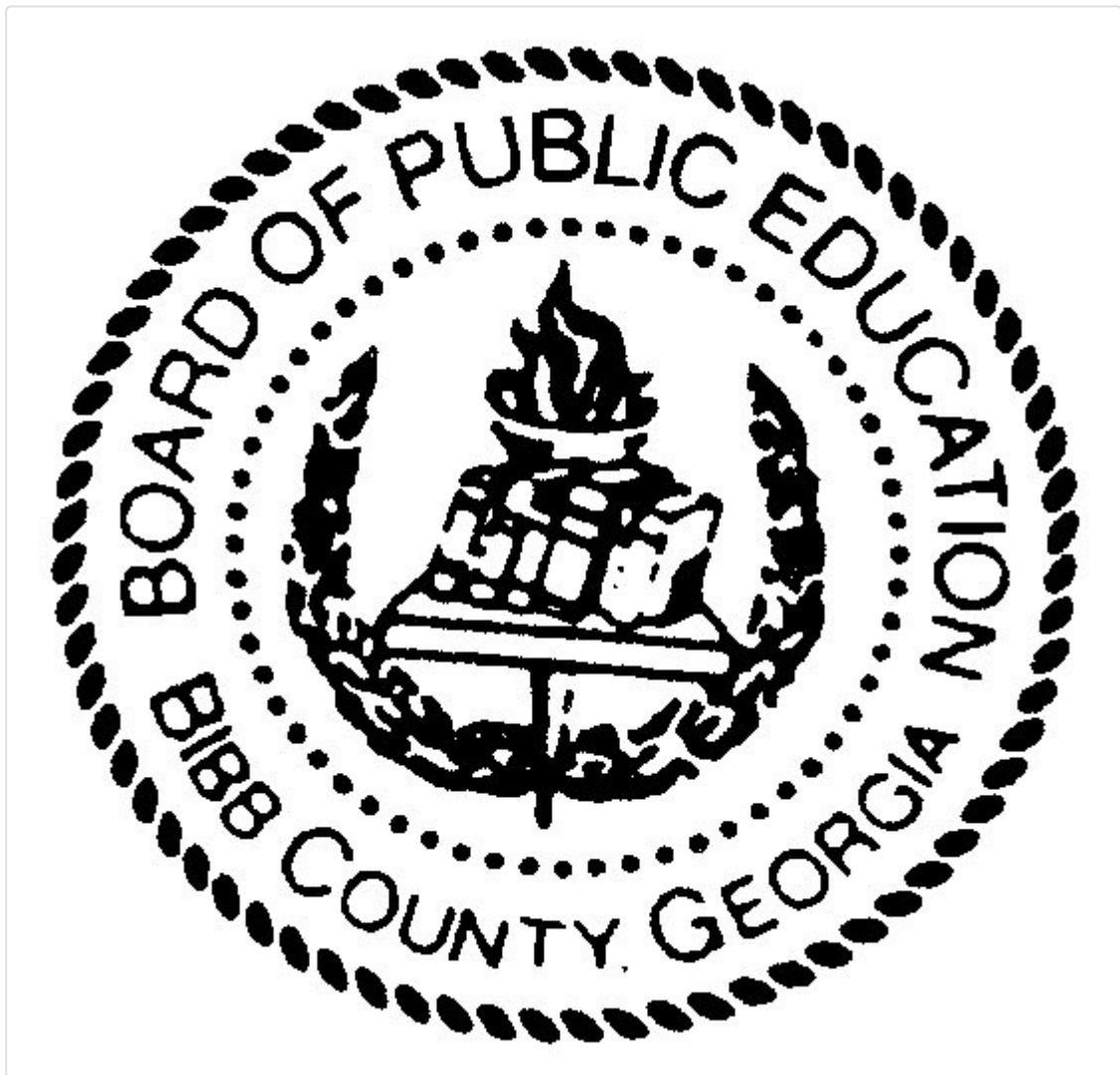


The Board Brief

March 16, 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 March 16, 2023.

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Superintendent's Report

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

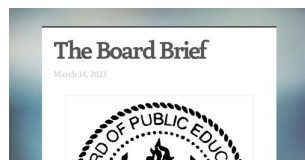
- **SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION WEEK:** Happy School Board Appreciation Week! Board members, thank you for your dedication to ensuring students and staff have the best resources and opportunities each day. Our schools decorated the Board tables for the meeting to celebrate the occasion and thank Board members for all of the support.
- **YOUTH ART EXHIBIT:** It's March and that means it is time to celebrate Youth Art Month! This year, our students created more than 200 pieces of artwork honoring the 150th anniversary of the Bibb County School District! The 10th Annual Bibb County Schools Student Art Exhibition is on display throughout the month at The 567 Center for Renewal in downtown Macon.
- **RUTLAND LEADERS:** This month, Rutland High School students represented Bibb County in Washington, DC, where they were invited to present at the National Leader in Me Symposium Conference! The students greeted guests at the check-in table, led a special presentation on how they are implementing the habits and principles of The Leader in Me at Rutland High, and introduced renowned special guest speaker Principal Kafele. This was a big event for our students and our district, and the students absolutely stepped up to the challenge with poise and professionalism.
- **STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS IN ACTION:** We are excited to announce Bibb County School District and the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, supported by Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority and Griffith Foundation, were selected to participate in the Georgia FLEX competition. The goal of the Georgia Foundational Leadership and Entrepreneurship Experience is to create prosperity and revitalize rural entrepreneurial ecosystems by educating students on the rewards, sacrifices, and processes incurred in establishing small businesses. A combination of educational guidance, incentives, and mentor opportunities have inspired our students to launch their successful small businesses. As part of FLEX, selected students competed in three rounds of competition, with the final round culminating in a "Shark Tank" style presentation given before a panel of judges. These students made their final business pitches this week! Congratulations to all of our student entrepreneurs and thank you to all of our community supporters!
- **FIRE PATHWAY:** Last week, the Bibb County School District announced a partnership with Macon-Bibb County and Central Georgia Technical College. This partnership will provide high school seniors a new path to a rewarding career and help increase the number of firefighters in Macon-Bibb County. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, seniors enrolled at Hutchings College and Career Academy can be part of a new Fire Science Dual Enrollment and Career Pathway, one of only a few offered around the state. The classes will be taught at the new Fire Training Academy and students will earn credits with Central Georgia Technical College, after which they will have the chance to become a firefighter upon graduating from high school.
- **NORTHEAST JROTC LAB:** Congratulations to the Northeast High School JROTC Leadership Bowl Team for advancing to the JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl National Championship, a nationally recognized academic competition created exclusively for JROTC students. By participating, cadets learn the values of citizenship, leadership, academic competition, and college opportunity.
- **PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY:** Thank you to our community partners who joined us for our annual Principal for a Day with the Business Education Partnership on March 2! Each of our schools welcomed guests for the seventh Principal for a Day, providing a great

opportunity for community members to see the wonderful work taking place in our schools each day!

- **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES:** Thank you to Roger Jackson of Motivating Youth and United Way of Central Georgia for partnering to bring Delivering Good to Middle Georgia! This nonprofit organization provides communities with shipments of surplus clothing items donated by large retail outlets. Mr. Jackson and United Way held one of the first events in our community for our Bibb County School District employees on March 11 at Central High School as a way to thank our teachers and staff for their hard work and dedication to public service. Our employees were able to walk away with new items at no cost. Thank you, as well, to the Bibb Retired Educators Association for volunteering to help set up for this event.
- **RECRUITMENT FAIR:** Our schools went all out for the Bibb County School District Recruitment Fair this month to make this a special event for potential employees. Thank you to all of our leaders and their teams who helped make this such a special day, and thanks to all of those interested in joining our team who came out to learn more about how they can be #Built4Bibb.
- **STRATEGIC PLANNING:** We met with the Strategic Planning Design Team on Monday for our third round of work sessions with Engage2Learn. Thank you to our design team of parents, employees, community members, and especially our students for their dedicated work over the past few months. They brought a great deal of passion to the table with them for each work session, and we look forward to being able to share the ideas generated from this collaborative effort soon with our community.
- **ON THE HORIZON:** The Cherry Blossom Festival kicks off in Macon-Bibb this week! As a district, we are all in when it comes to celebrating this historic festival. Pictured here are students from Alexander II Magnet School creating cherry blossom trees to decorate the school for the upcoming festival. Thank you to the Cherry Blossom Festival for inviting our employees and students to participate in events, and we hope you will join us as we celebrate the grand opening on March 17 with a Pink Out Day.

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

Board Begins Review of Next Year's Budget



The Board Brief

www.smores.com

Board Reviews Initial FY 2024 Budget Discussions On Tuesday, March 14, Chief Financial Officer Sharon Roberts presented Board members with an updated preview of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 General Fund Budget. Numbers presented on Tuesday are merely estimates as the District continues planning for next school year.

Actions

Principals, District Administrators Approved for 2023-2024

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved the appointment of new leaders.

- Angel Woodard, Alexander II Magnet School Principal
- Dr. LaQuonta Williams-Smith, Hartley Elementary School Principal
- Dr. LaToya Smith, Executive Director of Personnel

Additionally, Board members approved the appointments and renewals of principals and assistant principals for the 2023-2024 school year. To view all personnel items approved during the meeting, [click here](#).

Science Textbooks and Instructional Materials Approved

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved the adoption and purchase of science textbooks and instructional materials in an amount not to exceed \$2,690,041.43. The funds will be paid out of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 general funds.

During the 2016 Legislative session, laws related to textbook adoption were revised to allow the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to leave adoption decisions up to local school districts. The Bibb County School District has continued to follow the suggested guidelines from the state outlined in Georgia Education Rules 160-4-4.10. The last science textbook adoption occurred during spring 2017 for implementation for the 2017-2018 school term.

At the beginning of this process, representatives from each elementary, middle, and high school were selected to serve on committees. The Science Coordinator requested sample materials and presentations from the vendors. The committees narrowed the choices to two or three possible selections per grade band. Teachers, administrators, parents, and community stakeholders had the opportunity to review textbook materials and complete textbook feedback forms to determine which materials would best meet the academic needs of our students. This feedback was used to select the most appropriate instructional resources for the adoption.

School Bus Safety Incentive Funding Application Approved

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved the District's application for school bus safety incentive funding. The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) has been provided funds to distribute to local public schools for the purpose of incentivizing school systems to purchase safety related items to be installed on new school buses. Funding will be reviewed and distributed on an application-by-application basis in the order they are received and based on the category of the items to be purchased.

SOAR Academy Furniture Approved

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved the District to enter into contract with Georgia Specialty Equipment in the amount of \$198,048.87 to provide furniture at SOAR Academy. The furniture will be paid out of 2016 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funds.

Amendment for Construction Manager Services Approved

On Thursday, March 16, Board members authorized the District to amend the Phase 2 contract with Oberlin Construction to provide Construction Manager Services for Thompson Stadium.

Renovations Phase 3. The cost will be paid out of the 2021 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funds. For more information, [click here](#).

ESPLOST Budget for Construction of Springdale Elementary Amended

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved proposed 2021 ESPLOST budget amendments related to the construction of the new Springdale Elementary School. As part of the 2021 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a one percent sales tax approved by voters, a new Springdale Elementary will be built to replace the current facility. For more information, [click here](#).

ESPLOST Advisory Committee Members Re-Appointment for Districts 3, 5 and 6

On Thursday, March 16, Board members approved the reappointment of Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) Advisory Committee members. Per Board Policy BBF – Advisory Committees and Regulation BBF-R (1), the ESPLOST Advisory Committee supports and reviews activities related to the ESPLOST-funded capital improvements program. Per this regulation, each Board member shall appoint a citizen to represent their District.

Members for Districts 3, 5 and 6 shall serve for a one-year term. Members for Districts 1, 2 and 4 shall serve for a term of a two-year term. The Board Liaison will serve rotating terms. Post 7 will serve in odd calendar years and Post 8 will serve in even calendar years. As the terms of these initial Committee members expire, each new Committee member will serve a full two-year term. There will be no limits in the number terms a Committee member may serve.

The Bibb County Board of Education reappointed the following Committee members from Districts 3, 5 and 6 for a full two-year term.

- District 3 Representative – Patricia Ballard
- District 5 Representative – John (Jack) Nichols
- District 6 Representative – Pamela Hill

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on Thursday, March 16. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy DC – Annual Operating Budget (ACTION)
- Policy DCL – Fund Balance (ACTION)
- Policy KHD – Gifts to Staff (ACTION)
- Policy GBRK – Professional Personnel Vacations (INFORMATION)
- Policy IHE – Promotion & Retention (INFORMATION)
- Policy JGC – Students Health Services (INFORMATION)

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 Reviews Monthly Financial Reports

On Thursday, March 16, 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

Bibb Celebrates School Board Appreciation Week

The Bibb County School District joins school districts across the state in celebrating School Board members during Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) Board Member Appreciation Week. Board members were recognized for their dedication to public education and continuing service for children in Bibb County.

- Juawn Jackson (President), District 4
- Myrtice C. Johnson (Vice President), District 1
- Kristin Hanlon (Treasurer), District 3
- Dr. Thelma Dillard, District 2
- Dr. Sundra Woodford, District 5
- James Freeman, District 6
- Daryl Morton, At-Large, Post 7
- Dr. Lisa Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

Springdale's Mrs. Q Recognized as Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator

Cindy Quan Hong, or Mrs. Q as she is referred to by her students at Springdale Elementary School, was recently recognized as the Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator by the National Art Education Association. Bibb students are fortunate to have high-quality and dedicated educators in every classroom discipline, including fine arts.

Lady Chargers Recognized as Region Winners and for Advancing to Elite 8 State Playoffs

This winter, the Central High School Lady Chargers stood out on the basketball court. Led by Region 2-AA Coach of the Year Tamara Bolston-Williams, this season the Lady Chargers went 28-2 overall, with a perfect 14-0 region record on the way to a Region 2-AA Championship. The team advanced to the Elite 8 in the GHSA Class AA State Playoffs, falling to eventual state runner-up Banks County by five points.

District's Young Georgia Authors Recognized

Each year, District students participate in the Young Georgia Authors competition, beginning with a competition here against other Bibb County students. From there, the best-written stories

advance to the regional competition. Congratulations to the following winners.

Ronnie Anderson, Kindergarten, John R. Lewis Elementary "Cam and Me"

Aarav Patel, 1st Grade, Sonny Carter Elementary "The Gingerbread Man and Santa"

Jamison Green, 2nd Grade, John R. Lewis Elementary "Zapman"

Madison Sallette, 3rd Grade, Porter Elementary "The Power of Music"

Brenda Mancio, 4th Grade, Burdell-Hunt Magnet "Hero of the Future"

Molly Kate Goggans, 5th Grade, Porter Elementary "Rosie the Radical Genie"

Chatelly Dugger, 6th Grade, Weaver Middle "A Day in the Woods"

Toni Dean, 7th Grade, Howard Middle "One Star is My Therapy"

Tacoyia Braswell, 8th Grade, Miller Magnet Middle "Everyday"

Ronald Smith, 9th Grade, Central High School "New Life"

Kyla Benoit, 10th Grade, Rutland High School "For a Loved One"

Tykeria West, 11th Grade, Rutland High School "The Act"

Kenyon Jabari, 12th Grade, Howard High School "Retrograde"

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cherry Blossom Queen Layla Floyd of Howard High School, 12th grade.

Watch the Board of Education Meetings



 **bibbschools**

[www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/bibbschools)

The official channel for the Bibb County School District in Macon, Ga.