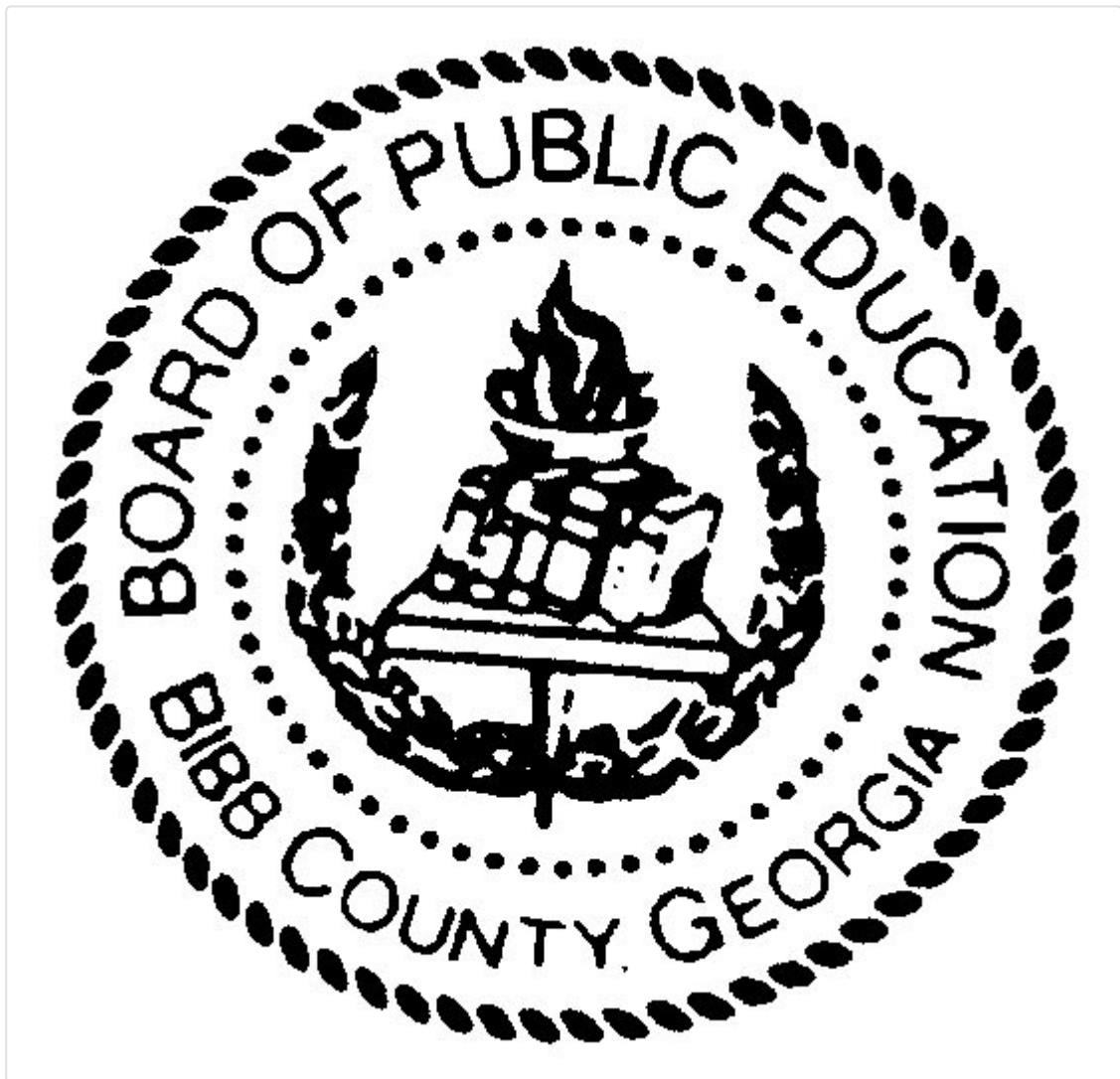


The Board Brief

December 17, 2020



This edition of The Board Brief is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education's Board Meeting on December 17, 2020.

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Actions

[Board Approves Academic Calendars for 2021-22 and 2022-23](#)

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved academic calendars for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years based on feedback from stakeholders. Two options were given to provide feedback on – one with a longer summer and shorter breaks during the school year, and one with a shorter summer and longer breaks during the school year. Both calendar options included 178 instructional days for students and 190 teacher workdays. Based on the overall feedback, the District recommended academic calendars that include shorter summers and longer breaks during the school year. In these calendars, students would begin school the first week of August each year. For more information, [click here](#).

July 22 – 30, 2021	Pre-Planning
August 2	First Day of School
September 6	Labor Day
October 11 - 15	Fall Break
November 11	Veterans Day
November 22 - 26	Thanksgiving Break
December 17	Last Day of the Semester
December 20 - January 3	Holiday Break
January 4, 2022	Professional Learning (No Students)
January 5	Second Semester Begins
January 17	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 18	Professional Learning (No Students)
February 21 - 22	Inclement Weather Make-up Winter Break
February 23	Inclement Weather Make-up Professional Learning (No Students)
March 21 - 25	Inclement Weather Make-up Spring Break
May 25	Last Day of School (½ Day for Students)
May 25 - 27	High School Graduation
May 26 - 27	Post-Planning
May 30	Memorial Day

First and Last Day of the Semester

Holidays

Pre/Post-Planning and Professional Learning

First semester: 88 days Second semester: 90 days Draft 11/2020

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July 26 – August 2, 2022 Pre-Planning
August 3 First Day of School
September 5 Labor Day
October 10 - 14 Fall Break
November 11 Veterans Day
November 21 - 25 Thanksgiving Break
December 20 Last Day of the Semester
December 21 - January 3 Holiday Break
January 4, 2023 Professional Learning (No Students)
January 5 Second Semester Begins
January 16 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 17 Professional Learning (No Students)
February 20 - 21 Inclement Weather Make-up
February 22 Winter Break
February 22 Inclement Weather Make-up
February 22 Professional Learning (No Students)
February 22 Inclement Weather Make-up
March 20 - 24 Spring Break
May 24 Last Day of School
May 24 - 26 High School Graduation
May 25 - 26 Post-Planning
May 29 Memorial Day

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First and Last Day of the Semester
Holidays
Pre/Post-Planning and Professional Learning

First semester: 88 days Second semester: 90 days Draft: 11/2020

Board Approves New Cohort for Personalized Learning Professional Development

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved additional phases of cohort schools for personalized learning professional development with Education Elements to begin in January 2021. The District has been providing the professional development for a successful teacher and student experience. In 2018, the District began preparing for the Technology 1:1 (One-to-One) Initiative through grant funding with School Improvement Grant schools. During this time, the District has received grant funds for this specialized professional development for Cohort I and partial funding for Cohort II schools. The Board's approval Thursday provided funding to continue with the completion of Cohorts II and III.

The District believes professional development for personalized learning means that students get the instruction they need when they need it, and shifting class models and environments requires pedagogy to adapt in both in-person or remote learning environments that are technology-infused. To view a presentation from the meeting, [click here](#). For more information, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Funding for Teaching Support

On Thursday, December 17, Board members authorized funding for Proximity Learning, an education company that offers live, real-time interactive online instruction. Instruction is delivered by an experienced, Georgia-certified teacher to fill in-person teacher vacancies. These remote teachers provide quality instruction using the District's curriculum materials while the District provides a paraprofessional or other support person to report physically to the classroom to support student learners.

The Human Resources Department is committed to recruiting, hiring and retaining high-quality candidates to fill vacant teaching positions. As the District recruits and hires full-time teachers for these positions, the Proximity Learning teacher contracts and payments will be discontinued with no penalty. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Bi-Polar Ionization Project

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved a Bi-Polar Ionization project from the Capital Programs Department. Bi-Polar Ionization is a process that kills harmful pathogens in the airstream, making them easier to filter through the air condition systems. Independent testing by CDC-affiliated labs confirms kill rates as high as 99.9 percent of various pathogens and mold spores, including SARS-CoV-2. This process provides a cleaner occupied space and reduces costs of maintenance to the units. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Approve Funding for Leader in Me

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved funding for the Leader in Me program. The Community Foundation of Central Georgia has provided funding for these expenditures, which will be paid to Franklin Covey, the creator of Leader in Me. All schools within the Bibb County School District participate in the youth leadership development program. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Enlargement of Ocmulgee Crossing Tax Allocation District

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved amending the Ocmulgee Crossing Redevelopment Plan Area and Tax Allocation District (TAD). The amendment is being made to add 23 parcels (a total of 26.78 acres), which will connect with and include the Linwood Cemetery and a trail to the Riverside Cemetery. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission approached all governmental entities involved in the current Ocmulgee Crossing Redevelopment Plan Area and associated Tax Allocation District.

Board members authorized the President of the Board and the Superintendent to negotiate an intergovernmental agreement related to the Ocmulgee Crossing Tax Allocation District for subject to final approval by the Board. The proposal will not provide any additional tax revenue to the District. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Development of Next Five-Year Facilities Plan

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved consulting and assessment services related to developing a new Five-Year Facilities Plan for the District. Georgia State Law, O.C.G.A. 20-2-260, requires local school districts to perform a complete comprehensive educational facilities survey at least once every five years. The last comprehensive survey was conducted in 2017 and will expire in June 2022.

The comprehensive survey includes the following items:

- Accurate classroom inventory for each facility.
- Review of all building systems and finishes, including an architect estimate, provided a cost to upgrade or replace as needed to meet the district standard.
- Building utilization/student enrollment trends.

- Recommendations regarding future facility improvements / new facilities / consolidations.

Once all information has been collected, meetings will be held to review the survey findings and recommendations. During these meetings, the Board and Superintendent will provide direction on priorities before an outside team of facility directors validates the plan. Once the plan is validated, it will be submitted to the Board for approval, and then to the Georgia Department of Education for final approval. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Renew Workers Compensation Excess Insurance Policy

On Thursday, December 17, Board members authorized the renewal of the District's workers compensation excess insurance policy with Safety National Casualty Corp. for the policy period of January 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Fuel Purchase

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved the Transportation Department's request for the purchase of gas and diesel fuel. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves 21st CCLC Grants Budget Amendments

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved submitting budget amendments to the Georgia Department of Education regarding the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grants, which would provide carryover funds from Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. The District's 21st CCLC programs serve Bernd, Bruce, Hartley, Heard, Heritage, John R. Lewis and Skyview Elementary Schools as well as Ballard-Hudson Middle School.

The District's 21st Century Programs offer services to more than 900 students who are at risk of failing state and local standards in core academic subjects. The funding supports after-school programs that provide academic enrichment opportunities. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves MOU with Hancock County School District

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Hancock County School District to provide Title I services for students residing in Hancock County but attending St. Peter Claver Catholic School in Macon. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on December 17. 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 FD – Facilities Long-Range Planning (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-2 Revision of Policy GBRE – Professional Personnel Extra Duty (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-3 Revision of Policy GBRJ – Arrangement for Substitutes (ACTION – Second Reading)
- PR-4 Revision of Policy GBRK – Annual Leave for Qualified Personnel (ACTION – Second Reading)

- PR-5 Revision of Policy KBF – Use of Students for Public Information Program (INFORMATION – First Reading)
- PR-6 Revision of Policy LEBA – Parent Involvement in Education (INFORMATION – First Reading)
- PR-7 Revision of Policy MG – Associations (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.

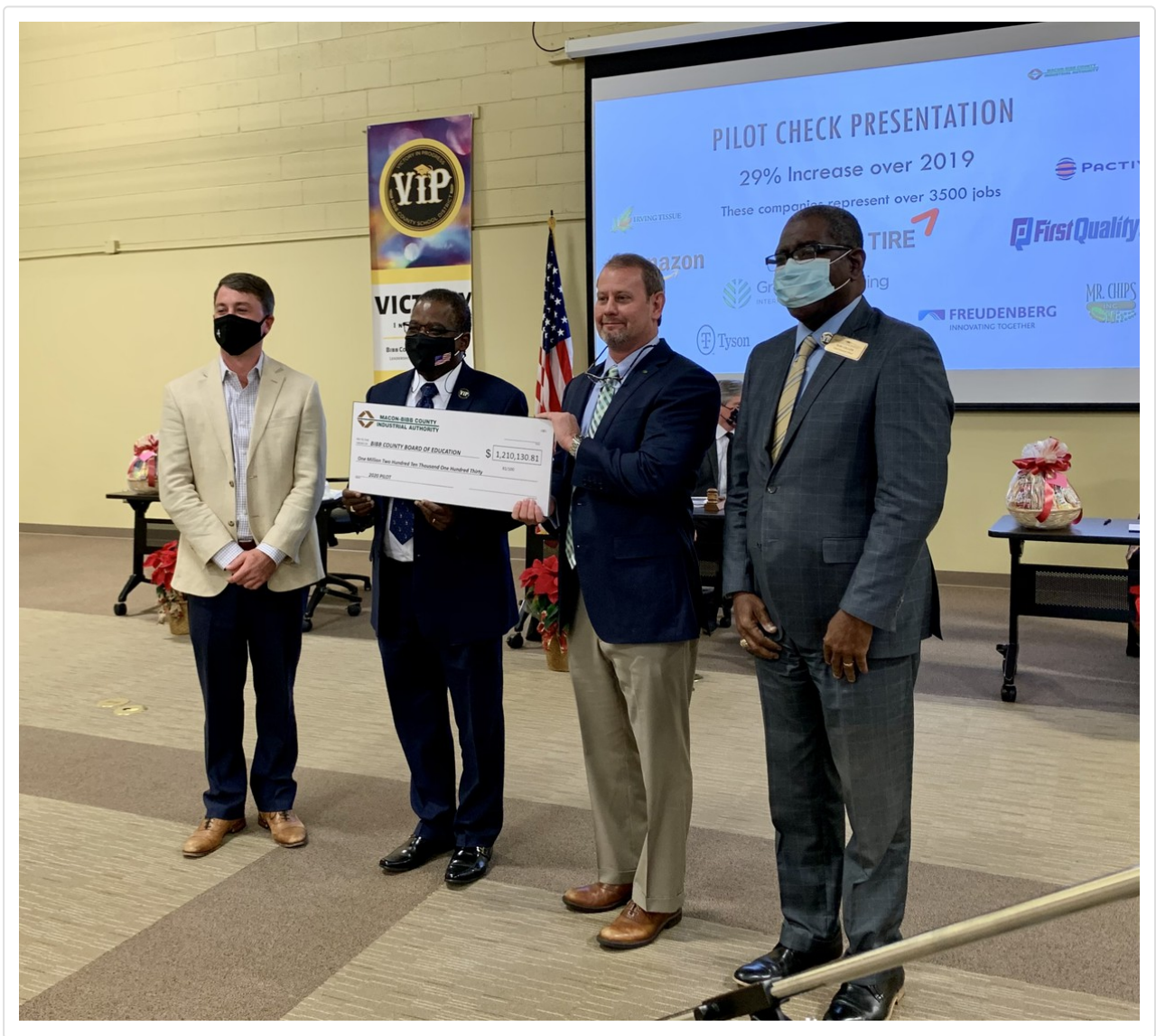
Personnel Items Approved

On Thursday, December 17, Board members approved various personnel items. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Information

Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority Visits Board

On Thursday, December 17, 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. For more information, [click here](#).



Board Receives Cenergistic Presentation

On Thursday, December 17, Board members received a presentation about Cenergistic, which empowers organizations to become more energy efficient and recover 25 percent or more in energy costs through energy conservation. For more information, [click here](#).



Board Reviews Monthly Financial Report

On Thursday, December 17, Board members reviewed the District's monthly financial report. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Receives Presentation from Capital Improvement Program

On Thursday, December 17, 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](#).

Recognitions

Alex II Recognized for Earning Georgia STEM Certification

The Georgia Department of Education has selected about 75 schools and programs for certification in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, also known as STEM Certification. This process seeks to identify schools that have committed to preparing students for future career opportunities in high-demand and lucrative STEM fields. Recently, Alexander II Math and Science Magnet School earned STEM Certification after an extensive evaluation and interview process. Alex II is the first Bibb County school to reach this milestone.

Kilcrease Recognized as Finalist for Women in School Leadership Awards

AASA, The School Superintendents Association, takes the time each year to honor female leaders with Women in School Leadership Awards. These awards recognize women at various

levels of school and District leadership. For the second time in three years, Dr. Tanzy Kilcrease has been selected as one of two national finalists for one of these awards. Dr. Kilcrease, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, is a finalist in the Central Office & Principal category. The winner will be announced in February 2021.

Outgoing Board Members Recognized for Service

The District recognized four Board of Education members who will be transitioning out of their current roles at the end of December. These individuals have served through times of celebration and challenge, and the District owes much of its success to their hard work and dedication. These Board members served during a time when the Board was recognized by the Georgia School Boards Association, first as a Quality Board, then a Distinguished Board and finally as an Exemplary Board in 2019.

Watch recognitions here: <https://www.facebook.com/bibbschools/videos/416624499468613>



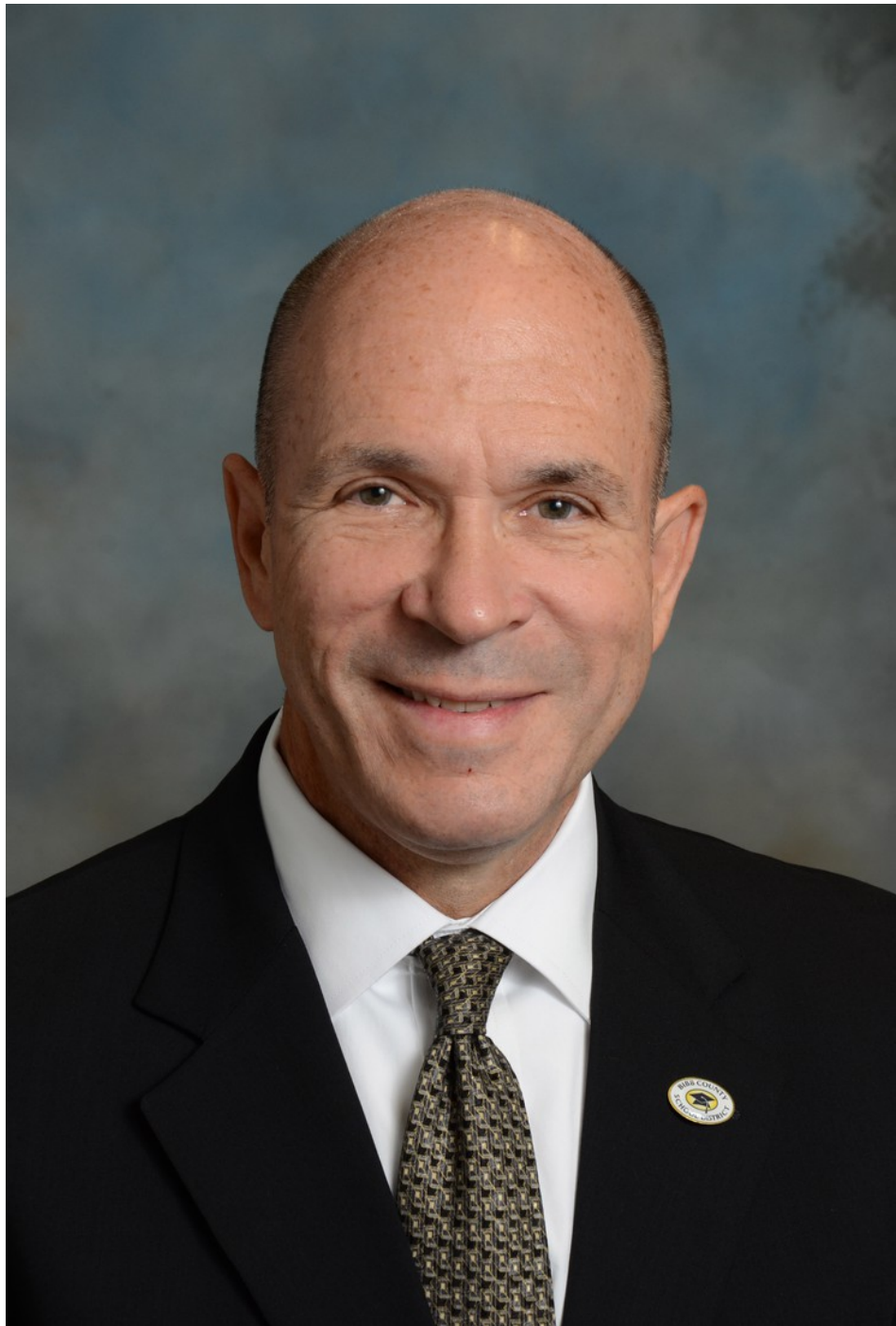
Mrs. Ella M. Styles Carter has been a mainstay on the Board of Education for the last 12 years, representing District 1 in Macon's Eastside. A beloved former educator and school administrator, she said, "I am blessed to have been elected by people who love, trust and respect me for who I am and that for which I stand. Toward this end I gave it my best! Excerpts from Dicken's historical novel, 'A Tale of Two Cities,' say it best ... 'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. ... it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness ... the season of light, the season of darkness.' For me, it was a period of enlightenment. I wouldn't trade the experience, a terrific way to end 59 years trying to assist in providing the Best education possible for the boys and girls of the Bibb County District."



Mrs. Susan K. Sipe also served three terms on the Board of Education, representing District 3 in south Bibb County. Her battle against cancer while continuing to work for the best interest of students was truly an inspiration. She described her time on the Board as an “honor,” adding, “When I first campaigned 12 years ago, I promised to always put children first. Before every vote while being a Board member, I have tried to always ask myself if I was putting children first with my vote. I am very proud that while serving on this Board, we were able to pass several ESPLOSTs that allowed us to build top-notch school buildings in every part of the county, allowing all of our students to learn in a modern and safe building. Another of the highlights while serving on this Board was being able to hire Dr. Curtis Jones to serve as our Superintendent for the system. I am going to miss being a part of this Board, but I feel confident that our new Board members will carry on the work of this Board.”



Mr. Lester Miller, who departs his post to serve as Macon-Bibb County Mayor, has served two terms and is a past president of the Board. He said of his time representing District 4 and the Westside zone, "As a graduate of the Bibb County School District, it has been an honor to serve our community as a member of the Board of Education for the past eight years. I am especially proud of how our members have worked together to always put children first. Our students are some of the best and brightest in the world, and it has been my pleasure to play a small part in their success." The District is excited to continue working with Mayor Miller for many years to come.



Mr. Robert Easter served one four-year term on the Board, representing District 6 in north Macon, and it was a term full of achievement for Bibb schools. He said of his time on the Board, "The highlight for me has been to work with my fellow Board members and Dr. Jones to ensure that the entire BCSD team had the appropriate resources to enable them to 'work their magic' with our community's children." Mr. Easter leaves the District to return home to his roots in the Chicago area.

Special Event

New Board of Education Members Sworn In

The Bibb County Board of Education held a swearing-in ceremony for its recently elected members on Thursday, December 17. Two returning Board members, Dr. Thelma Dillard of District 2 and Dr. Sandra Woodford of District 5, will be sworn in along with the following new

Board members: Myrtice C. Johnson of District 1, Kristin Hanlon of District 3, Juawn Jackson of District 4 and James Freeman of District 6.

Watch the event here: <https://www.facebook.com/bibbschools/videos/415819619609487>

