

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 March 17, 2016.

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Highlights and Recognitions

CTAE Students of the Year Honored

The District's CTAE Department hosted its fifth annual Student of the Year Scholarship Awards Program on March 10 at the Professional Learning Center. During the program, an outstanding CTAE student from each high school was recognized, and a District-level winner was announced.

The top three CTAE Students of the Year each received scholarships, which were partially funded from generous donors.

In competing for the title of District Student of the Year, each student was judged on the same criteria by a panel of four judges. The criteria include overall Grade Point Average, pathway GPA, Career and Technical Student Organization leadership, CTSO chapter and community service participation, an essay entitled "How Career and Technical Education Has Affected Decisions About My Future," and an interview by the panel of community judges.

The 2016 CTAE Students of the Year are:

- Bibb County CTAE Student of the Year: Baylee Marsh, Howard High School;
- Second place: Iva Watkins, Central High School;
- Third place: Jaron Jackson, Westside High School;
- Yasmeeen Henderson, Hutchings College and Career Academy;
- Rachel Solomon, Northeast High School;
- Esmeralda Labra, Rutland High School; and
- Tarzalyn Outlaw, Southwest High School.

Students Win Accolades at Regional Science Fair

In the past few months, students have represented the District in science fair competitions at the county and regional levels.

The science fair is an important competition that helps students see and experience the processes used to explore questions and find answers to problems. Preparing for these competitions reinforces educational standards that teach scientific literacy and the habits that come from the scientific method.

Students recognized at the Board meeting received first place or special honors in their divisions while competing at the 2016 Georgia College & State University Regional Science and Engineering Fair in Milledgeville. Many of these students will compete in the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair in Athens later this month.

Elementary school winners are:

- First place, Philip Cox, Heard Elementary School;
- First place, Samantha Fussell, Vineville Academy of the Arts;
- First place, Kahlil Harvey, Vineville Academy of the Arts;
- First place, Henry Jennings, Vineville Academy of the Arts; and
- Best in Show, Shreya Ranabhtou, Springdale Elementary School.

Middle school winners are:

- Brandon Barnes, Miller Magnet Middle School: First place, Best of Class, Broadcom Master Award, U.S. Navy & U.S. Marine Corps Award, Georgia Science & Engineering Fair Invitation Award;
- Ivuntay Davis, Miller Magnet Middle School: First Place, Broadcom Master Award, Georgia Science & Engineering Fair Invitation Award;
- Elizabeth McArthur, Miller Magnet Middle School: First Place, Best of Class, Broadcom Master Award and the GA Science & Engineering Fair Invitation Award; and
- Helen O'Dell, Miller Magnet Middle School: First Place, Georgia Science & Engineering Fair Invitation Award, Best In Show.

High school winners are:

- Nicole Hill, Central High School: First Place, Best of Class, Best in Show, U.S. Navy & Marine Corps Award, International Sustainable World (I-SWEEEP Award), Georgia Science & Engineering Fair Invitation Award; and
- Tobias Kopp, Central High School: Georgia Science & Engineering Fair Award.

District STAR Students Honored

Five District students and their teachers were recognized at the 2016 STAR Student and Teacher Banquet on February 22 at Middle Georgia State University. Since its inception, the STAR program has honored more than 24,000 students and the teachers they have selected as having had the most influence on their academic success. To obtain the STAR nomination, graduating high school seniors must have the highest score on a single test date on the three-part SAT and be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average.

STAR students and teachers are:

- Fabian Kopp and Daniel Brown, Central High School;
- Lauren McCue and Jarrett Moore, Howard High School;
- Hayley Harrod and Hema Keerthi, Rutland High School;
- Shungarrius Robinson and Dominique Lane, Southwest High School; and
- Jaron Jackson and Rosa Fossett-Gilbert, Westside High School.

Title I Coordinator Named President-Elect for Organization

Title I's Gwen Phillips was voted in as the President-Elect for Georgia Compensatory Educational Leaders. GCEL plans and advocates for programs that assist children who are developmentally delayed. Members actively promote people, programs and policies that are supportive of positive growth for these children.

Miller Student to Compete in State Chemistry Competition

Miller Magnet Middle School student Robert Berrian was named a finalist in the You Be the Chemist Competition at the East Georgia Middle School Chemistry Competition. According to the Chemical Educational Foundation, “The You Be the Chemist Challenge is an interactive academic contest that encourages students in grades 5 through 8 to explore chemistry concepts and their real-world applications. The challenge provides a unique opportunity for a variety of individuals and organizations - including schools, members of the chemical industry, educators, and other community partners - to come together and show their support for STEM education.” Robert will participate in the state competition next month.

District Math 24 Winners Recognized

Elementary and middle school students competed in the District’s Math 24 Competitions this semester. By competing in Math 24, students are practicing higher-order math skills at a young age, having to work these algorithms in reverse quickly and in their head. In the Math 24 competition, four students sit around a table, and a card with four numbers is placed in front of them. The first student to determine how those four numbers combine – addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division – to come up with the number 24 wins the card. The student with the most points wins the round.

The following students earned first place in the District’s Math 24 Competition:

- Dallas Mundy, fourth grade, Alexander II Magnet School;
- Damien Williams, fifth grade, Vineville Academy of the Arts;
- Christian Faulks, sixth grade, Howard Middle School;
- Angel Hoang, seventh grade, Weaver Middle School; and
- Caleb Muhammad, eighth grade, Miller Magnet Middle School.

Howard High Student Recognized as Wrestling State Champion

Howard High School’s JaQwun Stinson is a 2016 State Wrestling Champion. JaQwun finished the wrestling season undefeated, 25-0. He won the AAAA, 195-pound weight class. He has placed at the state level a total of three times. His sophomore year, he took second place. During his junior year, he took third place and now, as a senior, he can proclaim first place.

Special Week Honors Georgia’s School Boards

The Bibb County School District is joining in a statewide celebration this week to salute the efforts of local school board members. The week of March 14-18, 2016, has been proclaimed School Board Appreciation Week in Georgia. The weeklong observance calls attention to the contributions of local boards of education.

As constitutional officers of Georgia, school board members are responsible for setting educational policies, employing school personnel, providing buildings and equipment, operating a transportation system and disbursing school funds. As community leaders, school board members serve as advocates for the children in local public schools and must study, evaluate and decide what actions are in the best interest of those students.

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) sponsors the celebration. The mission of GSBA is to ensure excellence in the governance of local school systems by providing leadership,

advocacy and services, and by representing the collective resolve of Georgia's 180 elected boards of education. Please visit www.gsba.com for more information.

Actions Taken

Administrative Appointments Approved for 2016-2017

On Thursday, March 17, Board members approved the appointments of Floyd Jolley as Executive Director of Secondary Education and David Andrews as Director of Construction. To view the list of personnel items approved by the Board, [click here](#).

District to Purchase Interactive Panels for 13 Schools

On Thursday, March 17, Board members authorized the District to purchase interactive panels for 13 schools. Lecroy Educational Technology will provide the technology as specified in RFP 16-16 in the amount \$2,309,555.50. The purchase will be funded from the current Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST). For more information, [click here](#).

The District's Technology Services Department is committed to ensuring classrooms are equipped with the latest technology that will assist teachers with engaging students and impacting achievement. As the department examined alternatives to the high maintenance costs associated with Smart and Promethean Boards, proprietary software updates, alignment issues, and interactive projector bulb replacements, the new interactive panel technology was determined to be the most viable and efficient option moving forward.

The 13 locations to receive interactive panels during this round of technology improvements are Carter, Lane, Porter, Skyview, Williams, Taylor, Burdell-Hunt, Bruce, Heritage, Springdale, Southfield and Burghard Elementary Schools, and Ballard-Hudson Middle School. Interactive panels already have been installed at Alexander II Magnet School, Bernd Elementary and Riley Elementary.

Board Authorizes Furniture Award for CTAE Program

On Thursday, March 17, Board members authorized the District to purchase classroom furniture for the Dr. Robert J. Williams Complex CTAE Program from Ernie Morris Enterprises. For more information about the bid and award, [click here](#).

Board Approves Surplus and Sale, Repurposing of School Buses

On Thursday, March 17, Board members approved the surplus and sale of five school buses, and the repurposing of one bus. Five of these units will be replaced with five new Blue Bird buses. The buses that have been identified as surplus will be disposed of per Board Policy DFM, Equipment and Supplies Sales. Bus 9314 will be repurposed to the School Nutrition Program for utilization in the summer meals program. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Approves Promotion and Retention Policy

Board members approved Policy IHE, Promotion and Retention, on Thursday, March 17. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on. To view the policy, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Districtwide Phone Replacement

On Thursday, March 17, Board members authorized the District to enter into a contract utilizing state contract pricing with Progressive Communications Inc. for the replacement of Cisco phones districtwide in the amount of \$297,435.95. The purchase will be funded from the current Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST). For more information, [click here](#).

Tenant Improvements Authorized as Part of Lease Modification

On Thursday, March 17, Board members approved a lease modification that includes tenant improvements to the Social Security Office space on the fifth floor of the Central Office at 484 Mulberry Street in Macon. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Sale of Alexander IV Property

On Thursday, March 17, Board members authorized the sale of the Alexander IV property at 3769 Ridge Avenue for the price of \$350,000 to the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority.

Information

Move On When Ready Helping Students Become College and Career Ready

CTAE Director Dr. Cassandra Washington presented Board members with a video highlighting an area where the District is helping students become college and career ready through the Move On When Ready program. Through the program, students are able to earn college credit while still in high school. Thanks to a recent grant, students will have transportation to Bibb colleges and universities. Tuition and book fees are covered under the program. To view the video, [click here](#).

Summer School to be Offered for Third, Fifth and Eighth Grade 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. 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. The program will run June 6-June 30. All students who do not meet the third grade reading, or fifth and eighth grade reading and/or math Georgia Milestones requirements will be required to attend the Summer Opportunity Program to be considered for promotion or administrative placement to the next grade.

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

Homework Hotline Will Help High School Students with Math

Board members received information about GEAR UP's Homework Hotline initiative. The GEAR UP Homework Hotline will provide students with access beyond school hours to highly qualified and effective math teachers for the purpose of completing their daily homework assignments. Current midterm mathematics data indicate that a significant number of students are failing core mathematics courses. GEAR UP funding supports services aimed at increasing student achievement and postsecondary readiness.

GEAR UP will hire four teachers to work 12 hours per week (5-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, mid-March through May). Teachers will be housed in the GEAR UP offices and will use technology to record and monitor student contacts and support. Subject areas supported will include Geometry, Algebra, Physics, and Biology for students in tenth and eleventh grades.

During the 2011-2012 school year, the District received a federal partnership grant from the U.S. Department of Education called Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP). GEAR UP ~ Create Your Future is composed of District and local organizations from the community. The project serves a cohort of 3,600 students, who are presently enrolled in tenth and eleventh grades at District high schools.