

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 21, 2016.

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Highlights and Recognitions

District Spelling Bee Winners Commended

The Bibb County Spelling Bee was held on January 16 at Central High School and sponsored by the Bibb Association of Educators (BAE). The top spellers from District elementary and middle schools competed in the annual spelling bee. The District champion is Landon Juang of Howard Middle School. He'll compete in the regional spelling bee at Fort Valley State University in February. The runner-up is Paige Riser from Rutland Middle School.

Heard Elementary Named Georgia Family-Friendly Award Finalist

The Georgia Department of Education named Heard Elementary School as a Georgia Family-Friendly Partnership School Award Finalist. This means the school meets criteria for the award in four areas: physical environment, personal contact, school practices and policies. Creating a family-friendly environment is key to family engagement and therefore, student achievement.

Bernd Elementary School Recognized as Social Media Video Contest Winner

Bernd Elementary School was one of three schools in Georgia to win the Georgia Department of Education's Parent Engagement Video Contest on Facebook. The District Title I Family Engagement Team produced the video with students Harrison Munoz, Azaley Person and Savonta Luke. The school won an opportunity to present at the Family Engagement Conference held in Athens in February. Nakeisha Leitzey, Bernd Title I representative, will present at the conference on behalf of the team. To view the school's video, [click here](#).

Board of Education President Recognized

Outgoing Board of Education Vice President Lester Miller presented Dr. Thelma Dillard with a plaque to commemorate her service as Board of Education President throughout 2015. Under her leadership, the Board identified a Superintendent, participated in various school and facility dedications, and oversaw a successful ESPLOST campaign.

Actions Taken

Administrative Appointments, Principals Approved for 2016-2017

On Thursday, January 21, Board members approved administrative appointments for 2016-2017. To view the list of appointments, which includes administrators and principals, [click here](#).

Separately, Board members authorized the appointment of Carole Cote as Principal of Heard Elementary School. She has been Assistant Principal at Heard since 2010 and will replace Sandra Stanley when she retires at the end of the school year.

Additionally under Personnel Services, Board members authorized the District to increase the amount charged as a breach of contract fee from \$500 to \$800. For more information, [click here](#).

Rutland Athletic Director, Football Coach Appointed

On Thursday, January 21, Board members authorized the appointment of Mark Daniel as Athletic Director and Head Football Coach at Rutland High School. He replaces George Collins, who is retiring at the end of this school year.

Mr. Daniel has coached for 29 years, with 11 years of experience as an Athletic Director and 13 years of head coaching experience. Under his leadership, Screven County High School won a state championship title in 2002 and he has been instrumental as both a head coach and assistant coach in leading multiple teams to win region championships. Most recently, he has been head coach at Schley County.

Mr. Daniel has won numerous awards, including the Atlanta Touchdown Club Coach of the Year Award for all classifications in 2002. He is veteran of the United States Navy and holds L-6 level certification in Health and PE, Business, and Educational Leadership. He received a Bachelor of Science from Austin Peay State University, a Master of Education from Albany State University and an Education Specialist degree from Georgia Southern University.

“Coach Daniel has a long and successful track record of guiding student-athletes on and off the field. He is a man of high character, who will form positive relationships with all stakeholders and coach our team in a fundamentally sound manner,” Rutland High Principal Kent Sparks said. “He is a high energy, high intensity coach who will establish a winning tradition on the field and enhance our overall athletic program.”

Bloomfield Preparatory Academy Charter Petition Denied

Board members on Thursday, January 21, voted to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation that the charter petition for Bloomfield Preparatory Academy be denied, as it does not demonstrate innovative practices in the areas of improving student achievement, fiscal practices, or overall performance. To view the recommendation, [click here](#).

Board Approves FY2017 Budget Calendar

On Thursday, January 21, Board members authorized the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget Calendar. To view the calendar, which outlines the timeline for the development of the 2016-2017 budget, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Promotion and Retention Policy

Board members reviewed Policy IHE, Promotion and Retention Policy, and Administrative Rule IHE-R on Promotion Retention on Thursday, January 21. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on. To view the policy and rule, [click here](#).

MOU Supports Implementation of Family Life, Sex Health Curriculum

Board members on Thursday, January 21, voted to authorize the District to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with North Central Health District/Public Health Seattle-King County to implement Family Life and Sexual Health (FLASH) Curriculum beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. The curriculum is currently being implemented in eight Georgia school districts and has been recommended in Bibb by the North Central Health District due to Bibb County's high pregnancy rates.

The 2016-2017 school year will be used for planning and training of health educators. Currently, in the District, the health teacher is responsible for the curriculum pertaining to family life. The two resources being used are Family Education Curriculum approved in 1994 and current state standards. The FLASH Curriculum will be taught to ninth grade students as part of the health curriculum and will be comprised of 22 50-minute lessons that will be taught during the 2017-2018 school year.

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

Board Elects Officers for 2016

On Thursday, January 21, Board members elected new officers for the 2016 calendar year. Lester Miller was elected to serve as President, Jason Downey was elected to serve as Vice President, and Daryl Morton was elected to serve as Treasurer.

The outgoing Board President for 2015 is Dr. Thelma Dillard, outgoing Vice President is Lester Miller, and outgoing Treasurer is Jason Downey.

Information

Improvements in Reading Taking Shape Throughout District

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Tanzy Kilcrease presented Board members with an update on the use of Read 180 throughout the District to assist students who are struggling in the area of reading. One of the Superintendent's focus areas this school year is to improve reading levels and one of his non-negotiables is the implementation Response to Intervention (RtI). RtI is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. In Bibb County, 18 schools are utilizing Read 180 as a research-based intervention to assist students who are struggling with reading.

To view a video presentation featuring two teachers identified for their successful implementation of Read 180 with fidelity, [click here](#).

ESPLOST Oversight Committee Meets for First Time

Board members received an update on the new ESPLOST Oversight Committee's first meeting, which was held January 20. The committee will oversee the management of Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) capital improvement projects, per Policy BBC, which was approved by Board members last month.

Policy BBC allows each Board member and the superintendent to appoint one person to the ESPLOST Oversight Committee to form a nine-member team. Appointees to the ESPLOST Oversight Committee include Alvin Copeland, Henry Ficklin, Patricia Ballard, Leonard Beville, James Timley, Tiffany Harvey, Karen Yarbrough, Tim Jones and Dan Slagle.

District Receives Update on Macon Charter Academy

On Thursday, January 21, Board members heard from members of Macon Charter Academy's governing board and Educational Service Provider (ESP) Renaissance School Services. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Board Receives Fuel Purchase Notification

On Thursday, January 21, Board members were presented with background information on fuel purchase prices that will exceed \$100,000. Quotes on fuel prices for diesel and gasoline are obtained from a minimum of three suppliers prior to each order. Fuel orders are then placed with the supplier with the lowest quoted price. Per Policy DJED, the Board was notified Thursday that the dollar spend amount will exceed \$100,000 with one or more of the District's fuel suppliers. Suppliers that have provided quotes to the District during Fiscal Year 2016 are Walthall Oil Co., Davis Oil Co., Osan Petroleum Co. and Mansfield Oil Co. A total of \$1,314,000 was budgeted and approved for fuel purchases.