

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 April 18, 2019.

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Highlights and Recognitions

Top Young Georgia Authors Recognized

The Young Georgia Authors contest seeks to honor students for their original literary works. The following winners were selected by the District at each grade level:

- Layla Hill, Kindergarten, The Cake, Vineville Academy of the Arts
- Savanna Talley, 1st Grade, The Farmer's Pet Monkey, Taylor Elementary School
- Reagan Crawford, 2nd Grade, The Doll Maker, Alexander II Magnet School
- Noah Smith, 3rd Grade, Recycling Straight from the Heart, Carter Elementary School
- Jamilah Sillah, 5th Grade, Things That Annoy Me!, Carter Elementary School
- Tamya M. Dudley, 6th Grade, The Black Woods, Ballard-Hudson Middle School
- Morgan Blakley, 8th Grade, The Beauty of a Woman, Howard Middle School
- Lucy He, 9th Grade, Dreamland, Howard High School
- Naomi Gilmore, 10th Grade, The Crow and the Calico, Central High School
- Roshaad Williams, 11th Grade, Lost in Love, Westside High School
- Alyssa Daughdrill, 12th Grade, Through the Music Box, Howard High School

School Social Workers Chosen for State Offices

Several of the District's school social workers have been appointed officers in the School Social Workers Association of Georgia. Angela Solomon was selected to be state president, Kimberly Pointer as District 6 president and Crystal Wright as District 6 vice president.

Two Administrators Chosen for Georgia PSC Task Force

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) oversees the preparation and certification of educators across the state. Recently, the Georgia PSC convened an Elementary Education Task Force to evaluate and update its Early Childhood Education Educator Preparation Rule. Updates to this rule would affect current and prospective teachers in Georgia, and two Bibb County school administrators were nominated and chosen to serve on this task force: Taylor Elementary School Principal LaShonda Gilbert and Vineville Academy of the Arts Assistant Principal Amanda Marsh.

Truancy Task Force Members Recognized for Service

The Truancy Task Force meets with families of students with poor attendance patterns to address issues and obstacles that negatively impact student attendance. The following members of the task force were recognized for their service during the 2018-2019 school year: Executive Directors Taryn Collinsworth and Frank Mack, Chief Operating Officer Will Butler, Assistant Solicitor Kristen Murphy, Truancy Officer Regena Johnson, Anita Barkin, Marvin Brown, Melanie Brown, Col. Henderson Carswell, Marcia Daniely, Christopher Dunn, Sgt. Matthew Giegler, Tairesa

Holland, Sharon Hunter, Maj. Billy Johnson, Dr. Danielle Jones, Sgt. Richie Kendrick, Ayesha Lucas, Lester Miller, Vernona Moseley, Carol Shines, Capt., Ellis Sinclair, Susan Sipe, Santel Smith, Angela Solomon, Bill Square, Lt. Reginald Thomas, Carter Watts, Leslie Brooke Widner, Tonnie Williams and Deputy Sahkera Wooten.

District Students Chosen for Governor's Honors Program

The Governor's Honors Program (GHP) is an annual summer opportunity for rising juniors and seniors. These students are chosen in academic and fine arts areas based on a series of applications, interviews and auditions. This year, two of our students were chosen for GHP, Howard High School's Harley Patterson for Communicative Arts and Ben Giglio for social studies, while Central High School's Nadine Ahmed was chosen as an alternate for science.

District Teams Enter Student Chef Competition

The Georgia Student Chef Competition invites teams from across the state to enter recipes that meet requirements to be served as a school lunch entrée and include two Georgia-grown products. One team represents each school, but only one team is selected to participate in the state competition per District.

The following students from Northeast High School entered as a team: Ma'Kyah Clark, Keturah Haynes, Jakireya Norman, Wesley Reynolds, Sandrena Sermons and Jasmine Taylor, with advisors Gisela Coley and Linda Hinton. The team from Rutland High School – Keon Burnett and Abigail Hudgins, with advisor Sharon Manning – was selected for the state competition at Helms College last month.

Science Fair Winners Recognized

Each year, students across the country prepare their science fair projects to display their grasp of the scientific method. The first place winners from District schools were recognized, as listed below.

- From Alexander II Math and Science Magnet School: Alexandra Edwards.
- From Bernd Elementary School: Savonta Luke.
- From Burdell-Hunt Magnet: Thomas Rutland, Ameena Rahaman and Jeremy Wiggins.
- From Heard Elementary School: Amelia Barefoot.
- From Heritage Elementary School: Katelyn Cline and Maddox Hall.
- From Lane Elementary School: Jihanna Redding.
- From Porter Elementary: Sam Deal.
- From Taylor Elementary School: Riley Clark.
- From Springdale Elementary School: Aleisha Sumrall.
- From Vineville Academy of the Arts: Oliver Jennings.
- From Appling Middle School: Anise Gainey and Jadaijah Glover.
- From Howard Middle School: Sofia Ali and Leen Sunnoqrot, who placed third at the state science fair; and Ryan Rodgers and Joseph-Parker Cheshire, who also were invited to the state science fair. Chielsy Garcia's project was chosen as best in class for the junior level and she was invited to the state science fair.
- From Miller Fine Arts Magnet Middle School: Andrew McLendon, who was invited to the state science fair, and Lillian Harper.

- From Rutland Middle School: Marleigh Williams, who placed second at the state science fair; Kayla Watson; and Joshua Moore, who won Best in Class and also placed second at the state science fair.
- From Weaver Middle School: Michael Horton, who placed fourth in the state competition.
- From Howard High School: Tabitha Cantrell, who was selected as Best in Class and received invitations to the state science fair and the International Science & Engineering Fair in Phoenix as an observer.

Miller Students Honored for History Bee Success

Miller Fine Arts Magnet Middle School had more than 30 students qualify for the Regional History Bee, and from that group, four qualified for the National History Bee scheduled for this June in Chicago. These students included sixth-graders Emily Everidge, Isaiah Ford-Patters, Justice Gibson, Aliyah Glover, Geronimo Henkel, Shamya Leghorn, Mary-Katherine Lewis, Morgan Pugh, Kyra Spencer and Malia Tarver; seventh-graders Ulric Bellaire, Kennedi Blash, Omariion Brantley, Destiny Butts, Ja'Miya Chappell, Jayden Clowers, Chinyere Cody, Deborah Cross, Morgan Daniel, Fredreca Dugger, Naima Edwards, Kambria Foster, Aaliyah Freeman, Tyshaun Goolsby, Lillian Harper, Nathan Houser, Chris Moore, Elizabeth Nava, Jacob Solomon, Alexander Spell, Kobi Stephens, Chanayah Stuart and Ashton Williams; and eighth-graders Wilson Bridges, TeZhaivien Bryant, Jakahri Curry, Joshua Gonzales, Henry Jennings and Reise Ragins. Mary-Katherine Lewis, Lillian Harper, Wilson Bridges and Henry Jennings qualified for the national competition.

District Students Recognized for History Day Achievements

National History Day is an academic competition in which students conduct extensive research on a historical topic of their choice based on the year's theme. Students compete in National History Day on local, state and national levels.

The students listed below placed high enough at the regional National History Day competition to advance to the state competition.

- From Howard High School, Landon Norman, Senior Papers; James Daniels III, Senior Papers; Katie Kosowski, Senior Individual Websites; Mia Shoemaker, Senior Individual Websites; Abby Kitchens, Senior Individual Websites; Leo Zhang and Jason Wang, Senior Group Websites; Evan Thompson, Luke Davis, Rita Dong and Ava Lauer, Senior Group Websites; Ben Giglio and Rose Tran, Senior Group Exhibits; Akudo Echebelem and Zach Ferguson, Senior Group Exhibits; Chandler Daniel, Senior Individual Performances; Destiny Baker and Tabitha Cantrell, Senior Group Performances; and Andrew Garnett, Senior Individual Documentaries.
- From Howard Middle School, Chayil Cole, Junior Individual Websites; Chiesly Garcia, Junior Individual Exhibits; Sydney Andrews and Ryan Rodgers, Junior Group Exhibits; Annalise Williams, Junior Individual Performances; Brisa Gamboa and Makayla Malone, Junior Group Performances; and Logan Adams, Nya Griffin, Raleigh Martin, Zion Newbill and Morgan Blakely, Junior Group Performances.
- From Miller Middle School, Henry Jennings, Junior Papers; Nadia Thomas, Junior Individual Exhibits; and Kahlil Harvey, Junior Individual Documentaries.
- From Rutland High School, Paige Riser, Senior Papers; Dhaval Patel, Aubrey Merritt, Kazira Hill, Jared Crittle and Dilon Belanger, Senior Group Websites; Jada Hatcher, Senior

Individual Exhibits; Kelly Hunter, Senior Individual Exhibits; Amanda Hickman, Kennedy Stephens and Marina Terraza, Senior Group Exhibits; Eujin Pyon, Senior Individual Documentaries; and Evan O’Quinn, Senior Individual Documentaries.

- From Rutland Middle School, Frankie Cruz and Nathan King, Junior Group Exhibits.

Actions Taken

Superintendent to Remain in Bibb Through June 2022

On Thursday, April 18, the Bibb County Board of Education voted to modify its contract with Superintendent Dr. Curtis L. Jones Jr., keeping him in his role as Superintendent of the Bibb County School District through the end of June 2022. The Board originally voted to name Dr. Jones Superintendent of the Bibb County School District on February 26, 2015. His first day in Bibb County was April 6, 2015.

“The Board is very pleased with the job Dr. Jones has done to bring continued stability to the Bibb County School District. As evidenced by his recognition as 2019 National Superintendent of the Year, he has been able to move our district forward, and we want him to continue to provide that leadership for our district and our community. We are pleased with Dr. Jones’s leadership, and the Board feels we have a good working relationship and are providing him the support he needs to improve the District,” said Board of Education President Lester Miller.

New Assistant Principals Appointed; Resolution for Land Bank Authority Approved

On Thursday, April 18, Board members approved the appointments of two assistant principals. Valeka Franklin was appointed Assistant Principal of Rutland High School, and Dr. Sarah Mayberry was appointed Assistant Principal of Taylor Elementary School.

Additionally, Board members approved a resolution for the President of the Bibb County Board of Education or his/her designee to serve as a member of the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority.

To view all personnel items approved, [click here](#).

14 New School Buses Approved; 10 Older Buses Approved for Surplus and Sale

On Thursday, April 18, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order for 14 school buses from Yancey Bus Sales and Service. Currently, the District’s fleet consists of 200 school buses. This purchase will include 10 72-passenger buses and four 54-passenger buses with wheelchair lifts. These new buses will be equipped with air conditioning. They will replace 14 older buses that have been in service for a minimum of 21 years, have traveled a minimum of 253,000 miles and that are not equipped with air conditioning.

The purchase will be paid for with Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funds. For more information on the school bus purchase action item, [click here](#).

Additionally, Board members approved the surplus and sale of 13 vehicles and authorized the Board President and Superintendent to sign a resolution for this purpose. The Transportation Department identified these vehicles, which are at least 17 years old and have traveled in excess of 127,000 miles. These vehicles were identified for disposal after the Board approved the purchase of 10 new school buses in August 2018. These vehicles will be taken out of service and advertised for sale on the GovDeals website. For more information on this action item, [click here](#).

Board Approves Macon Bright Program from MBCIA

On Thursday, April 18, Board members approved a resolution with the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority for the Macon Bright Program and authorized the Board President and Superintendent to sign the resolution. In February, representatives of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority presented the District with information about the new initiative designed 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. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

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

- Policy EE – Food Services Management (second reading)
- Policy IFBG – Internet Acceptable Use (second reading)
- Policy IDA – Basic Program (first reading)
- Policy IDDB – Remedial Programs (first reading)
- Policy IDDO – Student Production of Goods or Services (first reading)
- Policy IHF(6) – Graduation Requirements – Entering Fall 2008-09 and thereafter (first reading)

Board OKs Math Textbook Adoption

On Thursday, April 18, Board members approved the mathematics textbook adoption for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information about the resources, which were selected with the feedback of school district employees, [click here](#).

Information

Board Receives Update on Georgia Milestones Administration

On Thursday, April 18, Board members received an overview of the District's administration of the Georgia Milestones assessments for spring 2019. Currently, elementary and middle school students are participating in Georgia Milestones testing. High school students will begin testing later this spring. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Board Provided with E-rate Historical Review

On Thursday, April 18, Board members received an overview of District's E-rate historical information. The federal E-rate program began in 1998 to provide discounts to assist eligible schools and libraries to obtain affordable internet access. E-rate funds the following service types:

- Data transmission services and/or internet access;
- Internal connections;
- Managed internal broadband services; and
- Basic maintenance of internal connections.

Discounts range from 20-90 percent of the costs of eligible services, depending on the level of poverty and the urban/rural status at the school district level. Eligible schools, school districts and libraries may apply individually or as part of a consortium. The District is eligible to receive funding from E-rate up to 90 percent of the cost to purchase products and services necessary to give students and teachers faster and more widely available internet access.

A major "attestation audit" on the 2016 E-rate funding for the District will be completed in May 2019. E-rate auditors have spent more than 21 months examining pertinent records. Auditors inspected several schools in the District to look at technology installed in order to ensure compliance with all federal regulations. The District received no findings or concerns of any kind.

To view the presentation, [click here](#).