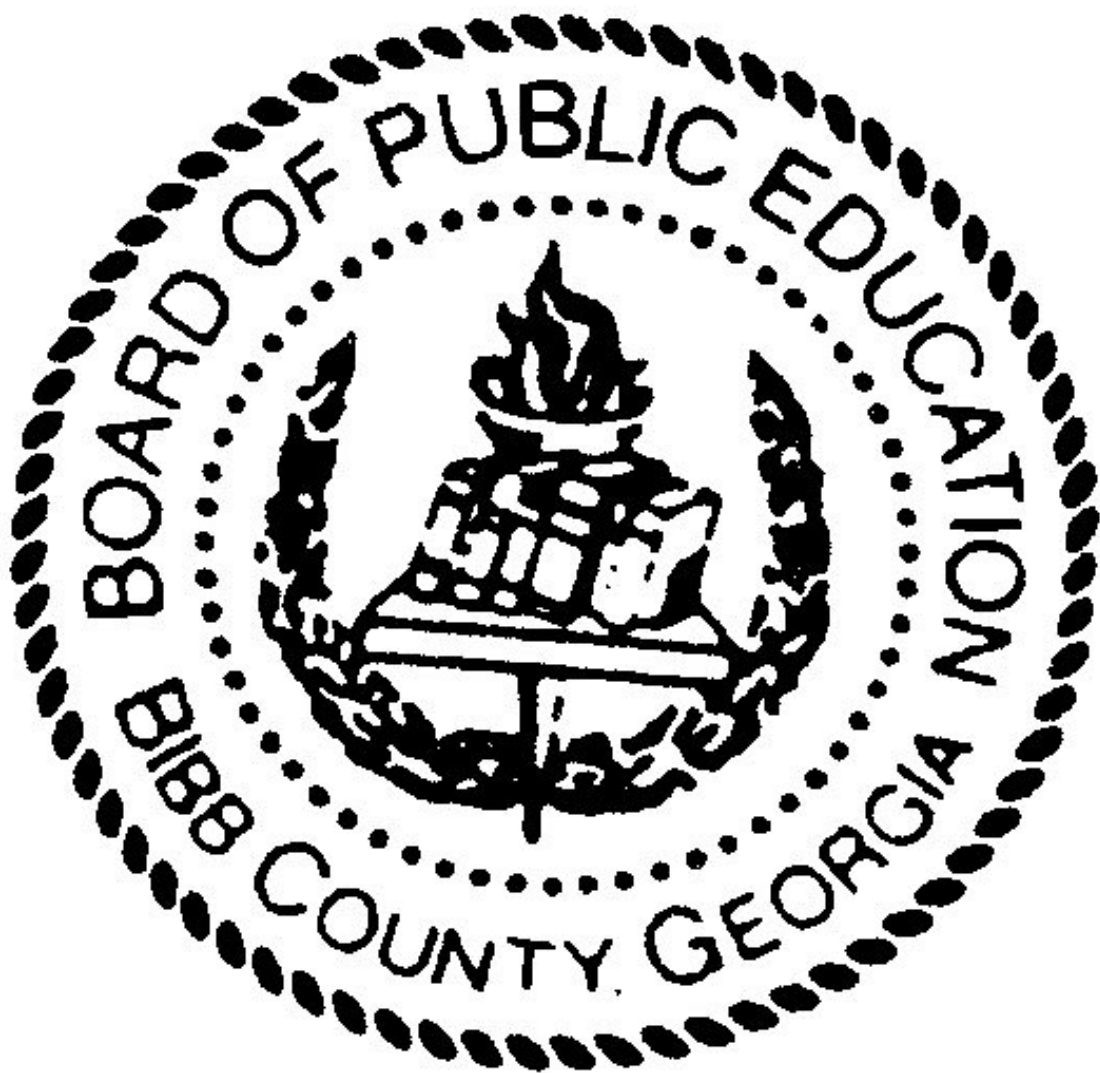


The Board Brief

November 16, 2023



The Board Brief

The Board Brief newsletter is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at Bibb County Board of Education meetings for Bibb County School District in Macon, Ga. Review meeting agendas, district policies, Board member contact information and more on Simbli at

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Index.aspx?S=4013>.

Superintendent's Report

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Katika D. Lovett, Acting Superintendent for the meeting, shared a few of the highlights from the past month.

- **ART FOR MONTH** - Thank you to Appling Middle School for providing the artwork for the November Board meeting. The artwork highlights the study of color and design, and represents a selection of student artwork from throughout the school year. Thank you, Raiders!
- **VETERANS DAY, APPRECIATION & AWARENESS-** November is when we give thanks and share gratitude for all we have. Photos shared represent Veterans Day commemorations by our students and staff. Some of the employee appreciations and recognitions also celebrated in November include Georgia Retired Educators Month and Retired Educators Day, Family Engagement Month and National Parental Involvement Day, Crossing Guard Appreciation Week, National School Psychology Week, Education Support Professionals Day, and Substitute Educators Day. Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate and recognize these outstanding employees and occasions!
- **#BUILT4BIBB STUDENT SUCCESS EXPOS-** Thank you to our parents for collaborating with the District to empower student learning and success! The Bibb County School District hosted two more zoned #Built4Bibb Student Success Expos – one in the Howard Zone at Wesleyan College, and one in the Rutland Zone at the South Bibb Recreation Complex. The purpose of these parent engagement events was to engage, empower, and support families in being successful with every student's academic performance.
- **READ FOR THE RECORD-** We are grateful for the community partners, parents and District employees who stopped by schools to participate in Read for the Record on October 26! This year's book, *With Lots of Love*, by Jenny Torres Sanchez is a beautiful story about finding ways to stay connected and sharing love across distances.
- **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL-** Also on October 26, schools celebrated Lights On Afterschool. Nationally, "Lights On Afterschool" is an annual reminder of the importance of afterschool programs. These programs provide opportunities for students to enrich their educational experience through STEM activities, community service, robotics and more. The Before and After School Department is committed to providing quality supplemental services to enhance student academic achievement, foster community stakeholder relationships, cultivate parental engagement opportunities, and to support the Bibb County School District's 4ME Learner Outcomes.
- **TEACHER OF THE YEAR-** The Bibb County School District celebrated Teachers of the Year on October 30 at the Grand Opera House. The evening included a reception catered by W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy. This year's District Teacher of the Year, Kimberly Barton of Vineville Academy of the Arts, was honored alongside all Bibb Teachers of the Year,

Media Specialist of the Year, Counselor of the Year, and Social Worker of the Year. We were honored to celebrate each of these outstanding educators!

- **LEARNING ABOUT NANOTECHNOLOGY-** Northeast High School Teacher of the Year Dr. Suneetha Panda had the opportunity to study in a prestigious summer research program in the field of Nanotechnology at Georgia Tech. Among countless applicants, Dr. Panda was one of only five teachers from the state of Georgia to be selected. As a result, Georgia Tech representatives visited Northeast High on November 13 to assist as students performed a hands-on workshop on Nanotechnology. Nanotechnology is the manipulation of matter on a near-atomic scale to produce new structures, materials, and devices.
- **MACON 200 ARTWORK-** Have you had a chance to visit the latest Macon200 exhibition? Tanner Coleman, Construction Coordinator for Capital Programs, has installed an 80-foot bamboo structure that is suspended from the ceiling! It is a dome-shaped structure that is meant to be a meditative space. The Bicentennial Art Show's final themed exhibition, "A Sense of Place," celebrating Macon-Bibb County's bicentennial, will be on display through December 31 at the Macon Mall.
- **SUGARBEAR BAND-** The Central High School Marching Sugarbear Band, under the direction of Band Director Kameron Agee, participated in the Magic City Classic held in Birmingham, Alabama, on October 28! The Magic City Classic is the largest historically black college and university (HBCU) football game in the country, per magiccityclassic.com. Alabama A&M University and Alabama State University play in the game annually at Legion Field in Birmingham. The parade was broadcast live on national TV. Thank you to Providence Healthcare for sponsoring the band's trip, with more than 100 band and auxiliary students attending from Central High. This was an excellent opportunity for students, especially those attending HBCUs and in pursuit of scholarships!
- **KMBB TREES-** On November 9, the District partnered with Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful, Macon-Bibb County Parks & Beautification, and Cox Communications to plant trees at three elementary schools – Ingram-Pye Elementary, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, and Veterans Elementary. The District is thankful for community partnerships like these that lead to lasting improvements on school playgrounds!
- **ED TALK PODCAST-** In the latest episode of the Instructional Technology Department's EdTech Talk podcast, hear the amazing ways the District is providing support to teachers, new and veteran! Hear from Holly Huynh in HR as she highlights outstanding first-year, waiver teachers! Scan the QR image to listen to the episode.
(<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/edtechtalkbibb/episodes/EdTech-Talk-with-Holly-Huynh-e2bn53p>)
- **ANNUAL CAREER FEST-** The 100 Black Men of Macon-Middle Georgia partnered with CTAE to host its annual Career Fest for students on November 1-2 at Central Georgia Technical College Gymnasium. Students from each of Bibb's high schools attended the Career Fest! Thank you to CTAE for spearheading this effort to give students the opportunity to meet college, military, and industry recruiters.
- **STEM AMBASSADOR-** Congratulations to Cassandra Ashley at Southwest High School for

Educator Ambassador Program recognizes highly qualified practicing STEM educators who support and represent the National STEM Academy and the Academy's Educator Resource Center programs by making connections with educators, families, and communities.

- **ON THE HORIZON: MAGNET & VIP ACADEMY-** The online application process for the Bibb County School District's magnet schools and programs for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. Applications will remain open through December 5, for Alexander II Math & Science Magnet School; Burdell-Hunt Communications Magnet School; Dr. John H. Heard Elementary School, Academic Magnet; Vineville Academy of the Arts; Miller Fine Arts Magnet Middle School; and Central Fine Arts & International Baccalaureate Magnet High School. Parents may access the application by visiting www.bcsdk12.net. The window for applications to enroll in Bibb County's VIP Academy has also opened. At VIP Academy, educators believe in providing a cutting-edge, full-time virtual option for Grades 6-12, right here in Bibb County Public Schools. The school's mission is to change the face of education, empowering ALL students to reach their full potential. Apply online at www.bcsdk12.net.
- **HAPPY THANKSGIVING-** Schools will be closed next week for Thanksgiving Break. We are thankful for our community and wish everyone a wonderful and restful week filled with family and friends.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Curtis Adams

Chief of Campus Police,
Bibb County Schools



Brian Butler

Executive Director of
Teaching and Learning

Leadership Appointments and Personnel Items Approved

Board members approved various personnel actions, including administrative appointments.

- Brian Butler, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning
- Curtis Adams, Chief of Campus Police

To view all personnel items from the Board meeting, [click here](#).

Board Approves GMP for Thompson Stadium Renovations

Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Sheridan Construction totaling \$3,476,787.00 for Thompson Stadium Renovations Phase 3. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax). For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves New RICOH Contract

Board members approved a revised RICOH contract in order to optimize operations and streamline costs. The new contract removes the personnel component and focuses solely on equipment and service provisions. This strategic decision aims to enhance efficiency, reduce overhead costs, and ensure a more effective allocation of human resources. By removing the personnel clause, the District will be able to hire a full-time district employee to manage Wish Printing operations. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

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

- Policy JBCD, Transfers and Withdrawals (ACTION- Second Reading)
- Policy JE, Guidance Program (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy JBCCA (2), Unsafe School Choice Options (ACTION- Second Reading)
- Policy GAEB, Sexual Harassment of Employees (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JR - Student Records (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy KL - Public Use of School Records (INFORMATION - First Reading)

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

Designation to Distinction: Update on Performance of Federally Identified Schools

Board members reviewed a presentation designed to provide an understanding of the criteria for federally identified schools, as well as the state identification of each school. Included in the presentation was an outlined report of the district's plan of support to ensure schools receive the necessary assistance to meet federal and state standards. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

District Partnering with Chamber, Workday on Grant Application

The Bibb County School District, in partnership with the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce and Workbay, is applying for the Perkins Innovation and Modernization (PIM) Grant. This grant will support Bibb County School District's efforts in building the capacity among secondary education, postsecondary education, and workforce development systems to expand access to career-connected high school programs for more students. For more information, [click here](#).

ESPLOST Schedule of Expenditures Presented

Georgia Code 48-8-122 establishes an annual requirement for reporting, as well as a newspaper publication of the report for all governing authorities that receive SPLOST or ESPLOST (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) proceeds. The ESPLOST is a one percent sales tax approved by voters. Included in the Board meeting information were the required reports for the 2016 ESPLOST and 2021 ESPLOST issued for the period ending June 30, 2023. Both reports will be published in The Telegraph by December 31, 2023. They will also be posted on the Bibb County School District's website under Finance. For more information, [click here](#).

Tentative FY 2025 Budget Calendar Presented

Board Policy DCCA directs administration annually to provide a budget calendar for the ensuing fiscal year. 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. Included in the Board meeting information was the Tentative FY 2025 Budget Calendar, which will serve to guide us through the upcoming FY 2025 budget process. For more information, [click here](#).

Monthly Financial Reports Presented

Monthly financial reports were reported to the Board of Education as information during the meeting. For more information, [click here](#).

Highlights

Bibb Board of Education Achieves GSBA Exemplary Board Status

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) recently announced recognitions for local boards that display reliable school governance and leadership. The Bibb County Board of Education was recognized as Exemplary, the highest level of GSBA recognition.

Board members include:

- Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4 – President
- Mrs. Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1 – Vice President
- Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3 – Treasurer
- Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2
- Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5
- Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6
- Mr. Daryl J. Morton, At-Large, Post 7
- Dr. Lisa W. Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

Board members will be recognized for achieving Exemplary status during the GSBA Conference in December. The Bibb County Board of Education previously achieved Exemplary status in 2019

before the pandemic. This award marks the first time the current Bibb County Board of Education with its current 8 members has reached Exemplary status.

College and Career Academy Achieves Certification

W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy completed the 2022-2023 Dr. Joe Harless Georgia College and Career Academy Certification process and earned the distinction of Certified Georgia College and Career Academy.

District Leader Serving as GACTE President, 2023-2024

Dr. Cassandra Miller-Washington, Executive Director of CTAE and CEO of W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy, has been elected to serve as the GACTE President for 2023-2024, giving the District a valuable voice and influence statewide. The Georgia Association for Career and Technical Education is the state's top organization for CTAE programs. This organization advocates for these vital areas of education through various initiatives. GACTE is led by an executive committee and governing board that work together to make up its Board of Directors.

Students Advocate for Perkins Funds

Recently, Southwest High School instructor Ron Rodgers and students Kalia Gosha, Devante Brawner-Sero, Amaiya Howard, Izabella Rivers and James Winston represented the District in Washington, D.C. They traveled to advocate for Perkins Funds for CTAE programming. This trip also allowed them to learn more about our nation's capital. Also, a part of Southwest's chapter of SkillsUSA - Brawner-Sero, Gosha, Rivers and Winston - were selected as winners of the National Statesman Award.

District Leader Receives NAEHCY Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Danielle Sweet Jones, Homeless & Foster Care Liaison for the District, was named the 2023 recipient of the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Jones is the District's liaison for students who are experiencing homelessness or the foster care system. This award honors individuals "who have given so much of their lives so that young people without shelter may find the promise of tomorrow."

Assistant Superintendent Appointed to Georgia Title I Committee of Practitioners

Every three years, the Georgia Department of Education's Federal Programs division must nominate individuals to serve on the Title I Committee of Practitioners for the state. This group guides the policies, rules and other aspects of the state's Title I programs, and members represent one of the state's Congressional Districts. This year, Dr. Lori Ward-Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent of District Effectiveness and Federal Programs, was nominated to be our area's representative to this committee, and she was recently approved by the Georgia State Board of Education.

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), requires that each state educational agency receiving federal funds create a State Committee of Practitioners to advise the state in carrying out its responsibilities. Members are nominated for three-year terms by the Federal Programs Division and are approved by the Georgia State Board of Education. Nominated candidates represent required representative groups and each Congressional District in the state. The Committee of Practitioners guides the development of policies, rules, and guidance, as well as provide input

when critical issues emerge, for the Title programs. The duties of this committee include a review, before publication, of any proposed or final state rule or regulation pursuant to Title I.

Visit www.facebook.com/bibbschools for photos of highlights and recognitions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jason Stripling, a second grade student at Vineville Academy of the Arts.

Board Members

The following Board Members were present at this meeting:

Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4 - President

Mrs. Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1 - Vice President

Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3 - Treasurer

Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2

Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5

Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6

Mr. Daryl J. Morton, At-Large, Post 7

Dr. Lisa W. Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

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bibbschools

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Bibb County School District

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Bibb County School District is located in Macon, Ga., with about 22,000 students.