

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 January 18, 2018.

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Highlights and Recognitions

Board Member Honored for Service as President

Board of Education member Daryl Morton was recognized with a commemorative gavel for his service as Board President during the 2017 calendar year. Mr. Morton serves as the Board's At-Large, Post 7 representative.

MBCIA Presents District with Update on Business and Industry

Representatives of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority provided Board members with an update on the successes of the past year for industry and business in Macon-Bibb County. They thanked Board members for their partnership in the pilot payment program in order to support new business and industry in Macon-Bibb and presented the District with a check as part of that pilot payment tool.

Actions Taken

Principals for 2018-2019 Approved

On Thursday, January 18, Board members approved the renewal of principals and certified administrators for the 2018-2019 school year. Among those, Christopher Kirby was appointed Principal of Porter Elementary School. He is currently serving as Interim Principal of Porter Elementary. Additionally, Dr. Christopher Ridley will become Principal of Williams Elementary School and Dr. Shandrina Griffin-Stewart will become Principal of Appling Middle School. Also of note are the retirements of Dr. Susan Simpson and Dr. Sherri Flagg at the end of this year.

Vacancies will be opened for applications. Assistant Principals will be brought to the Board for renewal in February. To view all personnel items approved, [click here](#).

Board Accepts Clean Audit of District's Financial Statements for 2016-2017

On January 18, Board members voted to accept the overall positive audit of the District's financial statements for the 2016-2017 school year. To view the recommendation, [click here](#).

Board Approves FY 2019 Budget Calendar

On Thursday, January 18, Board members authorized the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Budget Calendar. To view the calendar, which outlines the timeline for the development of the 2018-2019 budget, [click here](#).

Board Approves Proposed District Organization for Five-Year Facilities Plan

On Thursday, January 18, Board members approved information as presented for the District's long-term (2018-2022) facility plan. It is required by law (O.C.G.A. 20-2-260) for each school district to develop and maintain a long-range facilities plan (Five-Year Plan) that documents enrollment projections, school organization, classroom inventory and condition of each school facility within a district. The current long-term facilities plan for the Bibb County School District will expire in June 2018.

One of the major items included in the District's long-term facility plan is the proposed school organization. The proposed organization is comprised of the schools, along with their grade configuration, that will remain, be removed or added to the District's organization over the term of the long-term plan:

Proposed Bibb County School District Organization

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS			
Alexander II Elementary School	Pre-K - 5	Northwoods Academy	Pre-K - K
Bernd Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Porter Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Brookdale Elementary - To be phased out & closed		Riley Elementary - To be Phased Out & Replaced New	
Bruce Elementary	Pre-K - 5	New Elementary #4 - New Riley	Pre-K - 5
Burdell Hunt Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Skyview Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Carter Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Southfield Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Hartley Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Springdale Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Heard Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Taylor Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Heritage Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Union Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Ingram Pye Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Veterans Elementary	Pre-K - 5
Lane Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Vineville Elementary	Pre-K - 5
MLK Jr. Elementary	Pre-K - 5	Williams Elementary	Pre-K - 5
MIDDLE SCHOOLS		HIGH SCHOOLS	
New Appling Middle	6 - 8	Central High School	9 - 12
Ballard Hudson	6 - 8	Howard High School	9 - 12
Howard Middle	6 - 8	New Northeast High	9 - 12
Miller Middle	6 - 8	Rutland High	9 - 12
Rutland Middle	6 - 8	Southwest High School	9 - 12
Weaver Middle	6 - 8	Westside High School	9 - 12

The proposed organization includes the demolition of the existing Riley facility with a new elementary facility constructed on the same site. The Superintendent's recommendation states that this will be considered in the 2019 school year.

The Brookdale Elementary facility will be repurposed or sold once a new facility has been constructed for the students at this location. The Superintendent's recommendation states this will follow the opening of the new facility at the Riley location.

This proposed organization also reflects a new Appling Middle and Northeast High that will begin construction in summer 2018.

This recommendation is only for the proposed organization that will be included as part of the District's long-term facility plan. The entire plan will be brought to the Board for a final vote once the Georgia Department of Education has properly validated the long-term plan for acceptance.

Two public hearings were held prior to the meeting January 18 in order to receive feedback from stakeholders. The first public hearing was held at Brookdale Elementary School on Thursday, January 4, at 6 p.m. The second public hearing was held at the Central Office on Thursday January 18, at 3:30 p.m.

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

Board Elects Officers for 2018

On Thursday, January 21, Board members elected new officers for the 2018 calendar year. Lester Miller was elected to serve as President, Dr. Thelma Dillard was elected to serve as Vice President, and Daryl Morton was elected to serve as Treasurer. Outgoing officers for 2017 are Daryl Morton, President; Dr. Thelma Dillard, Vice President; and Susan K. Sipe, Treasurer.

Board Reviews Policy

Board members reviewed one policy for a second reading on Thursday, January 18. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To view the policy, [click here](#).

- Policy FDBA – Existing Facilities Inventory

Board Appoints ESPLOST Oversight Committee for 2018

On Thursday, January 18, Board members received a quick update on the ESPLOST Oversight Committee's second year. Also, Board members began submitting names for ESPLOST Oversight Committee appointments for 2018.

Since the approval of Bibb's Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) in 2000, substantial progress has been made in improvements to Bibb County School District facilities. All projects are identified and approved based on documented need and Board priorities. In November 2015, Bibb County voters approved the renewal of the one percent ESPLOST by 75 percent, allowing for the education sales tax to be collected for a continued 5-year period from 2016 to 2020.

The ESPLOST Oversight Committee oversees the management of ESPLOST capital improvement projects, per Policy BBC. Team members for 2017 included District 1: Mr. Alvin Copeland; District 2: Dr. Henry Ficklin; District 3: Mrs. Patricia Ballard; District 4: Mr. Mickey Daniell; District 5: Mrs. Natalie Stroud; District 6: Mrs. Tiffany Harvey; District 7: Mrs. Karen Yarbrough; District 8: Mr. Tim Jones; Superintendent Appointment: Mrs. Tanya Allen; Board Liaison: Vacant.

Information

Update on Inclement Weather

Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones provided Board members with a brief update on the District's decision to take inclement weather days on Wednesday and Thursday, January 17-18, because of snow. He discussed the reasons for the decision and provided an update on the possibility of make-

up days. He stated that he will take time to speak with principals and teachers to see how they think students are performing at this point in the school year. If their determination is that instruction is going well, then he likely will not make a recommendation to make up the two days missed, he said. No official decision has been made at this time.

Board Receives Update on Georgia's School Turnaround Focus

Dr. Eric Thomas, Chief Turnaround Officer for the state of Georgia, presented Board members with an update on Georgia's School Turnaround Focus. He highlighted the importance of partnerships and external resources as key elements of Georgia's turnaround work, and provided Board members with an idea of how he hopes to help districts and schools improve student achievement and school culture.

Eight schools in Bibb County are on the state's list of Turnaround-Eligible Schools. Those schools are Bruce Elementary, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, Riley Elementary, Southfield Elementary, Union Elementary, Veterans Elementary, Appling Middle, and Ballard-Hudson Middle.

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

Board Reviews Promotion and Retention of Elementary, Middle School Students

In July 2003 all local Board of Educations adopted criteria for the development of a placement and promotion policy consistent with the Georgia Academic Placement and Promotion Policy. Throughout January and February, elementary and middle schools will host meetings with parents to make sure they are aware of this policy.

According to policy, no third grade student shall be promoted to the fourth grade if the student does not receive a grade level reading determination of "On/Above Grade Level" on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessments and meet promotion standards and criteria. No fifth or eighth grade student shall be promoted to the sixth or ninth grade if the student does not receive a grade level reading determination of "On/Above Grade Level" on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment and attain an achievement level of "Developing Learner," "Proficient Learner" or "Distinguished Learner" on the mathematics section of the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment and meet promotion standards and criteria.

There will be a Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program for students in third, fifth and eighth grades who are not successful on the Georgia Milestones test. All students who do not pass third grade reading / fifth and eighth grades reading and math Georgia Milestones requirements must attend the Summer Opportunity Program to be considered for promotion or administrative placement. The program will run June 4-June 28.

Students will be retested on the Georgia Milestones at the end of the Summer Opportunity Program on June 25-28. Students must attend the Summer Opportunity Program to take the Milestones Re-Test. If a student receives a passing score on the Milestones Re-Test, he or she will be promoted.

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

Board Receives Update on Second Nine-Weeks Progress Assessments

The Department of Research, Evaluation, Assessment and Accountability (REAA) provided Board members with an update on Progress Assessments for the second nine weeks. Progress Assessments measure student mastery of the standards that will be tested on the Georgia Milestones for that grade level. This allows schools to identify how students will perform on the Georgia Milestones for these content areas and where remediation and acceleration may be needed prior to the Georgia Milestones.

The presentation by REAA included a review of the standard that each school demonstrated the highest degree of mastery on for the second nine weeks Progress Assessments. To view these results and the presentation, [click here](#).

District Co-Hosting Georgia Family Engagement Conference

In collaboration with the Bibb County School District Office of District Effectiveness and Federal Programs, the Georgia Department of Education will host the 2018 Georgia Family Engagement Conference, February 2-3, 2018 at the Macon Centreplex and Marriott City Center. The conference has only been hosted in Athens since its inaugural year in 2012.

The Georgia Family Engagement Conference provides education and professional development focused on how communities, families, and schools can best partner to promote both family engagement, student achievement and school improvement.

In conjunction with the conference's parent and community sessions, the Bibb County School District Office of District Effectiveness and Federal Programs has developed a student component to the conference – Student Camp. As the first of its kind, Student Camp sessions will consist of learning activities and stations focused on literacy, STEM, and health and fitness for students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade.