#Built4Bibb Blast

The Bibb County School District Newsletter

BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERED TO LEARN, LEAD, INNOVATE AND SERVE

August 14, 2024

Back to School!



Students were welcomed back for the First Day of School on August 5th! We are excited for the 2024-2025 year!







Teacher of the Year



Congratulations to Howard Middle School's Sarah Mallett for being named District Teacher of the Year for 2025! Mallett, who teaches Audio, Video, Technology and Film at Howard, has been a Bibb County educator since 2021.

2024 Convocation



Teachers and Staff were all welcomed back for the 2024-2025 school year with Convocation!







New Teacher Orientation



New Teachers were welcomed to BCSD! Thank you to our sponsors for supporting these new teachers.

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Macon Chamber of Commerce welcomes New Teachers



The Business Education Partnership (BEP), in conjunction with the Greater Macon Chamber, hosted a welcome reception for Bibb County Schools' nearly 300 new teachers on Wednesday, July 24, at Northeast High School.

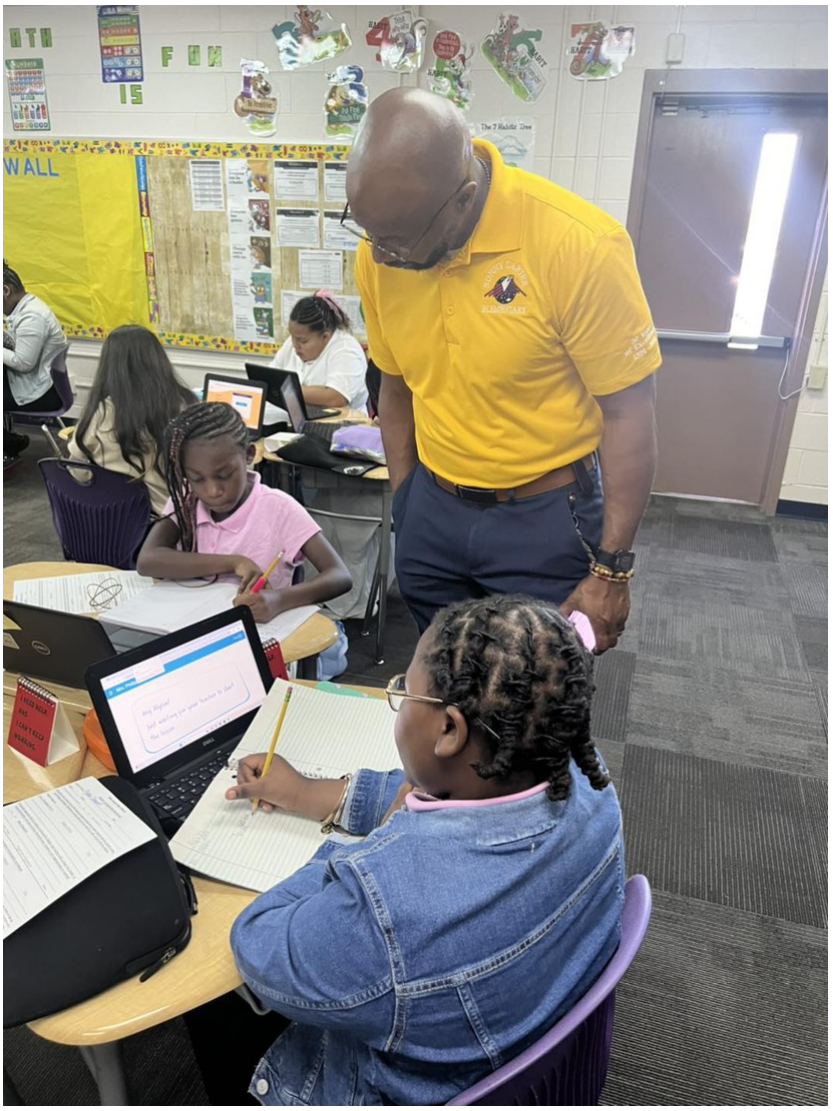
This reception celebrated the arrival of these new teachers and showed appreciation for their contributions to our community, which can in turn, serve as positive motivation as they begin their new role. Programming included a talk with acclaimed educator, author and leadership speaker Ron Clark, which was followed by an ice cream social. Clark is an American educator and reality television personality who founded the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta and is a New York Times bestselling author and motivational speaker.

"It's our goal to have this program packed with business leaders ready to welcome our newest teachers," says Jessica Walden, Greater Macon Chamber President and CEO, and co-chair of the BEP. "When our community aims to create and retain top talent for a healthy workforce, there is no better area to focus than our educators. They are our leaders, innovators, change agents and launchpads that help define the trajectories and career pathways our students choose. We want our new teachers to 'Choose Macon' – to live here, love here, and feel a sense of connection and purpose here as part of our workforce strategy."

"To have business and community partners show this level of support for educators is truly an amazing way to kick off our school year and welcome new teachers to Macon-Bibb," says Dr. Dan A. Sims, Bibb County School District Superintendent and co-chair of the BEP. "As educators, we know the relationships between teachers and students are critical to co-creating an engaging learning environment where students can achieve and be successful. For business and community partners to show up for our new teachers at the beginning of their journey in Bibb to say, 'We see

you and we support you,' is a powerful message, and it speaks volumes about the relationship between our community and our schools."

Milestone Success



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!

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.

PBIS Back to School Bash



The Back-to-School Bash was a big success! We'd like to thank all of our staff members, as well as the sponsors who showed up in a huge way!

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Amazon.com
The Mentor's Project of Bibb County
MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union
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Piedmont Macon
Georgia DHS
Atrium Health
Kelly Education-Bibb County
Kamin
First Quality Baby Products
Bibb Mt Zion Baptist Church

AND MORE!





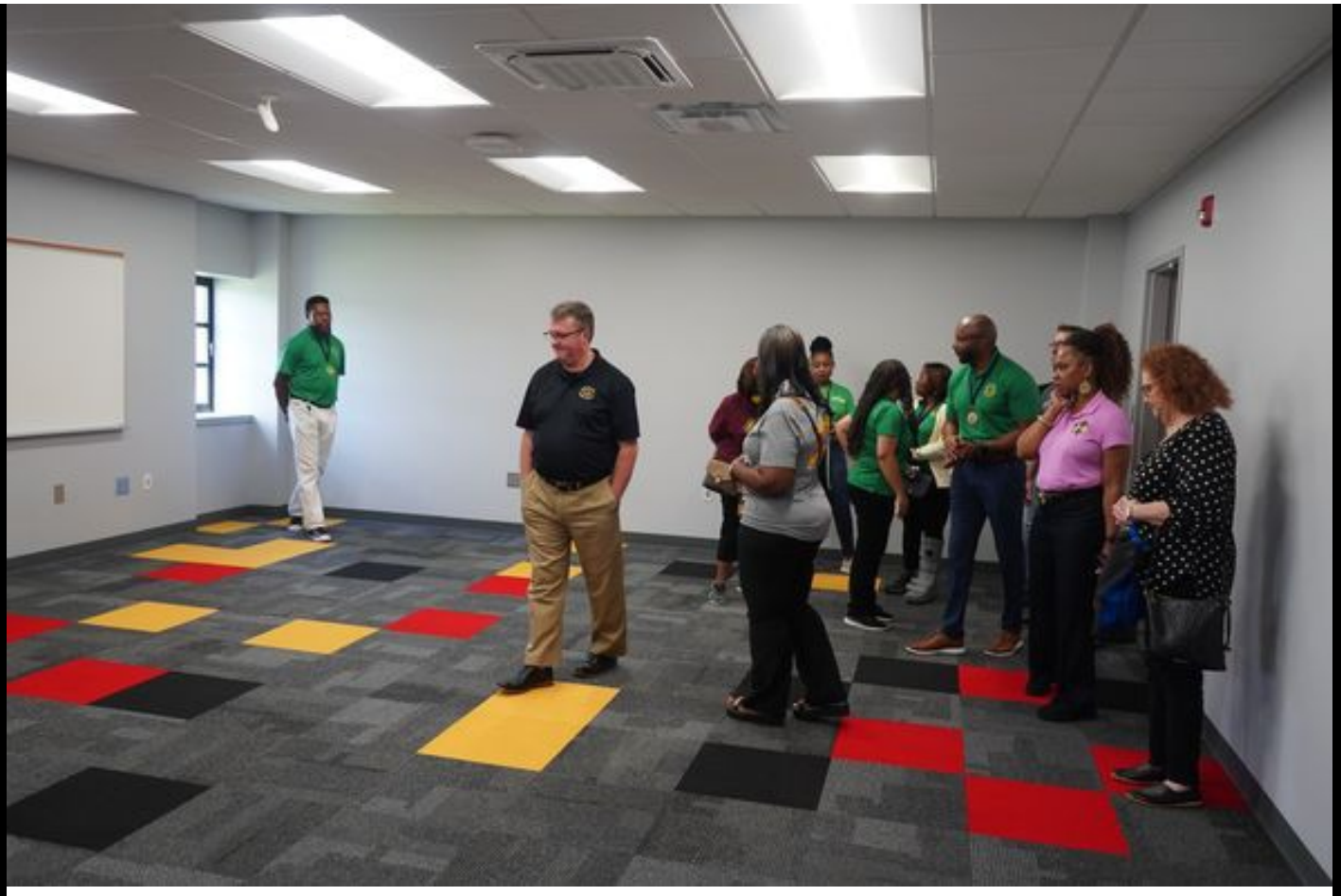


VIP Student wins Public Speaking Contest



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 4Her! #Built4Bibb

Harry Thompson Complex Opens



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.

200 Years of Service Celebrated



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

New Springdale Elementary Toured



District leaders, board members and members of the ESPLOST oversight committee got the opportunity to tour the new Springdale Elementary School Macon, GA. We'd like to thank Robertson Loia Roof and ICB Construction Group for all their hard work on this project!







Summer Graduation Celebrated



The District held its commencement ceremony for members of the Class of 2024 who completed the requirements for graduation during summer programming. We are so proud of the commitment and dedication displayed by these students!

Transportation Team holds first Open House



There was a great turnout for the Transportation Open House! Parents and students were able to meet with their bus drivers for the 2024-2025 school year!

BCSD students premiere short film



Juan Sanchez, Rutland H.S.



Samantha Fogarty, Central H.S.



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

3 Bibb County Students, that are in the Hutchings Audio Video & Film pathway. They took part in a local Short Film production in June of 2023. Juan Sanchez, Rutland H.S., Samantha Fogarty, Central H.S. and Ta'Mar Tuft, Central H.S., took part in the production. They learned about the Filmmaking process from start to finish. They took on different roles in the film crew and as extras.

Ballard Hudson Teacher Celebrated



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."

Dr. Panda continues to be #Built4Bibb



Dr. Panda at Central High School has been busy this summer! She attended the Society of Science where she was chosen 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 #BuiIt4Bibb!

Finance Team Awarded



For the 25th consecutive year, the Bibb County School District was recently recognized with the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2023. This award honors our Finance team, which includes Accounting and Procurement, for comprehensive and transparent annual reports. Congratulations!

Campus Police



Campus Police team members have spent the summer participating in various training modules to prepare for the 2024-25 school year! Professional learning workshops have 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 Renovation



Rutland High School renovations are looking good thanks to ESPLOST support!

21st Century Summer Program



21st Century Summer Program were a success! Students had the opportunity to participate in a lot of 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 & 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



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 High Students participate in Mock Trial



Southwest High School hosted a Law Academy Mock Trial Camp for rising freshmen this week. 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.

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!

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.

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

Donation



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 week. 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.

Project REACH



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 is providing 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.

Flight Camp



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 fellas! 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



Summer Camp #LeadingtheGAME has officially come to an end! Students and staff in the summer literacy camp at Southfield Elementary have been on an incredible journey of learning and making lifelong friends. 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 Camp



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!

Northwood Family Day



Northwoods Academy hosted a Family Day this summer where students and parents tie dyed some t-shirts! This is a part of their summer program for entering pre-k and students rising to kindergarten

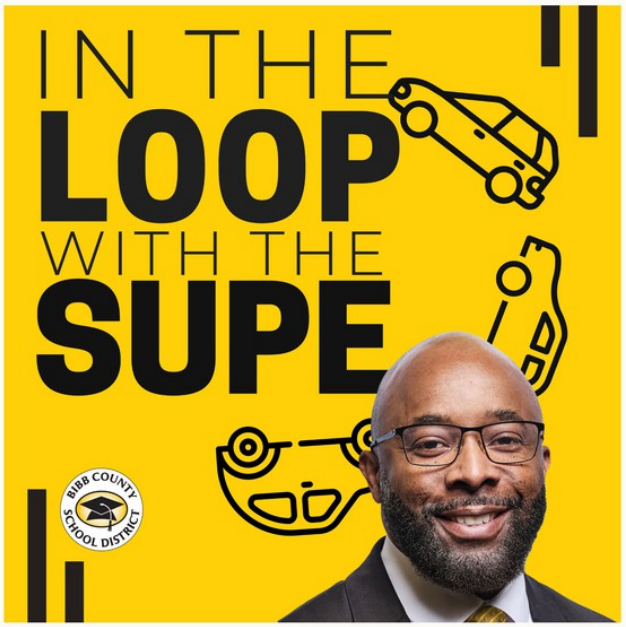
Ireland Study Abroad



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 Schools
Bibb is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

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