

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 June 15, 2017.

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Highlights and Recognitions

Nichols Named Runner-Up for Georgia Teacher of the Year

Westside High School teacher Dominique Nichols was named the District's Teacher of the Year last fall and spent the school year serving in this role. As part of the Georgia Teacher of the Year process, Mr. Nichols was named one of the 10 finalists for the state Teacher of the Year award. He was recognized this week during the annual awards banquet, where he was named the runner-up for this prestigious award.

Former Bibb Principal Installed as GREA President

Myrtice Johnson worked in the Bibb County School District for 31 years as both a teacher and principal. Since her retirement, she has served in various capacities with the Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA) and as President of the Bibb Retired Educators Association. Last month, she was installed as GREA President and will serve in that capacity for the next year. On behalf of the District and the Bibb County Board of Education, she was presented with a resolution to honor the achievement.

Chief of Staff Chosen as Fellow for Racial Equality Initiative

The Southern Education Foundation has launched the Racial Equity Leadership Network in an effort to assist district leaders in addressing racial, economic and academic disparities across the South. As part of this initiative, 12 executive leaders from the region, including District Chief of Staff Keith Simmons, were selected as fellows in the inaugural year of this network. These leaders will be tasked with coming together to discuss ways to meet this equity challenge, as well as implementing those solutions in their home districts.

CTAE Director Chosen for State Council

Recently, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle announced his selections for the Education Turnaround Advisory Council. This council will serve to assist the state school board and Chief Turnaround Officer in seeking to turn around low-performing schools across the state. District CTAE Director Dr. Cassandra Washington was one of Lt. Gov. Cagle's two selections for this council. Lt. Gov. Cagle described her in a news release as a "leader in workforce development in Middle Georgia" through her continued work at Hutchings College and Career Academy.

Student Athletes Win State Championships

This spring, several high school student athletes won individual state championships. From Rutland High School, Carol Pyon won the girls' AAA state championship in golf for the second consecutive year. Her coach is Warren McCorvey. From Westside High School, Zoe Jordan won the girls' AAA state championship in triple jump, and Sauryburn Sampson won the boys' AAA

state championship in triple jump. Their coach is Marion Simmons. From Howard High School, India Turk won the girls' AAAA state championship for triple jump. Her coach is Corey Roper.

Actions Taken

Administrative Appointment for 2017-2018 Approved

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the appointment of John Duncan as Dean of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School for 2017-2018. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Board Approves FY 2018 Superintendent's Recommended Budget

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Superintendent's Recommended Budget. For more information, [click here](#). For information from the last FY 2018 Budget presentation in May, [click here](#).

Board OKs Plans to Move Forward with Multi-Purpose Sports Complex

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved moving forward with an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the District to build a multi-purpose sports complex adjacent to Hartley Elementary School on Anthony Road. The agreement allows for conveyance of the land on which Tom Fontaine Ballpark is located to be transferred to the District in order for Macon-Bibb County and United Way of Central Georgia to move forward with building a multi-sports purpose complex associated with the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation.

Also as part of the motion, Board members agreed to allow the Superintendent to continue negotiations with Macon-Bibb for conveyance of the Ed DeFore Sports Complex from Macon-Bibb County to the District, and for a lease agreement for use of Henderson Stadium.

For more information, [click here](#).

ThinkCERCA Online Literacy Platform to be Used at Middle Schools

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the purchase of ThinkCERCA to improve literacy instruction in middle schools in the 2017-2018 school year. ThinkCERCA is an online platform designed to empower teachers to personalize literacy instruction across disciplines. ThinkCERCA helps whole school teams differentiate for engaging learning in classrooms of diverse learners. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Renewal of System 44

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the renewal of System 44 Next Generation for use as a reading intervention for elementary schools for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs Purchase of Renaissance Star 360

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the purchase of Renaissance Star 360 for the 2017-2018 school year. Renaissance Star 360 is a comprehensive Pre-K–12 assessment solution used to measure students' achievement and growth, as well as to identify students' instructional

needs. Renaissance Star 360 computer-adaptive tests for early literacy, reading and math will provide teachers actionable data in minimal testing time. This system of assessments will inform data-based decisions and support instructional frameworks such as Response to Intervention (RtI).

Renaissance Star 360 will be used district-wide for universal screening, progress monitoring, differentiating instruction, and forecasting proficiency and mastery of Georgia Standards of Excellence. Renaissance Star 360 assessments are aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence for reading and math. In addition, Renaissance Star 360 assessments predict summative test performance on the Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones).

For more information, [click here](#).

Process for Developing Next Five-Year Facilities Plan Begins

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved a resolution requesting assistance from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) in developing a new five-year local facilities plan for the District. To view the resolution, [click here](#).

Georgia State Law, O.C.G.A. 20-2-260 requires local school districts to perform a complete comprehensive educational facilities survey at least once every 5 years. The last comprehensive survey was conducted in 2013 and will expire in June 2018.

The comprehensive survey includes the following items:

- Accurate classroom inventory for each facility.
- Review of all building systems and finishes, including an architect estimate providing a cost to upgrade or replace as needed to meet the district standard.
- Building utilization / student enrollment trends.
- Recommendations regarding future facility improvements, new facilities and consolidations.

Once all information has been collected, there will be meetings to review the findings and recommendations of the survey. During these meetings, the Board and Superintendent will provide direction on the priorities before the plan is validated by an outside team of facility directors. Once the plan is validated, it will be submitted to the Board for approval and then to the GaDOE for final approval.

Additionally, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Robertson Loia Roof Architects & Engineers to perform the consulting and assessment work related to developing a new five-year facilities plan. For more information, [click here](#).

NOC Hardware Warranty and Support Renewal Approved

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Progressive Communications for the Network Operations Center Cisco Hardware Warranty and Support using State of Georgia Cisco Contract #99999-SPD-T20120501-0006. The District Network Operations Center (NOC) was built in 2014 at the William S. Hutchings Building on Riverside Drive. The network equipment requires annual hardware warranty and support to maintain continuous performance. For more information, [click here](#).

Company to Perform Track Replacement Work at Thompson Stadium

Board members on Thursday, June 15, authorized the District to issue a purchase order for \$325,453.00 to Sports Turf Co. to perform track replacement work at Thompson Stadium. Funding was budgeted as part of the 2016 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) program. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Items for Academy of Classical Education

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized various requests for 2016 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) funding from the Academy of Classical Education (ACE).

- The Board authorized the District to issue a purchase order to H.E. Hodge Co. Inc. for six Basketball Backstops and Volleyball Sleeves/Cover Plates.
- The Board authorized the District to issue a purchase order to H.E. Hodge Co. Inc. for metal lockers.
- The Board authorized the District to issue a purchase order to H.E. Hodge Co. Inc. for its bleacher quotation, including all parts, labor and equipment installation.
- The Board authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Xerox Corp. utilizing Georgia State-Wide Contract pricing for the Xerox MFD with Maintenance, five Xerox Machines of Model Number B8075H, and a maintenance agreement for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
- The Board authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Gopher Sports for physical education equipment.
- The Board authorized the District to issue payment to Semper Tek Inc. for delivery of sound rooms and storage modules.

For more information on each of these items, [click here](#).

FY 2018 Business Insurance Coverage Approved

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to move forward with awarding business insurance coverages to BB&T Insurance Services for the District's business insurance coverages effective July 1, 2017. The insurance bid process is initiated once every three years and will be implemented again in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policy

Board members reviewed a policy for a second reading on Thursday, June 15.

- Policy IDBA – Sex Education

Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To view the policies, [click here](#).

Infinite Campus Contract Renewed for 2017-2018

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the renewal of Infinite Campus as the District's Student Information System for the 2017-2018 school year. Infinite Campus is a secure online,

cloud-based tool used by school and district leaders to track and manage student information and teacher gradebooks. For more information, [click here](#).

Westside High SIG Technology Purchase Approved

On Thursday, June 15, Board members approved the purchase of 240 laptops and 8 computer carts for Westside High School with School Improvement Grant (SIG) funds. For more information, [click here](#).

Natural Gas Contract Authorized for FY 2018

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to sign a renewal agreement for natural gas service with Walton EMC for a period of 12 months (July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018) at all District facilities on the Atlanta Gas Light pipeline network at the current market rate. For more information, [click here](#).

Custodial Supply Contract Approved for 2017-2018

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to enter into a contractual agreement with Copaco of Columbus, Ga., for custodial supplies for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Bread Products Contract Approved for 2017-2018

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to award a bread product bid to Flowers Bakery to provide bread products for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information, [click here](#).

Paper Products Contract Approved for 2017-2018

On Thursday, June 15, Board members authorized the District to enter into contractual agreements with Southeastern Paper Group, Plascon, and Preferred Packaging for School Nutrition products for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. For more information, [click here](#).

Information

District Summer Program Provides Additional Academic Opportunity for Students

The Bibb County School District has offered a summer program for students who did not demonstrate mastery on the Georgia Milestones Test in grades 3, 5, and 8. The goal of the third, fifth and eighth grade Summer Opportunity Program is to provide for both reinforcement of learned skills and remedial assistance for students who need extra academic support.

In July 2003, the state passed the Georgia Promotion, Placement, and Retention law, which requires third, fifth and eighth grade students to pass parts of the state assessment. According to the Promotion/Retention Policy IHE, when a student does not meet the testing requirements on the retest the student is retained. In addition, a plan for accelerated, differentiated, or additional instruction must be developed for each student who does not achieve grade level performance in grades 3, 5, or 8 on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessments. The District has developed

the Summer Opportunity Program as an additional opportunity to provide instruction for our students.

Few parents have expressed concerns regarding their child passing academically; however, being retained due to failing the Milestones Test. We have reassured our parents that the Summer Opportunity Program was designed to give our students who have been successful academically an additional option to be considered for promotion. In addition, we have informed parents of their right to appeal the retention.

For more information, [click here](#).

District Hosts Leadership Symposium for 2017-2018 Administrators

The Bibb County School District hosted a Leadership Symposium for administrators to kick off the 2017-2018 school year. The symposium was held June 1-2 at the Professional Learning Center at the Martin-Whitley Educational Complex and featured guest speaker Paul Bambrick-Santoyo on the theme of “Get Better Faster.” For more information, [click here](#).