

# **The Board Brief**

This edition of *The Board Brief* is a summary of the information and recognitions presented and actions taken at the Board of Education's Committee and Board Meetings on February 28, 2019.

=====

## ***Highlights and Recognitions***

### **Springdale Elementary Wins Keep America Beautiful Award**

The Springdale Eagle Recyclers group recently received a national Keep America Beautiful Award after being recognized at the state level. The club is led by teacher Holley Stejskal and includes the following students: Raven Bradberry, Krysten Buckner, Anna Busbee, Charleigh Carlton, Whit Davidson, Aiden East, Jordan French, Jon Emory Hall, Jeremiah Hawkins, Freddie Hill, Thomizia Holston, Sanford Horne, Kaden Jones, William Martin, Emma Miller, Micheal Ogoh, Ma'Kaylia Paul, Seth Rider, Londyn Rodgers, Vincent Santamarina, Caroline Stejskal and Zane Wimberly.

### **Spelling Bee Winners Recognized**

The Bibb County Spelling Bee is hosted by the Bibb Association of Educators each year and sponsored by the Masab Temple No. 11. The winner and runner-up of this competition go on to compete at the Region 6 Spelling Bee. This year's bee was won by Samantha Lee from the Academy for Classical Education. Howard Middle School's Babar Dar came in second, followed by Rutland Middle School's Tea Solomon in third.

### **Dr. Jones Honored as National Superintendent of the Year**

Since he arrived in 2015, Superintendent Dr. Curtis L. Jones Jr. has worked to make the Bibb County School District a more reliable organization that produces students who display strength of character and are college and career ready. This leadership was rewarded earlier this month, as Dr. Jones was chosen as the National Superintendent of the Year by AASA, the National School Superintendents Association.

## ***Actions Taken***

### **Executive Director, Two Principals Named; APs for 2019-2020 Approved**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members approved the appointments of two principals and an executive director. Dr. Wendy Pooler was appointed Principal of Rutland High School and Dr. Latrina Pennamon-Nash was appointed Principal of Ballard-Hudson Middle School. Samuel Kitchens, currently working with Macon-Bibb County, was appointed Executive Director of Capital Programs.

Dr. Mack Bullard was named Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. He will replace Paige Busbee, who is retiring at the end of May 2019. Dr. Bullard is currently serving as Director of Strategic Talent Management for Griffin-Spalding County Schools.

Also, Board members approved the renewal of assistant principals for the 2019-2020 school year. To view all personnel items approved, [click here](#).

### **Board Reviews Policies**

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading on Thursday, February 28. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy BBA – Board Officers (second reading)
- Policy BBAA – Board Officer Method of Election (second reading)
- Policy BBC – Board Committees (second reading)
- Policy JB – Student Attendance (first reading)
- Policy JBB – Entrance Age (first reading)
- Policy JBCB – Nonresident Students (first reading)
- Policy JCDA – Student Code of Conduct (first reading)

### **Board Accepts Audit of District Financial Statements for FY 2018**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members voted to accept the audit of the financial statements for the Bibb County School District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, as presented by the firm of Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC. Copies of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) will be delivered to Board members and posted the district's website at [www.bcsdk12.net](http://www.bcsdk12.net). For more information, [click here](#).

### **District to Partner with Foothills Education Center**

On Thursday, February 28, the Board voted to authorize the Superintendent to sign a Facilities Use Agreement with Foothills Education Center Inc. As discussed during the Board Retreat on February 22, the District is partnering with Foothills Education Center Inc. to expand education options for students who have dropped out of school or who may have fallen behind in credits. For more information about the facilities use agreement, [click here](#). To view the presentation about Foothills from the Board Retreat, [click here](#).

### **Board OKs Dell Lease Program for CTAE**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members authorized the District to enter into a contractual leasing agreement with Dell Computers to enhance CTAE technology as required by the Carl D. Perkins Grant. The funding for this program will be provided by the CTAE Perkins Grant, and the contract is a one year with the option of renewal for three years. For more information, [click here](#).

### **Technology Items Approved**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members approved various action items related to district technology services, pending the receipt of an E-rate Funding Commitment letter and available school E-rate funds. For more information on these action items, [click here](#).

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 E-rate submission deadline for funding requests is March 27, 2019. This is the last year of the USAC five-year – Category II budget for the schools. District funds for Category II were allocated per school in FY 15 at \$150 per student. The total district remaining E-

rate budget for all eligible schools is \$1,466,653.28. As such, the Technology Department conducted a needs assessment per school, devised 5 RFPs to address the needs and completed the necessary procurement process required by BCSD and USAC. The schools with adequate E-rate budgets available are reflected in the FY 19 E-rate projects. For Category II E-rate projects, USAC reimburses the district 85 percent of all eligible costs – provided the individual school has the appropriate remaining budget available. Category II projects will not move forward without the USAC funding commitment.

#### Network Upgrade

The Board of Education awarded RFP 19-21 to One Accord. The BCSD funding portion of the project will not exceed \$496,492.42 and will be contingent on the receipt of the E-rate Funding Commitment letter and available school E-rate funds. The Technology Department will upgrade the Top of Rack switches and update the current network layout in 14 Schools from a classroom CAN configuration to an MDF/IDF configuration. This would include installing equipment racks, replacing /relocating /reconfiguring electronics, running network cable, certifying the completed installation and providing a detailed turnover to the BCSD Network Engineers electronically and printed.

#### Switch Upgrade

The Board of Education awarded RFP 19-22 to CDW-G. The BCSD funding portion of this project will not exceed \$62,847.12 and will also be contingent on the receipt of E-rate Funding Commitment letter and available school funds. The Technology Department will upgrade the current top of rack switch at 14 schools throughout the district. This would include replacing the existing switch with two stacked Cisco Meraki switches, configuring the new switches, testing the completed installation and providing a detailed turnover to the BCSD Network Engineers electronically and printed.

#### Williams Network Upgrade

The Board of Education awarded RFP 19-24 to CDW-G. The BCSD funding portion of the project will not exceed \$12,345.62 and will be contingent on the receipt of the E-rate Funding Commitment letter and available school E-rate funds. The Technology Department will upgrade the current 1 Gb/s network to a 10 Gb/s network at Williams Elementary School. This will include installing and configuring a new Cisco Meraki network, removing the existing electronics, certifying the completed installation and providing a detailed turnover to the BCSD Network Engineers electronically and printed.

#### New Appling and Northeast Network Install

The Board of Education awarded RFP 19-25 to CDW-G. The BCSD funding portion of the project will not exceed \$45,839.15 and will be contingent on the receipt of the E-rate Funding Commitment letter and available schools' E-rate funds. The Technology Department will install a Cisco Meraki Network in the newly constructed Appling Middle School and Northeast High School. This will include installing and configuring a new Cisco Meraki 10 Gb/s network, certifying the completed installation and providing a detailed turnover to the BCSD Network Engineers electronically and printed.

### WAN and Internet Access

The Board of Education awarded RFP 19-23 to Cox Business and authorized the Superintendent to enter into a 5-year contract with Cox Business to provide the district WAN connectivity and Internet access from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2024. The Technology Department seeks to provide Wide Area Network connectivity between all BCSD buildings and Internet services for all BCSD locations. This fiber optic network will connect all sites to the Network Operations Center and offer services ranging from 1 Gb/s to 40 Gb/s.

### **District Seeks to Purchase Property to Expand Alex II Parking**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members authorized the District to move forward with the purchase of property located at 1256 Oglethorpe Street in order to build additional parking for Alexander II Magnet School. Due to a lack of parking available at the school, parents and guests are required to park on the streets when attending events or dropping off students. An additional parking lot would address some of these safety concerns. For more information, [click here](#).

### **Board Takes Action in Civil Suits**

The Board took action on Thursday, February 28, after receiving a proposal in the civil Dallemand case from Central Georgia Partnership for Individual and Community Development (CGPICD) to settle the claims against them. As part of the agreement, CGPICD agrees to pay \$10,000 to the District to be used for educational purposes.

Additionally, the Board took action on Thursday, February 28, after receiving a proposal in the civil Dallemand case from Cliffard Whitby, Whitby Inc., Positiventures Initiatives LLC, and Integrated Technologies Consulting LLC to settle the claims against them. As part of the agreement, Positiventures agrees to pay \$157,500, Whitby Inc. will pay \$45,000, and Cliffard Whitby will pay \$22,500.

## *Information*

### **Board Reviews Balanced Scorecard for Strategic Goal 1**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members received an overview of data monitored as part of Strategic Goal 1: Increase Student Achievement in the Balanced Scorecard. To view the data from Goal 1, [click here](#).

### **Academy for Classical Education Shifting to State Charter**

On Thursday, February 28, Board members received notification that the Academy for Classical Education (ACE) charter school intends to shift to a state-authorized school this summer. ACE is currently the only locally approved charter school in Bibb County. Its original charter is set to expire on June 30, 2019.

In January, Board members approved the Superintendent's recommendation to renew local authorization for ACE after the school submitted its application and request for renewal of local authorization. ACE also submitted an application to the state for approval. State authorization of the charter school was approved earlier this month.

### **Industrial Authority Presents Update**

On Thursday, February 28, representatives of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority presented the District with a new initiative to address industrial and commercial blight in Bibb County. The *Macon Bright* program would incentivize the private sector to renovate, rehabilitate, and/or re-purpose deteriorated industrial and commercial properties. Additionally, the Industrial Authority presented the District with a check for \$483,949 in collections earned through pilot payment agreements.