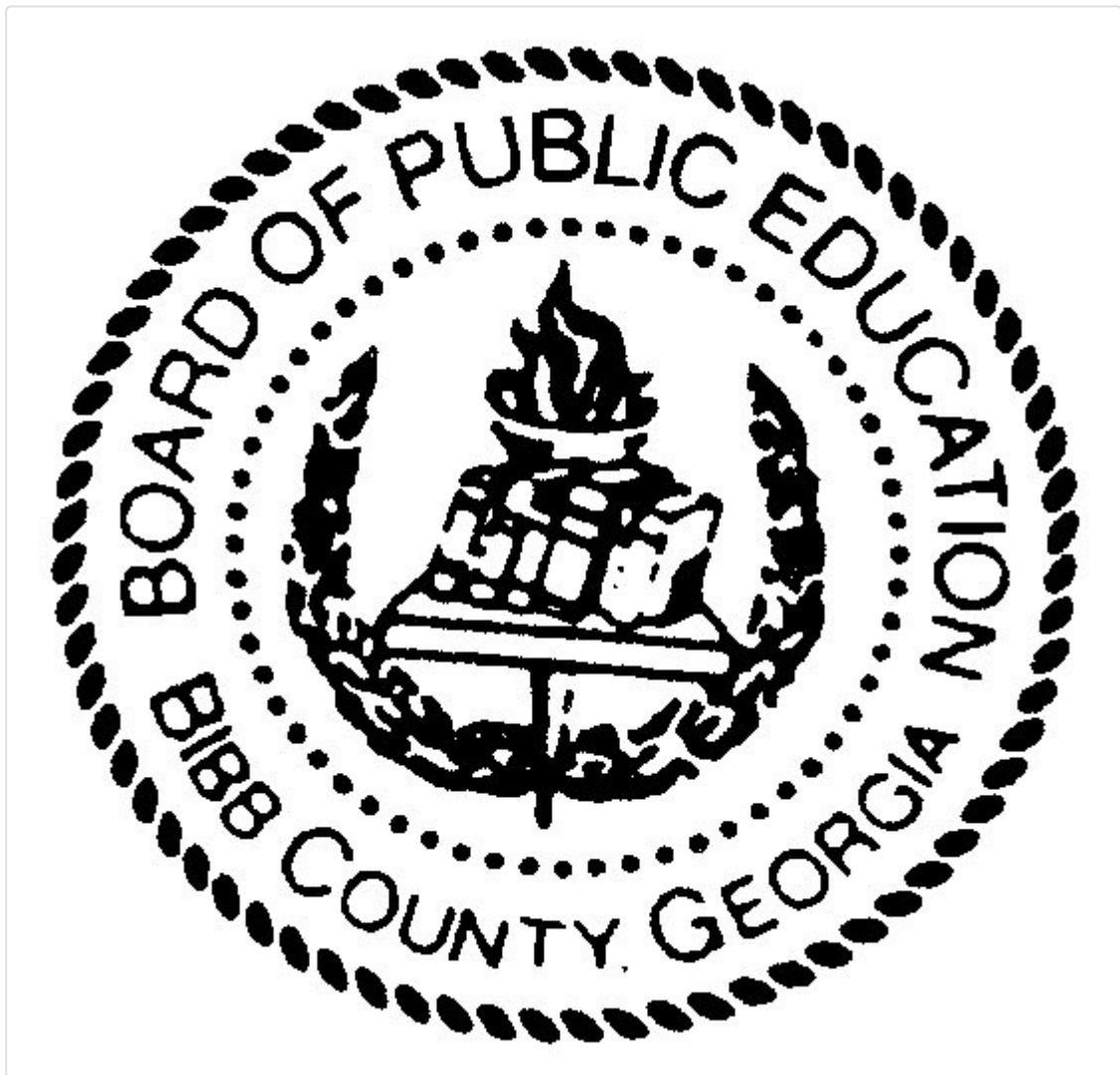


The Board Brief

December 16, 2021



This edition of The Board Brief is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education Meeting on December 16, 2021.

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Actions

[Board Approves Proximity Learning Partnership](#)

On Thursday, December 16, Board members approved a partnership with Proximity Learning to assist with filling existing vacancies within the District. To date, the District has 34.5 teaching positions that remain vacant. Of those, 13 are in core academic subjects, and one is in Spanish. Proximity Learning has available virtual staff for these positions. Additionally, the District provides an adult in a room where Proximity teachers are instructing. State-allotted general funds will be used to pay for the teachers. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves VIP Academy Enrollment Increase

On Thursday, December 16, Board members voted to approve an increase to enrollment with the VIP Academy by up to 100 students during the second semester of the 2021-2022 school year. The District will augment its contract with Edgenuity with funding from the American Rescue Plan. Expanding the VIP Academy allows for an increase in the enrollment of students who benefit from learning in a virtual environment. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Student Device Insurance Option

On Thursday, December 16, Board members approved for the District to offer a Student Device Insurance Option for second semester 2022 as outlined in the Student Device Insurance Option Form beginning on January 6, 2022. The Technology Department has fully implemented the District's one-to-one device program. Currently, students/parents are responsible for all damages incurred to or due to loss of a student's device. The cost of the insurance will be a nonrefundable \$25 per semester.

The Student Device Insurance Option will be available for purchase for second semester from January 6-31, 2022. The insurance will cover allowable expenses as outlined in the chart below. As indicated in this agreement, damage or loss to chargers and device cases are not covered by the Student Device Insurance. For more information, [click here](#).

Damage/Repair of Device Incident (Current School Year)	Fee(s) Assessed
1 st	No Fee Assessed
2 nd	½ cost of the repair of device
3 rd	Full cost of the repair of device
Loss/Stolen Device Incident (Current School Year)	
1 st	\$100 reduction in replacement cost
2 nd	Full cost of replacement
Charger Replacement Cost Chart	Replacement Cost
Dell charger	\$45.00
iPad charger	\$40.00

Board Authorizes Personnel Items

On Thursday, December 16, Board members approved various personnel items. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Operational Expenditures

On Thursday, December 16, Board members approved operational and financial expenditures including:

- A contract with Sheridan Construction to provide construction management services for renovations at the Westside Tennis Center.

For more information on the aforementioned operational expenditures, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on December 16, 2021. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- PR-1 Revision of Policy GBC Professional Personnel Recruitment (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-2 Revision of Policy GBN, Professional Personnel Termination (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-3 Policy IFBGE-Internet Security (First Reading)
- PR-4 Policy GBKA-Professional Personnel Layoff (First Reading)
- PR-5 Policy MK-Educational Accreditation Agency (First Reading)
- PR-6 Policy ML- Professional Visitors & Observers (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

Middle Georgia Regional Commission Presents Redistricting Update

On Thursday, December 16, Laura Mathis with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission provided Board members with a presentation update on the redistricting process for the Board of Education. As part of the next steps, Ms. Mathis informed the Board they will need to convene a work session to develop a redistricting plan to present to the state.

Board Receives Update from Foothills

On Thursday, December 16, Board members were presented with data and information about Foothills, an opportunity for non-traditional students to earn a Georgia accredited high school diploma. Bibb Heartland, which operates out of SOAR Academy's building, is a division of Foothills. Students attend self-paced evening classes where they are paired with advisors and resources to help them succeed. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews District's Safety and Security Presentation

On Thursday, December 16, Board members reviewed a presentation regarding the District's safety and security process. Leaders detailed the commitment to safety and security of students and staff as one of the District's top priorities. For more information or to view the presentation, [click here](#).

Board Informed of Homework and Tutoring Programs

On Thursday, December 16, Board members were informed that the Department of District

Assistance and Tutoring through the Procurement Department. The proposals are being reviewed by several employees within the District to ensure the information provided aligns with the scope of work required by the District prior to entering into a contractual agreement. Bids are being reviewed, and a recommendation will be forthcoming in January. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Receives Update on CARES and ARP Expenditures

On Thursday, December 16, Board members received an update of the District's Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) and American Rescue Plan (ARP) Expenditures. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Informed of 2021 Audit Delay in Issuance

On Thursday, December 16, Board members were informed that Mauldin & Jenkins, the District's external auditors, notified the Chief Financial Officer on December 9, 2021, that the firm would not be issuing any Georgia schools district audits by the December 31 deadline due to awaiting further guidance concerning ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) funds, which include CARES and ARP. A draft set of financial statements will be supplied to the District by Mauldin & Jenkins for submission to the Georgia Department of Education by the December 31 deadline. An extension will be requested with the Government Finance Officers Association for the submission of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Monthly Financial Report

On Thursday, December 16, Board members reviewed the District's monthly financial report. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Receives Presentation from Capital Improvement Program

On Thursday, December 16, 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, December 16, 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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lillyann Ha, a fourth-grader from Vineville Academy of the Arts.

Board Meets New Administrators

Kevin Grooms, Bibb County Director of Athletics, and Donna Cline, Interim Principal of Heritage Elementary School, were introduced to Board members for their new roles. Congratulations to these leaders!

Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority Presentation

Representatives of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority visited the Board to present the District with a check for the PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Tax) Program and provide an overview of their work through an annual report. Stephen Adams, Executive Director, made the presentation.

Georgia Association for Positive Behavior Support Awards

This month, District PBIS Rewards Coordinator Curlandra Lightfoot-Smith was surprised with a pair of awards from Georgia Association for Positive Behavior Support. First, the Bibb PBIS team received the Innovative Practices Award, which recognizes a group “that has shown creativity and innovation in its implementation of PBIS.” Mrs. Lightfoot-Smith was also honored with the Dr. Garry McGiboney Outstanding Leadership Award. This award recognizes an individual who has shown outstanding leadership in moving Georgia PBIS forward.

Georgia Association Recognizes Outstanding Mentor Teacher

Across the District, teachers take on the role of mentor for student teachers and new educators. One such individual has been honored for her efforts in this regard. Ms. Mitchell is a first-grade teacher at Springdale Elementary School, and she was recognized in November as a Georgia Outstanding Mentor Teacher by the Georgia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. This comes after previously being honored with a Middle Georgia P-20 Collaborative Mentoring Award. In all, Ms. Mitchell has mentored six student-teachers from two different universities, Mercer and Georgia Southern.

Northeast High Football GHSA Elite Eight

Coach Jeremy Wiggins led the Northeast High School Raiders Football Team to a 9-4 overall record, which included a 7-3 regular-season record and a second-place finish in Region 3-AA. Northeast then won two GHSA Class AA playoff games over Cook County and Haralson County before moving on to face off in the Elite Eight against Swainsboro, where they fought hard into double overtime. Players were also on hand to be recognized by Board members.

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Executive Board

In our District, educating children from less-fortunate families is a special and important task. Dr. Danielle Jones serves as the District’s Homeless & Foster Care Liaison, and because of her work with these vulnerable students in the District, Dr. Jones was recently elected to be the Executive Board Secretary for the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY). NAEHCY has more than 2,000 members from all 50 states.

Congressional District Stock Market Game Winners

The Stock Market Game allows students to simulate activity and transactions based on the real stock market to hone financial skills. Students at W.S. Hutchings College & Career Academy participated in this event this semester. A team of four students won the Stock Market Game for their grade level within our congressional district. Zach Girtman, Jaliyah Knight and Darrianna Willis are from Central High School, Timani Daniels is from Westside High School, and Mr. Neil teaches the Banking & Finance pathway at Hutchings.

GaDOE Family Engagement Month Level Up Contest Regional Winners

During Family Engagement Month, the Georgia Department of Education hosted a Level Up Contest. This friendly competition between school districts encouraged individuals to create a virtual game experience to make home-based learning fun for families. Howard High School teachers Rachel Currier and Andrew Jones created an initiative called “Your Career is in the Stars” that allowed students and families to follow certain career paths to see activities and simulations related to that path. This initiative was selected as a Region II winner after competing against other Middle Georgia school projects. Watch a video here: <https://youtu.be/I3o6akNmcwI>.

Georgia National Fair Highlights

Please watch the following video for highlights from the Georgia National Fair for Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Students and Instructors: <https://youtu.be/PYzfYsdZLVs>.

GSBA Quality Board – Bibb County Board of Education

Each year, the Georgia School Boards Association recognizes local boards of education for their efforts throughout the year. These awards reflect a commitment to effective practices and reliable board governance. Congratulations to the Bibb County Board of Education for being honored by GSBA as a Quality Board.

The Board members are as follows: Daryl Morton, At-Large, Post 7, President; Dr. Thelma Dillard, District 2, Vice President; Dr. Sundra Woodford, District 5, Treasurer; Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1; Kristin Hanlon, District 3; Juawn Jackson, District 4; James Freeman, District 6; and Dr. Lisa Garrett, At-Large, Post 8.









