

The Board Brief

This edition of *The Board Brief* is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education's meetings on July 16 and 18, 2019.

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Actions Taken

Board Approves Request for ESPLOST Referendum

On Tuesday, July 16, during a Called Meeting, Board members voted to approve a memorandum calling for an election on November 5, 2019, to continue the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) for educational improvements.

The current ESPLOST was approved by the voters of Bibb County on November 2, 2015 and will expire on December 31, 2020. The revenue from this one cent sales tax has provided for much needed district improvements, including:

- Consolidation of Northeast High School and Appling Middle School to a shared campus, including construction of an auditorium on the shared campus;
- Acquiring, constructing and equipping a new elementary school;
- Renovating, expanding, repairing and equipping existing schools, including new floor coverings, paint, furniture replacement, roof replacement, energy efficient improvements, playground improvements and handicap accessibility;
- Constructing auditoriums at Rutland High School and Westside High School;
- Purchasing new technology, fine arts equipment, athletic equipment, and safety and security systems throughout the district;
- Purchasing school buses, vehicles, maintenance and transportation equipment;
- Providing controlled access entrances and updating technology throughout the district;
- Constructing and equipping a campus police and transportation facility;
- Acquiring, improving and renovating athletic facilities, including field houses, air conditioning gymnasiums, softball fields, soccer fields and practice fields; and
- Demolition of surplus property throughout the district.

On Thursday, July 18, Board members received an update on the potential cost of the election.

For more information, including a list of proposed projects for ESPLOST collections that would begin January 1, 2021, if approved by Bibb County voters, [click here](#).

District Receives Update on FY 2020 Budget

On Thursday, July 18, Board members received information regarding a budget amendment for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs School House Health Agreement with Medical Center

On Thursday, July 18, Board members authorized the District to renew an updated contract with the Medical Center Navicent Health for nursing services in 2019-2020. The District's partnership with the Medical Center for nursing services has been in place since 1994. The 2019-2020 contract provides nursing coverage for all Bibb County schools. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Contracts, Renewals of Instructional Programs

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved the renewal of MaxScholar, a phonics program, for elementary schools for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Also on Thursday, July 18, Board members approved the renewal of System 44 Next Generation for elementary schools for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Also on Thursday, July 18, Board members approved for the District to enter into a contractual agreement with ThinkCERCA to provide middle school students with a flexible research-based framework that helps students engage in critical thinking. ThinkCERCA is an online platform that provides support to help teachers improve literacy instruction and increase student achievement in all core content areas for Tier 1 instruction. For more information, [click here](#).

Also on Thursday, July 18, Board members approved the renewal of Edgenuity for the 2019-2020 school year. Bibb County high schools have used Edgenuity, an online, blended learning experience, for several years to provide students with opportunities to recover credits; to offer Advanced Placement courses that may not be offered at particular schools; and to provide instructional supports. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Contract for RtI Coaching Academy

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved a one-year contractual agreement with Solution Tree to provide the RtI Coaching Academy to Bibb County school teams. One of the district's non-negotiables is Response to Intervention (RtI). It is the district's goal to implement this multi-tier approach to meet the individualized needs of all students. Solution Tree's yearlong RtI Coaching Academy provides the most in-depth professional learning solution for practitioners who want comprehensive training on RTI concepts, practical applications and sustainability. For more information, [click here](#).

SIG Allocation for Northeast High Approved

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved the award of School Improvement Grant Continuation funds to Northeast High School for year four (2019-2020) of its SIG status. The School Improvement Grant provides funds to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that demonstrate the greatest need for funds and the strongest commitment to use funds to turn around lowest-achieving schools. The grant funds have assisted participating Bibb County schools to expand educational opportunities in order to maximize student engagement, meet a variety of student interests and ensure the relevance of learning. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Perkins CTAE Funding for 2019-2020

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved Career, Technical and Agriculture Education (CTAE) Carl D. Perkins federal funds for the 2019-2020 school year. In accordance with the Carl

D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, each eligible local school system shall submit an Annual Local Plan/Application for Career and Technical Education (State Board Rule 160-4-3-.02). Grant funds must be spent for local programs in compliance with the Perkins Act, State Plan, State Rules and Local Plan Guidelines. For more information, [click here](#).

Speech Language Pathology Contracts Approved

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved proposed contracts with nine listed companies to provide speech language pathology services, as needed, for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

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

- Policy EBL – Environmental Programs (second reading)
- Policy GAE – Complaints and Grievances (second reading)
- Policy GAF – Student-Staff Relations (second reading)
- Policy GAG – Staff Conflict of Interest (second reading)
- Policy JBC(1) – Homeless Students (second reading)
- Policy IDDC – Homebound Instruction Programs (first reading)
- Policy JBCCA(2) – Unsafe School Choice Option (first reading)
- Policy JBCCD – Transfer and Withdrawals (first reading)
- Policy JE – Guidance Program (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, July 18, Board members approved various personnel items. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Information

Board Takes Steps in Naming New Elementary School

On Thursday, July 18, Board members received an update on the process for naming facilities. Per Policy FDC – Naming Facilities, upon the construction of a new school or facility, school consolidations, re-use of a school or facility, or the closing a school, a committee must be appointed to make a recommendation as to the naming or renaming of the school or facility.

As part of the most recent Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), the Board of Education approved the construction of a new elementary school to be built upon the consolidation of Riley and Brookdale Elementary Schools. Establishing a name for the new school

as early as possible will assist the architects and construction manager as they progress in the construction process. Additionally, acting soon in appointing a naming committee would assist in ensuring all stakeholders have ample opportunity to give input regarding the name.

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

Monroe County Schools, Perdue Perry Cook Facility Partnering with Hutchings

On Thursday, July 18, Board members received information about two new partnerships through Hutchings College and Career Academy (HCCA). To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Beginning this fall, Mary Persons High School juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to participate in the following pathways at HCCA: Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Teaching as a Profession and Welding. This will be similar to the partnership already in place between HCCA and the Georgia Academy for the Blind (GAB), which allows students from GAB to participate in pathway courses at HCCA. Monroe County Schools will provide transportation to HCCA and Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC) campuses for Mary Persons High students.

Additionally, HCCA will sign a partnership agreement with Perdue Perry Cook Facility on Monday, August 26, at 1:30 p.m. at CGTC in Macon. Through this partnership, students will take classes at CGTC and earn Technical College Credits (TCCs). The partnership will include field trips, job shadowing, mentoring and guest speakers during the program. Additionally, each student who meets the requirements will be guaranteed an interview with Perdue Perry Cook Facility upon completion of the program.

District Reviews Possibility of Block Scheduling in Future

On Thursday, July 18, Board members received information about the possibility of moving to a block schedule in the future. By implementing a block schedule, the District could improve the quality of education while increasing opportunities for Bibb County students. Block schedules are structured to provide blocks of time for student learning by restructuring the school day with fewer, longer classes, from 60 to 120 minutes each. To view the presentation, which provides a detailed review and outline of the possibility of moving to a block schedule, [click here](#).