

The Board Brief

This edition of *The Board Brief* is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at the Board of Education's Committees and Board Meetings on January 17, 2013.

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Information Presented

Instructional Calendar for 2013-2014 Presented for Board Review

The Board heard a presentation on the proposed academic calendar for 2013-2014. The reconfigured calendar aligns with the Bibb County School District's Strategic Plan, *The Macon Miracle*, to maximize student learning.

The changes include five weeks off in the summer and extended breaks throughout the year with a rotation of 45 days in the classroom and 15 out. All holidays will remain. The number of instructional days will stay the same at 180. Teachers will continue to work 190 days.

The proposed calendar also meets state requirements for time, testing, and credits for graduation.

Research shows that for many kids summer learning loss can be significant, particularly for low-income kids who lack enrichment opportunities during extended breaks. Other benefits include: timely remediation, year-long opportunities for staff development, and keeping students more engaged.

No vote on the new calendar was taken at this time.

To view a copy of the Proposed 2013-2014 academic calendar presented to Board members, [click here](#).

To view a copy of the PowerPoint presented during the Board meeting, [click here](#).

Board Receives Update on District Discipline and Safety Report

Board members were updated on the District's progress regarding the results of Safe Havens International's discipline and safety report.

Updates included:

- **Access Control Directive:** The District introduced and initiated the implementation process for the Access Control administrative directive at the District's cohort meetings on Wednesday, January 16, and Thursday, January 17. The directive includes an enforcement mechanism and documentation process, and addresses the exterior access control risk exposures at schools and buildings. The risk exposures addressed here: visitor access to campus including the visitor check-in procedures, building exterior

doors, classroom exterior doors, transit doors, vestibule walls and doors where applicable, employee ID badges and visitor ID badges.

- **Space Management:** The District introduced and initiated the implementation process for the Space Management administrative directive at the District's cohort meetings on Wednesday, January 16, and Thursday, January 17. This directive includes an enforcement mechanism and documentation process, and addresses space management risk exposures at schools and buildings. The risk exposures addressed include: student, visitor or unauthorized employee access to interior spaces in the school or building. These spaces include unlocked classrooms, custodial closets, school labs, classroom storage closets, restroom supervision, school office storage areas, electrical closets, hallway access electrical panels, gymnasium storage areas, stairwells and outdoor lab areas such as school greenhouses.
- **Student Supervision:** The District introduced and initiated the implementation process for the Student Supervision administrative directive at the District's cohort meetings on Wednesday, January 16, and Thursday, January 17. This directive includes an enforcement mechanism and documentation process, and addresses student supervision risk exposures at schools and buildings. The risk exposures include classroom supervision, student classroom dismissal protocol, restroom visit supervision, outdoor activities supervision, line of sight, block period class change supervision, hallway activity supervision, authorized and unauthorized visitor monitoring, and field trip student supervision.
- **School Facility Safety and Security:** The District's administration has designated a School Facility Safety and Security team to evaluate all District schools that meet one of the following conditions: schools with no vestibule wall; schools with portable school classrooms; or schools with transit doors. The team is comprised of representatives from the Construction, Maintenance, Campus Police, and Risk Management Departments. Their assignment is to recommend options to address risk exposures at each school referenced above. The team began touring schools Tuesday, January 15. They continued the school tours on Wednesday, January 16, and Thursday, January 17. A report will be issued after a complete analysis of the data is developed from the school tours.

Representatives Update Board on Macon Promise Neighborhood Partnership

Representatives of the Macon Promise Neighborhood partnership updated Board members on the status of the Macon Promise Neighborhood project.

In October, construction crews broke ground on the new Promise Center at Historic Ballard-Hudson. The 100,000-square-foot building, located at 1780 Anthony Road, will be renovated and house several programs to support education and families. The Central Georgia Partnership for Individual & Community Development is heading up the initiative.

In 2011 Macon received a federal Promise Neighborhood planning grant to assess the needs of families in the Tindall Heights and Unionville neighborhoods. Schools in the affected area include Hartley and Ingram-Pye Elementary Schools, Ballard-Hudson Middle School, and

Southwest High School. The schools were identified based on the low graduation rates at Southwest High School. Community partners include Central Georgia Technical College, Mercer University, Wesleyan College, and the Knight Foundation.

The goal of the program is to strengthen educational outcomes for low-income children by partnering with schools, the community and families. The United States Department of Education established a federal grant program in 2008 to help replicate the success of the Harlem Children's Zone in New York City.

"The most important partner we have is the Bibb County School District," said Mercer University's Dr. Peter Brown, the project coordinator, during the ground-breaking ceremony. "This initiative is strongly aligned with *The Macon Miracle* and has the same objectives."

Programs planned for the community center include early childhood education, academic support, parenting classes, adult education, and career planning.

"We can no longer continue to use the old, antiquated model that has failed our community," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Romain Dallemand said at the ground-breaking. "Educating our children for a 21st century, multi-ethnic, global economy is everybody's business."

To view information presented to the Board by representatives of the Macon Promise Neighborhood partnership, [click here](#).

District Launching Superintendent's Reading Initiative During "I Love to Read" Month

Board members learned about the Superintendent's Reading Initiative that begins in February as part of "I Love to Read" month. During the month teachers at every school will work to enhance independent reading in the classroom.

As part of the initiative students will have a book with them at all times, learn new reading strategies, set personal reading goals, keep reading logs, and discuss what they are reading with their teachers and fellow students.

A parent brochure will also be available. To view a copy of the brochure presented to Board members, [click here](#).

Board Receives Audit Report from Mauldin & Jenkins

A representative of Mauldin & Jenkins presented Board members with a draft of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

To view Part 1 of the Audit Report draft, [click here](#).

To view Part 2 of the Audit Report draft, [click here](#).

CTAE Hosting Dress Drive to Support Scholarship for Student of the Year

The District's Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Department presented information on its planned Cinderella's Wish List Dress Drive.

The purpose of the Dress Drive is to allow the department to raise funds for the 2013 CTAE Student of the Year Scholarship and offer dresses at a discounted cost to all Bibb County high school girls. Currently, the CTAE Department presents a \$500 check to the Bibb County CTAE Student of the Year, and \$250 to the first- and second-place runners-up. The CTAE Department hopes to make this an annual event to increase the scholarship fund each year, said CTAE Director Dr. Cassandra Miller-Washington.

The CTAE Department will be accepting donations of gently used prom, formal, and bridesmaids dresses at all seven high schools during the month of January. The dress sale will be held at one of the seven high schools or the Welcome Center on February 22-23.

Board Reviews District Policy

The Board reviewed one District policy for a first reading. Any changes to policies must be read officially two times by Board members before they may be approved.

To view PR-1, DC, Board Policy Fiscal Management - Annual Operating Budget, [click here](#).

Monthly Financial Reports, 2010 Capital Improvement Program Reports

Board members were updated on the status of the General Fund and as well as the 2010 Capital Improvement Program through a monthly presentation.

To view the Regular Monthly Reports, as well as the 2010 Capital Improvement Program reports on Construction Progress, Financial Status, and 2010 ESPLOST, [click here](#).

Action Taken

Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Appointed for Howard High

The Board approved appointments and transfers, as well as separations from employment, for the month. Among the appointments approved was that of Barney Hester as Athletic Director and Head Football Coach at Howard High School.

Coach Hester comes from Tattnall Square Academy, where he has led players to 11 state football championship titles since 1982. While at Tattnall, he served in such positions as Headmaster, Athletic Director, Head Football Coach, and Head Track Coach. As Head Track Coach, he also led the track team to at least five state championship victories.

Prior to his work at Tattnall, Coach Hester worked at Josey Academy and Gordon Ivey High School before joining the coaching staff at Georgia Southern University when the university first began its college program.

He is originally from Dublin, where he grew up playing football for East Laurens High School.

To view other Personnel Services documents presented, [click here](#).

Proposed FY2014 Budget Calendar Approved

Board members approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Budget Calendar for the District. The calendar sets out a timeline for development and approval of the budget for the next fiscal year.

To view a copy of the resolution and FY2014 Budget Calendar, [click here](#).

District Makes Progress on 2013 Local Facilities Plan

The Board approved an "Explanation and Justification of Proposed School Organization and Distribution" form for the 2013 Local Facilities Plan.

Each school district in the state of Georgia is required to work with the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to develop a new Five-Year Local Facilities Plan. This plan guides decisions and reflects goals of the District in regards to its facilities and construction and renovation efforts. The current plan is set to expire on June 30, 2013. At the May 17, 2012, Board Meeting, Board members authorized Superintendent of Schools Dr. Romain Dallemard to work with the GaDOE to establish the District's next Five-Year Local Facilities Plan.

The form approved is one component of the Local Facilities Plan. It establishes the sizes and organization of each school by type - elementary, middle, and high.

In addition, the 2013 Local Facilities Plan notes that in accordance with *The Macon Miracle*, facilities will "be designed, built and maintained, and continually enhanced via 21st century technology / infrastructure. Subsequently we will create a portfolio of schools of choice designed to maximize achievement where students and families will make informed decisions regarding school options."

To view the form presented to the Board, [click here](#).

Board Approves Request to Name Northeast High School Field House

The Board voted to approve a request to name the field house at Northeast High School after former student athlete Albert "Al" James Lucas.

Upon his graduation from Northeast High School, Mr. Lucas attended Troy State University in Alabama on a full football scholarship. Mr. Lucas also played professional football with the National Football League (NFL) with the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Carolina Panthers.

When Mr. Lucas died on April 10, 2005, he was a player for the Arena Football League's Los Angeles Avengers. He is the late son of David and Elaine Lucas.

Board Attorney Receives One-Year Contract Renewal

Board members approved the reappointment of Hall, Booth, Smith, and Slover, P.C., as the representing Board Attorney for another one-year contract.

Board Elects Officer

Board members voted to elect Susan Sipe as Treasurer of the Board. No Board members were elected President or Vice President.

It was also determined that the Board will no longer elect a Secretary as Board policy does not call for a Secretary position.

In the absence of an elected President or Vice President, the Board elected Mrs. Sipe, who is the highest-ranking officer, to serve as Interim President.