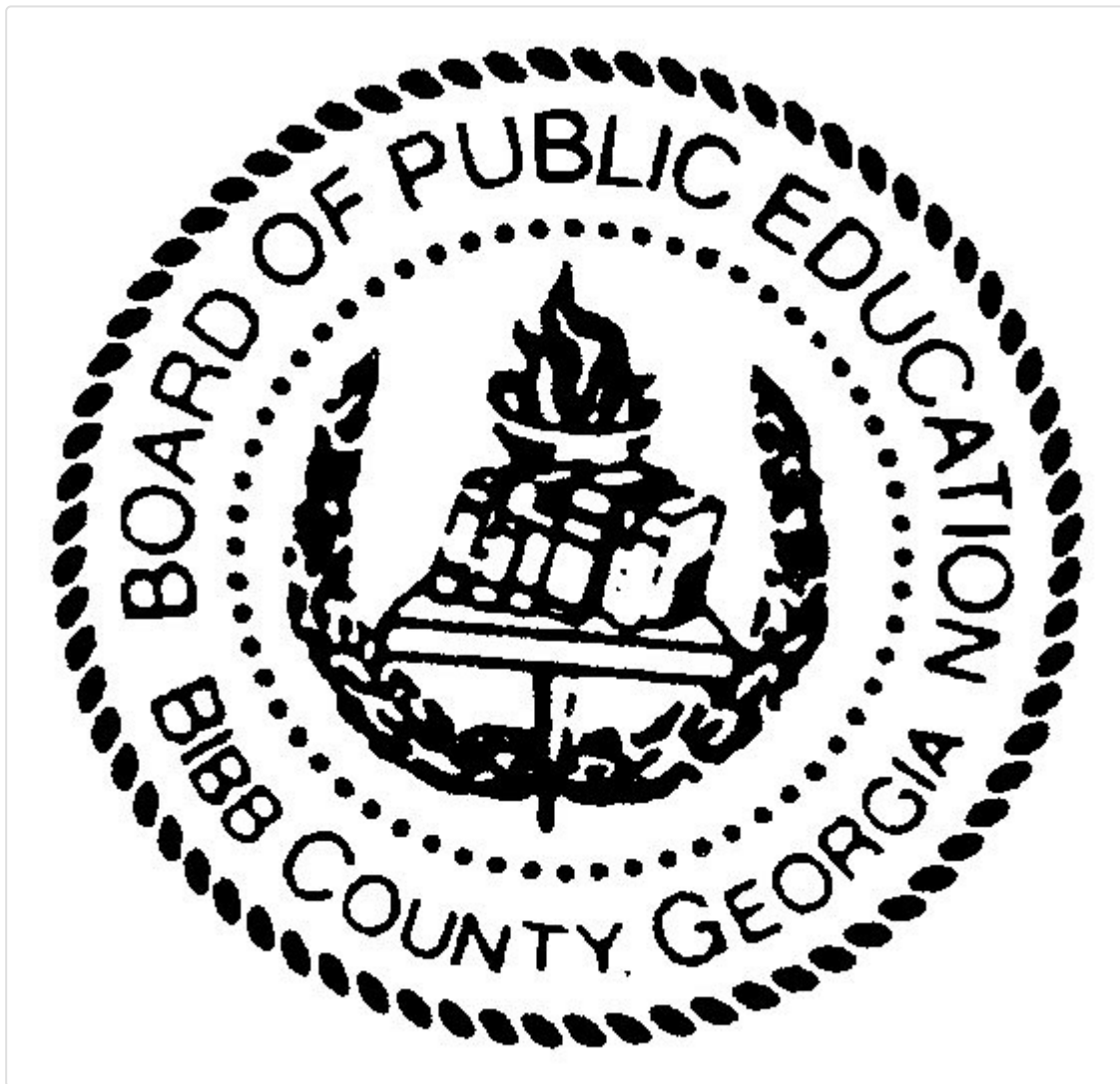


The Board Brief

March 18, 2021



This edition of The Board Brief is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education Meeting on March 18, 2021.

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Actions



Executive Director of Teaching & Learning Appointed; Personnel Items Approved

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved the appointment of Susan Jones as Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, as well as various personnel items. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Board Approves Intergovernmental Agreement

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority. The purpose of the agreement is to extinguish liens and claims of delinquent real property taxes owed to the District. For several years now, the Land Bank Authority has entered into an agreement with the District to extinguish liens and claims of delinquent real property taxes owed to the District. Over the years, the citizens of Macon-Bibb County have seen economic growth in blighted communities and a return of real property to the tax digest resulting from the intergovernmental agreement. For more

Additional Thompson Stadium Seating to be Funded by ESPLOST

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved the installation of stadium seating to accommodate an additional 1,500 visitors at Thompson Stadium. Funding for the stadium seating will come from the 2021 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) Program. For more information, [click here](#).

Board members also were informed of upgrades to Thompson Stadium that will be presented at the April 15, 2021 Board Meeting. As part of the 2021 ESPLOST, the Board of Education approved upgrades to Thompson Stadium. Based on construction schedules and anticipated collections, the improvements will be performed in two phases. Phase I will include: a new synthetic turf field; new video scoreboards; LED sports lighting package; expanded seating capacity (1,500 additional); additional parking (approximately 572 spaces); new high jump; new discus and shotput; new bus parking; and new ticket booth. Upgrades to existing Fieldhouse Phase II will include: New Concessions Plaza and modifications of existing plaza; additional parking and modifications to existing lots; new entry and exit lanes; and a new identification sign. For more information, [click here](#).

Additionally, Board members were informed that recommendations for a video scoreboard to Thompson Stadium will be presented at the April 15 Board meeting. An upgraded video board was installed at Ed DeFore stadium in 2019 as part of athletic upgrades. The video board installed at Ed DeFore has been successful in terms of fan experiences and digital display capabilities. Installation at Thompson Stadium would create the equity and consistency in products desired for both locations. For more information, [click here](#).

School Renovations Approved

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved renovations planned for Lane Elementary School. For more information, [click here](#).

Board members also were informed that the Capital Programs Department will present bid recommendations for renovations at Rosa Taylor and Skyview Elementary Schools at the April 15, 2021 Board meeting. As part of the 2021 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), the Board of Education approved renovations to Rosa Taylor and Skyview Elementary Schools. Based on construction schedules, both school projects are to be completed by August 2021. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Transportation Dispatch System

On Thursday, March 18, Board members authorized the purchase and installation of a new Transportation dispatch system. The new system will include a computer-based radio dispatch capable of supporting multiple conversations at the same time, recording all radio transmissions and providing increased radio coverage throughout Bibb County. For more information, [click here](#).

District to Purchase 13 New School Buses

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved the purchase of 13 new school buses. The purchase will be made through allocated funds from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) that will be reimbursed to the District and with 2016 Education Special Purpose Local

Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funds. The District's school bus fleet currently consists of 204 active buses. Of the 204 active buses, 115 are equipped with air conditioning. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Network Firewall Upgrade

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved an upgrade to the District's network firewall to accommodate the significant increase in network traffic due to digital learning initiatives. The funding for this hardware purchase will come from the 2021 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) program. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves CARES Act 2 Budget

On Thursday, March 18, Board members approved the District's budget for the \$44,660,054 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act 2 funding. As is the case with the original CARES funds, CARES 2 is comprised of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, and Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

The CARES Act and CARES Act 2 provide education funding to state education agencies and local education agencies to support schools as they are dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding for the CARES Act and CARES Act 2 can address the following (not a complete list): At-risk Student Populations; Distance/Remote Learning; School Meals; Mental and Physical Health; Supplemental Learning/Addressing Learning Loss; Facilities/Equipment and Improving Indoor Air Quality (repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards); and continuity of Core Staff and Services. CARES Act 2 funds will be available through September 30, 2022. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on March 18, 2021. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- PR-1 New Policy IFCD – School Volunteers (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-2 Revision of Policy JGF – Student Safety (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-3 Revision of Policy JGF(2) – Seclusion or Restraint of Students (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-4 Revision of Policy JGFG – Student Accidents (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-5 Revision of Policy JGJ – Crisis Intervention (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-6 Revision of Policy JKB – Solicitations by Students (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-7 Revision of Policy JRA – Student Data Privacy Complaints (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

District Addresses Plans for Learning Loss Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

On Thursday, March 18, Board members were presented with information addressing learning loss due to hardships from the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to address learning loss, the District will identify students based on greatest need for intervention and targeted remediation. Intervention will begin in the spring and then students will attend summer school, which will include a camp-like environment to engage, excite and enrich students as they are focused on mastering concepts. For more information or to view the presentation, [click here](#).

Board Informed of State Board of Education Member Town Hall Listening Session

On Thursday, March 18, Board members were informed that the Georgia State Board of Education will hold a town hall listening session for citizens in the Eighth Congressional District, which includes Bibb County. The event will be on Thursday, April 22, 2021. The Eighth Congressional District is represented by Jason Downey, Vice Chairman of the State Board of Education. The meeting will be held from 7-8 p.m. in the Auditorium at Howard High School, 6400 Forsyth Road, Macon, Georgia 31210. The event will be live streamed as well.

The purpose of the hearing is to hear comments from interested citizens and educators within the congressional district regarding the performance and problems of public education. Anyone wishing to speak should sign in upon arrival.

Board Informed of Proposed Education Foundation

On Thursday, March 18, Board members were presented with information concerning the creation of the Bibb County School District Education Foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to receive and disburse funds, property and gifts specifically for the purposes of improving the quality of education to the students of Bibb County. An Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation established to enhance education opportunities for students and staff within a school district. School districts have started Education Foundations to engage the community in the process of improving local schools by providing a wide array of programs to meet the diverse needs of the students and the community.

The establishment of an Education Foundation will serve as a mechanism to collect and administer monetary donations to support district-wide efforts such as those listed below: encourages excellence by recognizing and rewarding leader and teacher effectiveness; facilitates student development by attaining public and private resources to complement educational initiatives; and cultivates and encourages community partnerships and fosters the development of alumni relations. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Overview

On Thursday, March 18, Board members received a presentation in regards to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the implications to the District. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Monthly Financial Report

On Thursday, March 18, Board members reviewed the District's monthly financial report. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Receives Presentation from Capital Improvement Program

On Thursday, March 18, Board members received a presentation in regards to the 2011 and 2016 Capital Improvement Program, including information on expenditures and encumbrances. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Investments, Investment Income and Bonds Report

On Thursday, March 18, Board members reviewed a presentation about the Investments and Investment Income report as well as the monthly Bond report associated with 2020 project accounts. For more information, [click here](#).

Highlights and Recognitions

District Recognizes School Boards Appreciation Week

Each year, the Georgia School Boards Association celebrates School Boards Appreciation Week, which is March 15-19 this year. The Bibb County School District is fortunate to be served by the following Board of Education members, whose dedication helps make student, faculty and staff success possible: Daryl Morton (President, At-Large, Post 7), Dr. Thelma Dillard (Vice President, District 2), Dr. Sundra Woodford (Treasurer, District 5), Myrtice Johnson (District 1), Kristin Hanlon (District 3), Juawn Jackson (District 4), James Freeman (District 6) and Dr. Lisa Garrett (At-Large, Post 8).

Two Football Teams Recognized for Playoff Success

This school year, two District high school football teams overcame the unique circumstances of 2020 to find playoff success. Central High School finished third in Region 2-AAA and advanced to the state playoffs, where the Chargers beat Liberty County 14-6 for their first playoff win since 1975. Northeast High School finished second in Region 3-AA and also collected a playoff win, a 27-14 victory over Toombs County.

Community Partners Recognized for Supporting COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts

At this month's meeting, Atrium Health Navicent and the North Central Health District were presented with resolutions in recognition of community partnership during the COVID-19 pandemic and thanked for their commitment to the District and to the community. Atrium Health Navicent and the North Central Health District both have been instrumental in the vaccination of District employees.

"As COVID-19 has proven, we are always better when we work together and this is a perfect demonstration of how partnerships make our community better and stronger," said Bibb County School District Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones. "We understand the importance of schools being open and this effort helps us provide another layer of safety for our students and staff and provides our employees with peace of mind as they work in their classrooms with students."



Watch the recognition video from tonight's Board meeting below:



The Bibb County Board of Education will meet for a Budget Work Session on April 13, 2021. The next monthly meeting of the Bibb County Board of Education will be held on April 15, 2021.

