

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 15, 2016.

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Highlights and Recognitions

Teachers of the Year Recognized; Finalists for Bibb Teacher of the Year Announced

The District recognized the 2016-2017 Teachers of the Year at its Board of Education meeting on Thursday, September 15, and announced five finalists for the 2017 Bibb County Teacher of the Year. This year's finalists are:

- Ronny Fuerniss, Heritage Elementary School;
- Connie McCain, Rutland Middle School;
- Darryl Silas, Northeast High School;
- Marissa Rondina, Rutland High School; and
- Dominique Nichols, Westside High School.

The 2017 Bibb County Teacher of the Year will be named at the Bibb County Teacher of the Year Banquet at Mercer University's University Center on Monday, October 10, at 6 p.m. The complete list of Teachers of the Year for 2016-2017 is below.

- Pollyanna Roe, Alexander II Magnet School
- Christian Abrams, Barden Elementary School
- Chevonne Coons, Bernd Elementary School
- Marquita Tatmon, Brookdale Elementary School
- Tangela Turner, Bruce Elementary School
- Vivica Lynn Gray, Burdell-Hunt Magnet School
- Ronna Demichiel, Carter Elementary School
- LaTasha Little, Hartley Elementary School
- Courtney Hale, Heard Elementary School
- Ronny Fuerniss, Heritage Elementary School
- Tamikia Johnson, Ingram-Pye Elementary School
- Melanese Parker, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School
- Amy Phillips, Lane Elementary School
- Rosa Coley, Morgan Elementary School
- Julia Chambless, Porter Elementary School
- Bridget Smith, Riley Elementary School
- Kerrie Welch, Skyview Elementary School
- Latisha Williams-Bacon, Southfield Elementary School
- Denise McIntosh, Springdale Elementary School
- Opal Taylor, Taylor Elementary School

- Kuwana D. McKenzie, Union Elementary School
- Lindsay Crisp, Vineville Academy of the Arts
- Pamela Rivers, Williams Elementary School
- Terrence Redmond, Appling Middle School
- Beverly Williams, Ballard-Hudson Middle School
- Alecia Ervin, Howard Middle School
- Lavonda Ross, Miller Magnet Middle School
- Connie McCain, Rutland Middle School
- Christine Lastinger, Weaver Middle School
- Hannah Freel, Central High School
- Louisa McDonald, Howard High School
- Darryl Silas, Northeast High School
- Marissa Rondina, Rutland High School
- Wanda O'Neal, Southwest High School
- Dominique Nichols, Westside High School
- Lorenzo Harris, SOAR Academy
- Billie Mallory, Elam Alexander Academy
- Stephen Neil, Hutchings College and Career Academy
- Barbara Schultz, Northwoods Academy
- Media Specialist of the Year – Brandi Malloy, Alexander II Magnet School

Actions Taken

Administrative Appointments Approved

On Thursday, September 15, Board members approved the appointments of Wendy Pooler as Assistant Principal of Rutland High School, Curlandra Smith as PBIS Coordinator, Jill Burwell as Dean of Students at Veterans Elementary, and Angel Woodard as Dean of Students at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary. To view the list of personnel items approved, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Continuation of GEAR UP Grant

Board members on Thursday, September 15, authorized the District to accept the Fiscal Year 2017 GEAR UP Grant Award to continue the implementation of programs and services designed to increase the number of students who graduate from high school prepared to enroll and succeed in postsecondary education. The District was awarded the 7-year federal partnership Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) Grant in 2011.

Create Your Future (CYF), the District's GEAR UP program, is supported by partnerships with local community organizations. The GEAR UP ~ CYF project serves a cohort of students presently enrolled as juniors and seniors in the District's high schools. GEAR UP ~ Create Your Future supports the Superintendent's Strategic Goals by establishing and/or enhancing programs that will provide support to eligible students to assist with obtaining a secondary school diploma and preparation to succeed in postsecondary education. Partners include the Boys & Girls Club of Central Georgia, Communities in Schools of Middle Georgia, Fort Valley State University, Legacy

Builders' Foundation, Mercer University, Museum of Aviation, Spectrum RED, Deep Well Data Services, The Mentors Project of Bibb County and Wesleyan College.

Grants Support Continuation of 21st Century Community Learning Centers

On Thursday, September 15, Board members authorized the District to accept and approve Fiscal Year 2017 funds of \$349,412 and \$330,876 for the continuation of the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants for the 2016-2017 school year for Veterans and Southfield Elementary Schools, and Ingram-Pye and Riley Elementary Schools, respectively. Veterans and Southfield will be in their second year of implementation of a 5-year grant (\$349,412) and Ingram-Pye and Riley will be in their third year of implementation of a 5-year grant.

In July 2016, the State Board of Education approved the grant award of \$349,412 to continue the 21st CCLC programs at Veterans and Southfield Elementary Schools and \$330,876 to continue the 21st CCLC programs at Ingram-Pye and Riley Elementary Schools. The focus of the grants is to meet the needs of 75 students each from Veterans and Southfield and 72 each from Ingram-Pye and Riley who are: a) scoring below grade level in reading, math, and science; b) at risk of being retained or have been retained; and c) who may have discipline or attendance problems. The students receive reading, math and science tutoring, homework help and access to enrichment activities. The program includes the use of research-based computer programs in order to meet the academic needs of the students and to track their progress throughout the year.

The centers support the Superintendent's focus areas of attendance, discipline and reading. They will be monitored by the principals of each building and a status report of student progress will be submitted to the after-school program director at the end of every grading/marketing period.

ACE to Utilize ESPLOST Funds for Technology Upgrades

Board members on Thursday, September 15, authorized a purchase order to Progressive Communications Inc. to provide technology upgrades at the Academy for Classical Education (ACE). The locally approved charter school will utilize 2016 ESPLOST (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) funds to purchase 700 Lenovo Chromebooks. To read more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies for First Reading

Board members review two policies for a first reading on Thursday, September 15. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on. To view the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy BBAA – Election of Officers
- Policy FGDB – Facilities Projects Contracts Awards Procedures

Information

Board Receives Overview of Formative Assessment Data

On Thursday, September 15, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Tanzy Kilcrease and Director of Research, Evaluation, Assessment and Accountability Tony Jones

provided Board members with an overview of formative assessment data collected during the first month of the school year and how the data will be utilized by schools to improve student achievement. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Schools Submit Documentation for Field Trips

On Thursday, September 15, Board members received information regarding out-of-state field trips planned for this school year. Heard Elementary School submitted information about its annual trip for fifth-graders to Washington, D.C.; Howard High School's chorus will travel to Tennessee for festival competition; and Weaver Middle School's band will travel to Florida for a musical performance.