BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERED TO LEARN, LEAD, INNOVATE AND SERVE

#Built4Bibb Blast

The Bibb County School District Newsletter

September 16, 2024

Alexander II Magnet School Named School of the Week



School of the Week: Alexander II Magnet School's STEMulating young minds in the STEM Olympics

Alexander II Magnet School - the only STEM-certified school in Bibb County, - is shaping the minds of its students from their imagination and innovation.

13wmaz.com

Congratulations Alexander II Magnet School on being the School of the Week! Students were highlighted for competing in the STEM Olympics. The 4th and 5th grade students used the Engineering Design Process in the STEMath Lab to create a safer and faster BMX bike track!

Teachers Receive GRANTED Donations



Congratulations to the BCSD teachers who received GRANTED donations from Robins Financial Credit Union! These donations help supply teachers with additional resources in their classrooms.
- April Harvey, Alexander II Magnet School
- Courtney Henderson, Rutland Middle School - Macon, Ga
- Jenny Gordon, Westside High School: Home of the Seminoles
- Joshua McCorkle, Central High School

“I am so incredibly grateful for Robins Financial Credit Union’s generous donation to my classroom,” said Joshua McCorkle, teacher at Central High School. “With this support, I will bring cutting-edge technology to facilitate hands-on activities and seamlessly integrate artificial intelligence into the classroom. Robins Financial’s contribution is helping shape the future, where all students will grow and thrive in a 21st century global society.”

Ingram-Pye Celebrates Perfect Attendance for August



Celebrations of Perfect Attendance for August included popsicles and music at Ingram Pye Wildcats!







Putting Science into Practice at Central High School



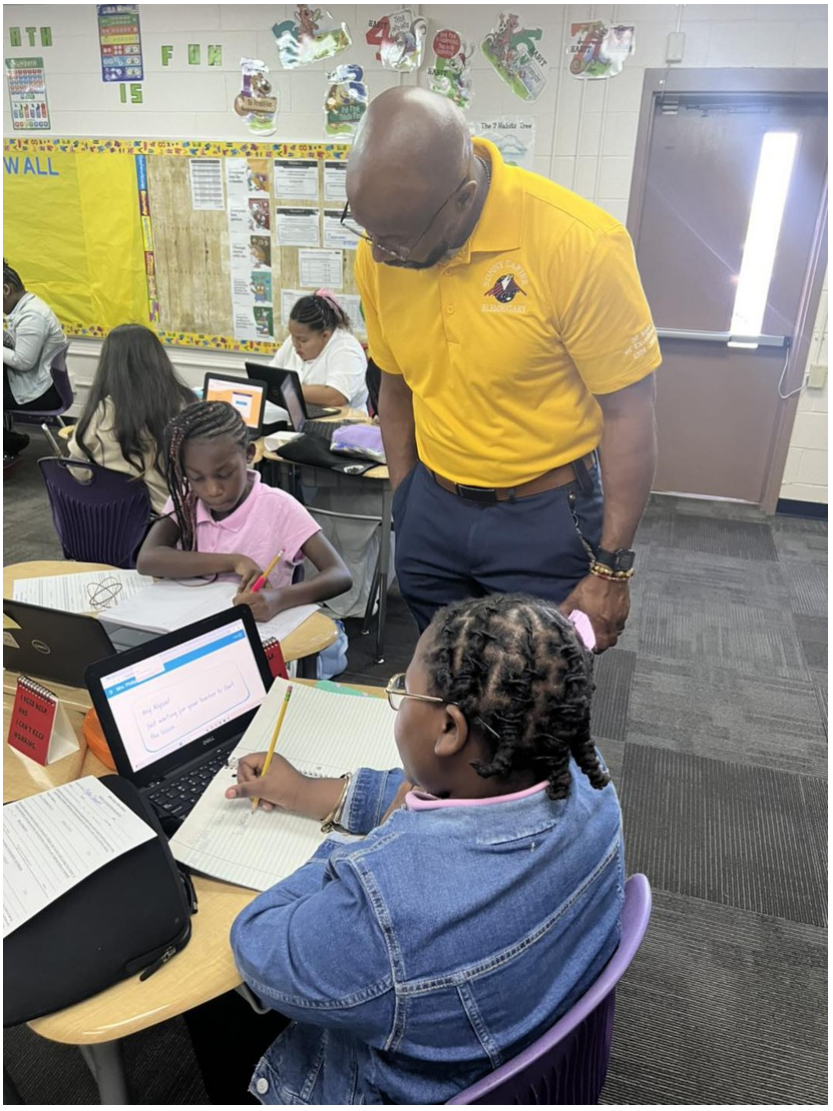
Students at Central High School studied the impacts of enzymes on liver cells this month.







Students Demonstrate Positive Momentum on Milestones



Bibb County School District students continue to make steady academic progress, according to Georgia Milestones test scores for 2023-24. Overall, students maintained or demonstrated improvement in ELA, science and social studies content areas. Georgia Milestones math scores will not be available for release until later this fall. The percentage of Bibb students reading on or above grade level has continued to increase since 2021, and Bibb's overall End of Grade ELA scores showed double-digit increases for key grade levels such as third, fifth and eighth grades. Notably, the percentage of Bibb students scoring in the developing learner and above categories in third, fifth and eighth grades increased by 9 to 13 percentage points since 2021!

YouthBuild Graduate Sworn in for Duty with Bibb Sheriff's Office



Congratulations to Deputy Robert Watkins, a 2024 graduate of the YouthBuild Program, on joining Bibb County Sheriff's Office! YouthBuild will host a reunion for alumni on September 18 at 5 p.m. at 2011 Riverside Drive to celebrate the program's success and its recent grant renewal.

YouthBuild is a pre-apprenticeship construction program, which serves as an opportunity for youth ages 16-24 to develop educational and occupational skills. SOAR Academy was awarded the three-year grant for the first time in February 2019, and the District was one of only two grantees in Georgia to receive the grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Schools Host PBIS & Leader in Me Celebrations



PBIS and Leader in Me celebrations began in BCSD! Union Elementary School kicked off these amazing celebrations with each grade level preparing a cheer and sharing their Wildly Important Goals! Thank you to these leaders for showcasing their talents and gifts!







Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Meets for First Session



Members of the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory came together and provided feedback on topics of school safety, student attendance, the academic calendar, first-day instruction, and more. We're excited to receive their input throughout the school year!

Howard High Students Participate in GA Tech Research Program



Howard High School seniors Henry Blankenship and Zenabu Daramanu were selected to participate in the Georgia Tech Research Institute 2024 High School Summer Internship Program from June 10-July 19 at the Warner Robins Field Office. Interns work on projects in GTRI laboratories and the GTRI Warner Robins field office with the goal of providing students with real-world experiences in science and engineering research. GTRI researchers mentor students by working with them on projects to engage them in first-hand STEM experience, with the goals of helping bridge the gap in Georgia's STEM workforce by creating awareness of STEM career opportunities. Hutchings College and Career Academy Cybersecurity Pathway Instructor Chanel Simmons served as a mentor during the summer internship program.

Schools Encouraging Students with Attendance Challenge

No preview yet

Perfect attendance at Macon schools results in $50 gift cards, headphones, more. Here's how

A local law firm in Bibb County, Ga encourages students to regularly attend school & increase academic performance, gives away raffle prizes

macon.com

Saige Harpe of Central High School was the first winner of the Show Up Attendance Challenge, winning a pair of Apple AirPods! "I think the challenge is a good way to get students to get to class on time so they won't miss any assignments or any important information," Saige said to The

Telegraph & macon.com. The challenge is hosted by a community partner who is helping Bibb Schools focus on student attendance this year. Thank you to The Law Office of Mahdi Abdur-Rahman for supporting this initiative!

Hartley Elementary Students Gifted with Bows and Ties



Students at Matilda Hartley Elementary School were gifted hair bows, bow ties, and pearls from New Hope Baptist Church and Macon Chapter of the Links! These are for students to wear on Professional Dress Tuesdays! Thank you to our community partners for your continued support of BCSD students.

Leaders Cut Ribbon on New Springdale Elementary School



Bibb County School District celebrated the opening of the new Springdale Elementary School Macon, GA with a ribbon cutting on September 6. We'd like to thank Robertson Loia Roof and ICB Construction Group for all their hard work on this project! The new school was funded by the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a one percent sales tax approved by voters in 2019.





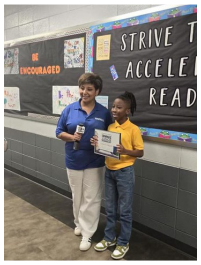


Campus Police Celebrated with Parade at John R. Lewis



The students, faculty and staff at John R. Lewis Elementary celebrated the Campus Police Officers that serve their school and always keep everyone safe! The celebration included a parade through the school and breakfast. Special honors went to Chief Curtis Adams, Sgt. Angelo Bellamy, and Officers Maurice Bellamy, Shinteria Holman, and William Jones.

13WMAZ Junior Journalists Announced







Three BCSD students were selected to be 13WMAZ Junior Journalists. Congratulations to these students!

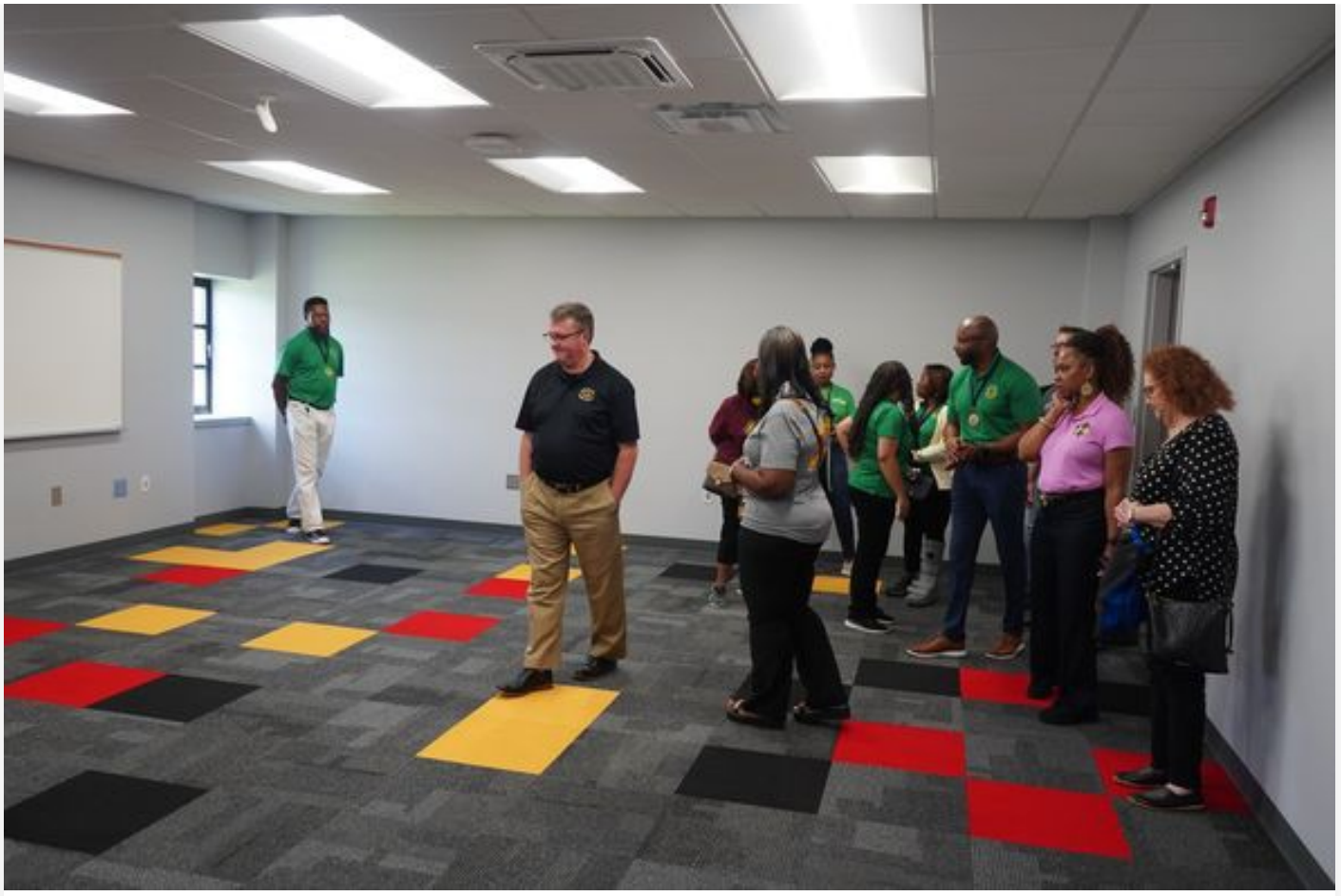
- Jo'Vante Passard at Weaver Middle School
- Carter Taylor at Howard Middle School
- Ryleigh Thomas at Appling Middle School

VIP Student Masters State 4-H Public Speaking Contest



Congratulations to Bibb County School District VIP Academy sophomore Shaelin Calder-Denny who placed first in the public speaking competition at the Georgia 4-H Congress! Shaelin says she is excited to represent Bibb County as a Master 4-Her! #Built4Bibb

Harry Thompson Complex Opens in East Macon



Board members, District leaders and members of the ESPLOST Oversight Committee toured the Harry Thompson Complex, a renovation project of the former Appling Middle School facility. This reinvigorated property will house District offices, including Athletics and the Campus Police K-9 Units, as well as upgraded parking, concessions and other facilities for Harry Thompson Stadium. Special thanks to SP Design Group and Sheridan Construction for their work on this project! This project was funded by the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a 1 percent sales tax approved by voters in 2019.

200 Years of Service Celebrated in Facilities & Maintenance



Our Maintenance and Facilities Team held a Years of Service Celebration for some of their team members! Between these 4 men, they have dedicated almost 200 years to BCSD! Thank you for your dedication and commitment: Davie Driskell, Elbert Durham, Daniel Jones, and Rennie Lewis!

BCSD Students Premiere Short Film



Juan Sanchez, Rutland H.S.



Samantha Fogarty, Central H.S.



Ta'mar "Tayy" Tuft, Central H.S.

Three Bibb County students in the Hutchings Audio Video & Film (AVF) Pathway took part in a local short film production for "No Pressure" by Julia Pender in June 2023. Juan Sanchez of Rutland High, and Samantha Fogarty and Ta'Mar Tuft of Central High, took part in the production. They learned about the filmmaking process from start to finish, taking on different roles in the film crew

and as extras. A premiere was held for the film earlier this month and included a red carpet celebration before the screening!

Ballard-Hudson Educator Represents Bibb at Milestones Data Review Conference



The Georgia Milestones New Item and Data Review Conference (DRC) on July 18-19 brought together a diverse group of educators from different content backgrounds. Collaborating with one of the DRC representatives and a team of sixth-grade educators from Effingham, Fulton, Heard, Jackson, and Worth counties, Ballard Hudson Middle School Math & Science Academic Coach Shaday M. Lackey said, "Conference attendees meticulously evaluated the appropriateness of potential field questions. Our team focused on ensuring standard alignment, eliminating bias, and clarifying test items, while also verifying the correct Depth of Knowledge and Achievement Level Descriptors indicators. Additionally, we conducted a data review to analyze how Georgia students performed on previous field questions."

Science Educator Continues to be #Built4Bibb



Dr. Suneetha Panda at Central High School continued contributing to her career field this summer! She attended the Society of Science, where she was chosen to serve as an advocate. She was able to attend training in Washington D.C. to learn new ways to incorporate research in schools. She also spoke at Georgia Tech about the concepts of RET and its impact in education. Dr. Panda is certainly #Built4Bibb!

Campus Police Takes Part in Summer Professional Development



Campus Police team members spent the summer participating in various training modules to prepare for the 2024-25 school year! Professional learning workshops covered a wide range of topics, such as Stop the Bleed, de-escalation techniques, PBIS, restorative practices, the historical context and implications of policing, and mental health awareness. Special thanks to guest instructors Curlandra Smith, Tajalyn Woodruff, and Ashley Newberry.

Rutland Renovated in Summer with ESPLOST Funds



Rutland High School renovations are looking good thanks to ESPLOST support! The ESPLOST, or Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, is a one percent sales tax approved by voters in 2019.

Students Explore with 21st Century Summer Program



The 21st Century Summer Programs were a success! Students had the opportunity to participate in multiple fun activities. Elementary students visited a local farm and played pickle ball at the Macon Mall. Middle school students visited the World of Coca-Cola and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta!

Central High Graduate Collaborates with NBA & NFL

No preview yet

Online shoe art sensation from Macon collaborated with NBA, NFL. 'I just like painting'

Elijah Rutland's custom sneaker business started ten years ago while he was a student at Central High School. Now, he's still cutting deals nationwide.

l.facebook.com

Macon+Bibb County graduates finding success: Successful Central High School alum Elijah Rutland is an example of how students can turn their passions into a career!

Health and PE Coordinator Celebrated Nationally



Congratulations to Jena Derzi, Health and PE Coordinator (second from left)! Jena and Sherry Smith from Muscogee County were named National Champions at the NFL PLAY 60 Summit with the Cooper Inst! For more than 17 years, the NFL PLAY 60 initiative has been the NFL's national Youth Health and Wellness platform to empower youth to get physically active for at least 60 minutes a day and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Southwest Freshmen Participate in Mock Trial Camp



Southwest High School hosted a Law Academy Mock Trial Camp for rising freshmen this summer. Senior Kalia Gosha was the instructor for the week, with assistance from sophomore Izabella Rivers, as well as members of Southwest's SkillsUSA. The camp culminated with a Mock Trial on Friday.

Bibb Teachers Are All In for Dig In Conference



Educators from across the District participated in the #DIGIN2024 Conference. This professional learning event provided them with strategies and learning tools for an increasingly digital world!

VIP Academy Scholar Supporting Students with Resources

No preview yet

A 17-year-old wants to combat Macon's high rate of youth mental health issues. Here's how

"I want each and every teen to know that if they're going through anything, it's going to be okay. Don't ever give up," said Nadia Thomas, VIP Academy student and founder of Nadia's Truth.

l.facebook.com

Check out how Bibb County School District VIP Academy student Nadia Thomas is helping her community and starting an important conversation!

Robins FCU Commemorates 70th Anniversary with Donation to McKinney-Vento Program



Thank you to [Robins Financial Credit Union] for supporting Bibb's McKinney-Vento program for homeless children! Robins Financial presented donations to several Bibb County organizations in honor of its 70th anniversary at the grand opening celebration of its new Downtown Macon branch last month. Dr. Danielle Jones, Homeless and Foster Care Liaison, second from right, and Dr. Tamara Candis, Associate Superintendent of Schools, center, were on hand for the presentation.

Howard High Earns School of Week for Wellness Program



School of the Week: Howard High School makes a difference through wellness initiatives

Howard High is school of the week from 13WMAZ.

13wmaz.com

Howard High School was honored as 13WMAZ's School of the Week for its wellness program focused on incorporating yoga and meditation practices into the classroom!

High School Students Shadow Healthcare Workers



We're excited that our students have the opportunity to participate in this new summer program! Atrium Health Navicent's Project REACH, the Realizing and Encouraging Adolescents to pursue Careers in Healthcare, program provided students with an opportunity to shadow health care workers, participate in hands-on training and educational field trips and more during a four-week session this summer.

Middle Schoolers Take FLIGHT with Learning this Summer



The FLIGHT has officially landed! The closing days of #FLIGHTCamp2024 summer literacy camp at Appling Middle School were amazing!
Kudos to Santina Royal for hosting a “Queen’s Tea” for all of our young ladies! She was supported by an awesome team, including Nadia Ford who was the lead chef!
Special thanks to Taye Ayuk for hosting #FLIGHTShop with the boys! He engaged every man on staff to teach our young men about some of the essentials of manhood.
Shouts out to Allegra Wooten for designing the #FLIGHTCamp2024 T-shirt and certificates, and Benjalyn Tolbert King for making over 200 shirts!

Finally, a salute to ALL of the Navigators who served INCOMPARABLY and solidified amazing growth for all of our Aviators!

Summer Camp Students at Southfield Leading the Game



Students and staff in the summer #LeadingtheGAME literacy camp at Southfield Elementary went on an incredible journey of learning and making lifelong friends this summer. Thank you to everyone who participated, the dedicated staff, the United Way of Central Georgia volunteers with #ReadUnited, and supportive families. Until next time, keep Leading the GAME!

CTAE Summer Camp Leads Way for Young Entrepreneurs



The Bibb CTAE summer entrepreneurship camp for middle schoolers culminated in the Lemonade Stand Demo Day. This event allowed the students to showcase what they've learned about planning a business and providing customer service through a delicious product. This camp is a collaboration with SparkMacon, and we are grateful for this partnership!

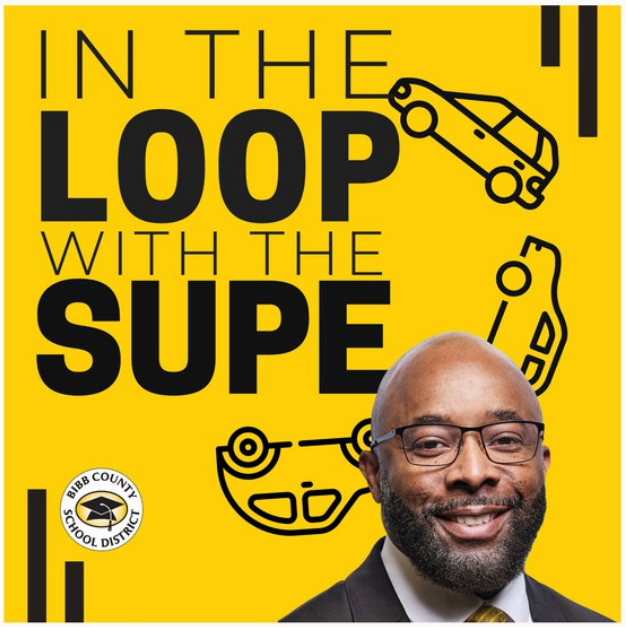
Students Earn Dual Credit with CGTC Study Abroad



Irish language classes, team building, kayaking and more are just a few highlights as 19 Bibb County high school students participate in Central Georgia Technical College Dual Enrollment study abroad in Ireland this summer! They will return from Ireland inspired by adventure and culture!

Students who take part in high school dual enrollment programs across the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) are eligible to apply, enroll in Humanities 1101, and participate in the study abroad each June.

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Bibb County School District

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Bibb County School District is located in Macon, GA, with about 22,000 students.