

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 November 16, 2017.

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Highlights and Recognitions

Hutchings Student Chosen for State Leadership Honor

Georgia Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle recognizes one College and Career Academy student in the state each year with a Student Leadership Award. This winner and the other nominees for this award are chosen for being highly motivated and active in their communities. This year, Hutchings College and Career Academy student Donovan Mitchell, a Rutland High School junior, was chosen as one of the nominees for the award. This puts him in a group of just 11 students chosen for this honor.

Two Schools Come Off State Lists

The Georgia Department of Education designates certain schools in the state as Focus and Priority schools based on low achievement data among Title I schools. Previously, McKibben Lane Elementary School had been among this group of Focus schools, while L.H. Williams had been considered a Priority school. Earlier this month, the Georgia DOE announced that Lane and Williams had improved enough to come off of these lists. To read the press release about these recognitions, [click here](#).

Three District Football Teams Advance to State Playoffs

Three Bibb County School District high schools saw their football teams advance to the Georgia High School Association playoffs. These three teams represented our District well in their playoff journeys. Howard and Southwest high schools each earned playoff bids, with this being the first time Howard qualified for the football playoffs. Westside finished second in its region, earning a home playoff game in the first round that the Seminoles won.

Actions Taken

Personnel Items Approved, Including Change in School Leadership

On Thursday, December 14, Board members approved various personnel items. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Among the personnel items, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Dr. Constance Massey-Winds as Principal of Springdale Elementary. Dr. Winds made this decision in order to be with her family during a difficult time. At the meeting, Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones thanked Dr. Winds for her hard work and her dedication to Bibb's students and the school district.

Because of her lengthy experience as Assistant Principal at Springdale and her familiarity with the school, Dr. Jones made the decision to move Dr. Cami Hamlin from Porter Elementary to Springdale Elementary, effective as of Monday, December 18. Mr. Christopher Kirby, who has been the Assistant Principal at Porter Elementary for several years, will serve as Interim Principal at Porter. Just as Dr. Hamlin has experience with Springdale, Mr. Kirby has a great understanding of the Porter community and the needs of the students. Betty Anderson will serve as Interim Assistant Principal at Porter Elementary School.

“It’s a difficult decision to move principals during the middle of the school year, but I feel this decision will ensure a smooth and successful transition for both Porter and Springdale,” Dr. Jones said in a School Messenger call to parents of Porter and Springdale students Thursday evening. “I want to thank you for your support and understanding, and I hope you will reach out to your new leadership Monday and wish them all the best.”

Board Finalizes SWSS Contract Amendment

On Thursday, December 14, Board members authorized Board President Daryl Morton to sign the District’s Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS) contract amendment, which was approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE) in November. The Bibb County Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing an amendment to the District’s SWSS partnership with the SBOE at the September 21 Board meeting.

The Georgia SBOE met November 8-9. During this meeting, the District Flexibility and Charter Schools Committee recommended that the SBOE approve the SWSS contract amendment for Bibb County School District to include additional waivers from state law and rule. Specifically, the District sought to add the following waiver to Exhibit B of its SWSS contract: School Day/Year for Students and Employees O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(c), O.C.G.A. § 20-2-168(d), SBOE Rule 160-5-1.02.

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

Transportation Department Purchasing New Vehicles

On Thursday, December 14, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order for 10 service vehicles from Wade Ford, 10 service vehicles from Allan Vigil Ford, 3 service vehicles from Gilbert Truck Center and 8 school buses from Yancey Bus Sales at a cost not to exceed \$1,662,033.20. These purchases will allow several older vehicles to be repurposed and assigned to other departments within the District. For more information, [click here](#).

Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance Policy Awarded for 2018

On Thursday, December 14, the Board members voted to award the District’s Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance Policy to Solomon, Deaton & Buice LLC for a total cost of \$154,993 for the period January 1, 2018 to January 1, 2019. For more information, [click here](#).

HVAC Installation Approved for Elementary School Gyms

On Thursday, December 14, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order for \$194,814 to Hamlin Air Conditioning to perform HVAC installation for the gyms at Bruce, Burdell-Hunt and Taylor. This work is a part of the on-going effort to provide air conditioning in

all of the elementary school gyms. The purchase order will be funded by the 2016 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST). For more information, [click here](#).

Funding for Munis Services Approved

On Thursday, December 14, Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to Tyler Technologies for \$491,175.84 to provide continued financial application services for the District. For more information, [click here](#).

Former Neel Academy Property Sold

On Thursday, December 14, Board members approved a contract to sell the former Neel Academy property located at 2840 Hollis Road in Macon to The Peca Group LLC for \$75,000. The property will be redeveloped as a storage facility, according to the real estate agent. For more information, [click here](#).

ACE Receives ESPLOST Funds for Various Purchases

On Thursday, December 14, Board members authorized the Superintendent to issue a purchase order on behalf of the Academy for Classical Education (ACE) to Wenger for an amount not to exceed \$13,266 to purchase a stage, to Daktronics for an amount not to exceed \$11,539 to purchase 2 scoreboards, and to Xerox for an amount not to exceed \$12,470 to purchase Xerox machines.

The purchases will be funded by the 2016 Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST). For more information, [click here](#).

Calendar of 2018 Meeting Dates Approved

Board members approved the schedule of regular Committee/Board Meetings for the Bibb County Board of Education for the 2018 calendar year and January 2019. The meetings will be on the third Thursday of the month with the exceptions of the February and December meetings. Committee Meetings will begin at 4 p.m., followed by the Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Committee/Board Meeting dates are: January 18, 2018; February 12, 2018; March 15, 2018; April 19, 2018; May 17, 2018; June 21, 2018; July 19, 2018; August 16, 2018; September 20, 2018; October 18, 2018; November 15, 2018; December 13, 2018; and January 17, 2019.

Board Reviews Policy

Board members reviewed one policy for a first reading on Thursday, December 14. 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

Information

Board Receives Recommendation on Five-Year Facilities Plan

On Thursday, December 14, Board members were provided with a recommendation from Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones on how to proceed with the District's latest Five-Year Facilities

Plan. The District has been in the process of renewing its Five-Year Facilities Plan to submit to the Georgia Department of Education since spring 2017. The information in a Five-Year Facilities Plan submitted by local school districts includes data related to student enrollment, building utilization, facility age, facility condition and operational data.

After presenting Board members with several options to consider, Dr. Jones made the recommendation to close Brookdale Elementary School and build a new Riley Elementary at its current site to house students from both schools. The timeline for the recommendation would not begin until 2019 in order to allow the District time to re-evaluate student enrollment after the opening of DREAM Academy. Should the District move forward, students from Riley would be relocated temporarily during the 2020-2021 school year while a new Riley Elementary is built. The new Riley Elementary would open for the 2021-2022 school year and Brookdale Elementary would be repurposed. Possible future uses for Brookdale could include an 8.5 program for overage students or eighth-graders who are not completely ready for high school, a Grades 1-5 Gifted Center, or selling the facility to the highest bidder.

Board members will not be asked to vote on the Superintendent's recommendation until the next monthly Board meeting on Thursday, January 18. Two public hearings will be held prior to the meeting January 18 in order to receive feedback from stakeholders. The first public hearing will be held at Brookdale Elementary School on Thursday, January 4, at 6 p.m. The second public hearing will be held at Central High School on Monday, January 8, at 5 p.m.

To view the Superintendent's presentation from the Board meeting, [click here](#).

Dual Enrollment Interest Growing Among Bibb Students

Drs. Beverly Stewart and Cassandra Washington provided Board members with a brief overview of the District's Dual Enrollment efforts. Dual Enrollment is when high school students take courses from a post-secondary institution while still enrolled as a high school student and receive course credit at both the high school and post-secondary institution. To learn more about the District's Dual Enrollment efforts, [click here](#).

Students Managing Rebranded TV Station WVIP-TV

In October, students in the District's Audio-Video Technology and Film Pathway at the W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy began managing the District's public access television channel provided by Cox Communications. The channel, commonly referred to as Channel 17 in the District, has been rebranded as WVIP-TV.

Led by their advisor, Joseph Finkelstein, students in the pathway will film their own programming and edit material submitted by teachers and District employees. This will allow W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy to continue expanding the real-world pathway experience for students in the program, just as they have done for students in Culinary, Cosmetology/Barbering, and Banking.

Bibb County residents with Cox Communications as a cable provider may find television programming on Channel 17 with Cox Communications Digital Cable or Channel 93.1 with a

Digital Tuner Ready TV or Digital Box. Programming is also available through the District's ESE Networks page online at <http://www.esenetworks.com/profile.aspx?id=43428>.

To view the video promoting WVIP-TV and other videos that have been filmed and edited by students in the pathway, [click here](#).