

# 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 September 20, 2018.

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## *Highlights and Recognitions*

### **Top Summer Readers Recognized**

Over the summer, students across the District participated in our Summer Reading Program to keep their literacy skills sharp. These students logged their reading efforts, and the following top students from each school were recognized:

- Alexander II Magnet School – Enoch Adebambo
- Bernd Elementary School – D’Cornell Thomas
- Bruce Elementary School – Breland Thomas
- Burdell-Hunt Magnet School – Joshua Pettigrew
- Carter Elementary School – Joycelyn Faulks
- Hartley Elementary School – Ja’Kayla Shine
- Heard Elementary School – Madison Thomas
- Heritage Elementary School – Katelyn Cline
- McKibben Lane Elementary School – Azaria Archer
- Porter Elementary School – Jonathan Hurley
- Southfield Elementary School – Jarriah Wimberly
- Springdale Elementary School – Elliot Wooley
- Union Elementary School – Joel’ James
- Veterans Elementary School – Ma’Kayla May
- Vineville Academy of the Arts – Ashanti Coach
- Williams Elementary School – Elijah Felton
- Appling Middle School – Haley Adams
- Ballard-Hudson Middle School – Nigeria Smith
- Howard Middle School – Alan Jaenz
- Miller Magnet Middle School – Chris Moore
- Rutland Middle School – Tykeria West
- Howard High School – Jeronimo Zapata-Del Rio
- Rutland High School – Yusuke Tsutsumi

As a part of the Summer Reading Program, students also participate in a poster contest. For kindergarten through second grade, the winner was Heritage Elementary School’s Malachi Norfleet. For third through fifth grade, the winner was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School’s Emmily Gray. And for middle and high school students, the winner was Ballard-Hudson Middle School’s Paris Hollingshed.

### **PBIS Bash Gold Level Sponsors Honored**

In late July, the Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports, or PBIS, Department held its Back to School Bash, which provides families with school supplies and connects them to services within the District. This event was a big success and would not have been possible without the support of community partners.

The following businesses were Gold level sponsors for this event: Amerigroup Community Care, Bibb PEP program, MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union, Peach State Health Plans, Strayer University, Tex James & "I Believe in Me," Wal-Mart Gray Highway, and Wellcare Health Plans.

### **Culinary Arts Program Receives Certification**

The Culinary Arts Pathway at W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy recently received its industry certification from the American Culinary Federation. This certification assures that the program meets certain standards for faculty, curriculum and student services and helps make sure our students are college and career ready.

The following individuals were recognized as leaders in this effort: Executive Chef Stuart Hardy; Chef Mark Robinson; Barbara Alston, Hutchings Director; and Dr. Cassandra Washington, Executive Director for CTAE.

### **District Leaders Participate in Development Program**

The Georgia School Superintendent's Association's District Office Professional Development Program is intended to enhance the leadership capacity of Central Office staff and principals across the state. This one-year course includes lessons on various facets of District leadership.

Four District employees participated in this program for the 2017-2018 school year: Dr. Cassandra Washington, Executive Director for CTAE; Donna Jackson, Executive Officer for Elementary Education; Lindsey Allen, Executive Officer for Secondary Education; and Jennifer Askew, Heritage Elementary School Principal.

## *Actions Taken*

### **District to Install Artificial Turf at Ed DeFore Sports Complex**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members authorized the installation of artificial sports turf on the soccer and football fields located at the recently acquired Ed DeFore Sports Complex. For more information, [click here](#).

On April 19, the Board authorized the purchase of the Ed DeFore Sports Complex from Macon-Bibb County. Following this purchase, it was determined the greatest benefit to improving district athletic facilities would be to install artificial turf on both the soccer and football field at the Ed DeFore Sports Complex. This would provide artificial turf for the only competition soccer field owned by the school district. It also would provide artificial turf for the football stadium with the largest seating capacity owned by the school district.

The District's Athletics Department reviewed several different athletic fields and as a result, Astro-Turf brand synthetic playing surface was identified for this project. This product includes 1½" fiber with shock pad underlayment for improved performance and safety.

Work will begin on the soccer field this month, with completion planned for December 2018. Work on the football field will begin in January 2019, with completion planned for May 2019. The project will be funded from the remaining 2011 Education Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funds.

#### **District to Purchase Laptops for Next Phase of Refresh of Employee Workstations**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Dell for the refresh of 750 Dell teacher workstations, or laptops. This purchase is part of a continuous plan to provide District teachers and administrators with computers that are performing at an ideal level. For more information, [click here](#).

#### **District Authorizes Surplus and Sale of Vehicles**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members authorized the surplus and sale of 38 vehicles per Board Policy DFM. The Transportation Department identified 38 vehicles among the Maintenance, Transportation and Campus Police fleet for surplus and sale. These vehicles have been taken out of service and replaced with newer service vehicles. The vehicles will be advertised for sale on GovDeals. For more information, [click here](#).

#### **Personnel Items Approved**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members approved personnel items for the month. To view personnel items, [click here](#).

### *Information*

#### **Board Receives Update on District Safety and Security Measures**

Board members received an update on safety and security measures in the District, including the implementation this month of random searches at schools with the use of metal detector wand devices. Board members also received an updated about the District's ownership and use of two detection canines – Deva for drug detection and Kandy for weapon detection. In addition to Kandy and Deva, the District is entering into a contract with Interquest Detection Canines to provide additional search support throughout the district. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

#### **Contract for In-Talage Teachers Amended**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members received information regarding a contract amendment with In-talage Inc. in response to changes to federal law. In 2016, in an effort to fill vacant positions with high quality candidates, the District partnered with In-talage to recruit international teachers in critical need areas. In-talage is an educational consulting company that partners with school districts to provide international teachers in critical needs areas. It has provided highly qualified, fully certified teachers in the areas of Mathematics, Science, and Special Education for more than 10 years to school districts. For more information, [click here](#).

### **Communities In Schools Supporting Student Needs**

On Thursday, September 20, Board members heard a presentation and update from Communities In Schools (CIS) of Central Georgia Executive Director Taryn Collinsworth. Mrs. Collinsworth outlined the support provided by CIS to district schools and students. To view the presentation by Mrs. Collinsworth, [click here](#).