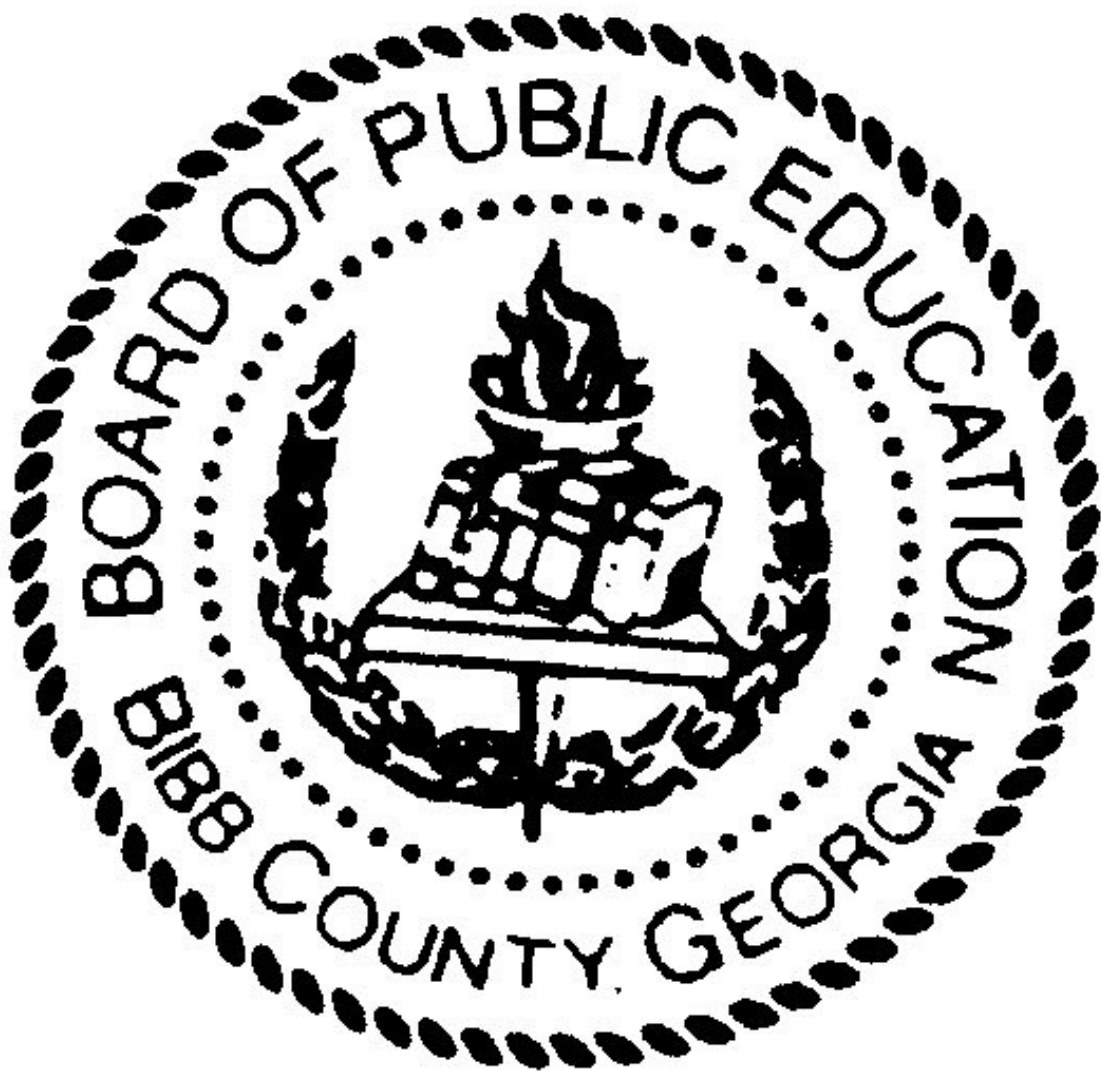


The Board Brief

July 18, 2024



The Board Brief

The Board Brief newsletter is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at Bibb County Board of Education meetings for Bibb County School District in Macon, Ga. Review meeting agendas, district policies, Board member contact information and more on Simbli at

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Index.aspx?S=4013>.

Actions

Personnel Actions Approved

On Thursday, July 18, Board members approved various personnel items. To view personnel items, [click here](#).

Purchase of Wonders Practice Books Approved

Board members approved the purchase of Wonders Practice Books for students in grades K-5. Wonders Practice Books feature phonics, spelling, handwriting, high-frequency word, vocabulary, and grammar practice for students in grades K-5 during each week of instruction as well as take-home stories. For more information, [click here](#).

LETRS Volume 2 Professional Learning Approved

Board members authorized the Superintendent to approve the purchase of LETRS professional development for use during the 2024-2025 school year. All K-5 teachers and elementary school administrators have been trained in LETRS Volume 1, focusing on the word recognition skills that are essential for the development of reading comprehension. The Teaching and Learning Department is seeking to expand this training to include LETRS Volume 2, focusing on the language comprehension skills involved in the comprehension of oral language. For more information, [click here](#).

Imagine Learning's Edgenuity Platform Renewed

Board members authorized the renewal of the Imagine Learning - Edgenuity contract for the 2024-2025 school year. Imagine Learning's virtual platform, Edgenuity, is designed to meet the needs of the evolving classroom. It is implemented in-person and virtually within Bibb's middle schools, high schools, and the VIP Academy. It provides a robust selection of core, elective, and honor courses that can be completed for initial credit as well as credit recovery. For more information, [click here](#).

School City Assessment Platform Renewed

Board members approved the renewal of School City (Illuminate Education, Inc.) and authorized a purchase order for the District's formative assessment platform for the 2024-2025 school year. Since 2015, the District has used School City to implement a formative assessment process that provides teachers and district leaders with data to assist with instructional decisions. Access to this formative assessment data has assisted schools in determining student mastery of standards prior to the spring administration of standardized tests. For more information, [click here](#).

Renaissance Suite Renewed for 2024-25

Board members authorized a purchase order for the renewal of the Renaissance Suite for 2024-25. The District continues to use Renaissance district-wide for various purposes such as universal screening, progress monitoring, differentiated instruction, and predicting student proficiency and mastery of state standards. Renaissance also acts as the district's GaDOE-approved dyslexia screener, offering important insights to personalize student learning. For more information, [click here](#).

Kelly Services Contract Extension Approved for 2024-25

Board members approved the renewal of the District's contract with Kelly Education Services for the 2024-2025 school year. In January 2021, a three-year contract was approved with Kelly Services to provide substitute teachers for the district. The contract was amended in May 2021 to add a managed paraprofessional program to accommodate the number of paraprofessionals that schools requested with ARP funds. This will extend the initial contract by one year. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Authorizes Certified Teacher Staffing Services

Board members authorized the District to issue a purchase order to each of the following vendors on an as-needed basis for 2024-25: Cross Country Education \$50 - \$69/hour; Amergis Educational Staffing (Formerly Maxim) \$65 - \$70/hour; and Sunbelt Staffing \$68.50/hour. The Human Resources Department is currently utilizing all available means to recruit teachers. In addition to Bibb's Grow Your Own efforts, in-person and digital recruitment efforts, Bibb has also utilized staffing services. For more information, [click here](#).

Thompson Complex Renovations Approved

Board members approved a contract with Sheridan Construction in the amount of \$2,075,676 for renovations as part of Thompson Complex Phase 4. These items will be funded through the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a one percent sales tax approved by voters.

Phase 2's original scope included demolition of all former Appling Middle School facilities on Shurling Drive to provide additional parking, plaza, ticket booths and home field concessions at Harry S. Thompson. In 2022, the Board approved an amended project scope and Phase 3, to include retention and renovations of the new Harry S. Thompson Complex. Due to ongoing athletic operations and events at Thompson Stadium, scheduling for renovations of the two-story facility retained were divided into two phases. Phase 3 (lower level) was completed after the 2023-2024 football season. Phase 4 (upper level) design and budget will be completed with a Spring 2025 completion date. For more information, [click here](#).

Board OKs ESPLOST Budget Amendment

Board members approved a proposed ESPLOST Budget amendment to provide for construction costs for Harry S. Thompson Complex Phase 4 and district-wide field improvements to baseball and softball fields. For more information, [click here](#).

Communities in Schools of Central Georgia Services Renewed

Communities In Schools (CIS) of Central Georgia is an integral part of a national network dedicated to improving student success by providing essential support and services to students and their families. The CIS model focuses on addressing both academic and nonacademic barriers to student achievement, fostering a supportive environment conducive to learning and growth. This cost \$300,000 from General funds and \$300,000 from Title funds. For more information, [click here](#).

Campus Police Safety and Security Improvements Approved

Board members approved the purchase of bodycams, tasers, and training and licensing software for use by Campus Police in support of safety and security efforts. These items will be funded through the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a one percent sales tax approved by voters. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Approve Intergovernmental Agreement

The Board voted to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) concerning a property lease by Georgia Power (GPC) from the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority (CGJDA) to install upon the property a battery storage solution (BESS). The proposal is adjacent to the 2018 Project Soap Solar Project located off Ga. Highway 247. CGJDA is proposing a new 2024 IGA with Macon-Bibb County, GA (M-BC) and the Bibb County School District (BCSD) relating to the Project BESS PILOT Payments to be created by the project and paid by GPC to continue to fund the Encroachment Project by leveraging, maximizing, and/or supplementing the REPI II funding. For more information, [click here](#).

Attorney Fees Approved for 2024-25

Board members authorized the District to sign a Letter of Engagement and issue purchase orders to Jones Cork, LLP for legal services and expenses for Fiscal Year 2025 for a combined total of \$720,000. For more information, [click here](#).

Mason Produce Contract for School Nutrition Approved

Board members approved an agreement with Mason Produce DBA: Bi-City Produce for fresh fruit and vegetable program purchases in 2024-2025. For more information, [click here](#).

BCSD Board Member Norms & Protocols Approved

Board members voted under New Business during the monthly Board meeting to approve the "BCSD Board Member Norms & Protocols" document as presented for review. Local boards are recommended to adopt a set of norms and protocols by the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA). Board members worked on development of the norms and protocols during a retreat. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy MDA, Shared Services/RESAs (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy GBRE, Professional Personnel Extra Duty ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy BE, School Board Records (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy BBA, Board Officers (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy BCB, Board Procedures (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy BBAA, Board Officer Method of Election (INFORMATION - First Reading)

Stakeholders are encouraged to review policies posted after first reading and make public comment via Simbli before the proposed policies are brought back before the Board for action the following month. Simbli may be accessed through the District's website, www.bcsdk12.net, under "About Us" and "Simbli." On [Simbli](#), "Pending Policies" will appear on the right side of the screen.

Information

Board Receives Presentation on Efforts to Explore School Consolidation

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Katika Lovett presented Board members with information on the District's timeline to conduct an assessment on the need for any future school closures or consolidations. The District is poised to explore school consolidation as a key strategy for future budget planning. This comprehensive and balanced approach will empower the District to make informed decisions that prioritize financial efficiency and significantly enhance student outcomes and experiences. For more information, [click here](#).

If you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee or would like more information, please use the QR code or link at <https://forms.office.com/r/Z9wYXYV9Qj>. In your response, please include your name, affiliation, and a brief statement of your interest in participating.

Charter School Presentation Shared with Board

Board members received updated information regarding an application for a local charter school by The Infinity Academy. Board members will review the application for action at a future meeting. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Members Review BCSD Student Cell Phone Policy

At a recent Board meeting, Board members made a special request to review the District's Student Cell Phone Policy. The policy - JCDAF, Use of Electronic Devices by Students - was provided to Board members for review as part of New Business during the monthly Board meeting. Board members held discussion about the policy. No action was taken. For more information, [click here](#).

Superintendent's Highlights

- 2024-25 school year loading! 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.
- A big congratulations to our very own Chief Curtis Adams, who is the author of a new book entitled "Building Bridges: A Chief's Quest for Change in Policing." This book can be found on Amazon.
- Today, our coaches participated in the District's first Coaches Symposium at Westside High School. Our veteran athletic directors and athletic coordinators taught sessions on gameday operations, leadership, social media and more!
- Students experienced a wealth of opportunities and new friendships during BCSD's 21st Century Community Learning Center Summer Programs!
- Football season is around the corner, but it's not just about football! Westside's Cheer Squad and Dance Team performers joined Band Camp musicians as the instrumentalists broke out into their groups to start sharpening the saw and sweetening their notes to promote a plethora of Seminole Spirit!
- Met new leaders and earned Parent Spotlight Points that can be used at designated PBIS Events. Stallions are galloping into the new year! Parents and community members were able to meet school leaders and prepare for the new school year during the Stallion Streetside Social this week at the Piggly Wiggly on Rocky Creek Road. Setting the stage for excellence, this event kicked off a stakeholder engagement campaign, a key focus in our School's

Improvement Plan. Shoutout to the Bloomfield community for bringing such positive vibes and energy!

- Summer renovations at Howard and Rutland are almost complete! Thanks again to Bibb County voters for approving the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, or ESPLOST. The one percent sales tax helps support needed renovations and operational management to ensure Bibb's students and staff are able to learn in safe and secure facilities throughout the district.
- Southwest High School hosted a Law Academy Mock Trial Camp for rising freshmen this month. 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 at the end of the week.
- This month, educators from across the District "leveled up" on their skills during the #DIGIN2024 Conference. This professional learning event, which stands for Digital Integration, provided teachers with strategies and learning tools for an increasingly digital world! They discovered new tools, strategies, and innovations to boost classrooms to the next level.
- Howard High School senior Donald Williams, III was accepted to participate in the 2024 Yale University Young Global Scholars summer program for outstanding high school students. This highly selective two-week program offers an innovative, intense summer experience for talented high school students. Donald's session is on Innovations in Science & Technology!
- Students and teachers at McKibben Lane Elementary School are in for a special treat when they return to school! This new mural by artist Arrin Freeman will help students envision themselves on an educational journey that is out of this world!
- 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 this summer.
- Northwoods Academy's Summer Transition Program helped students and families prepare for the transition to school while making educational experiences fun!
- We will kick off our welcome of new teachers and employees with New Teacher Orientation on Monday, July 22, at Northeast High School. The Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, alongside the community-driven Business Education Partnership (BEP), are collaborating with BCSD to officially welcome new teachers and foster their engagement with the business community. The New Teacher Welcome Reception will tap into a training day, where the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce will host an afternoon welcome reception for the new teachers. Business stakeholders have been invited to attend. The reception will feature dynamic presentations and a community rally delivered by world-renowned speaker and leading education and leadership expert Ron Clark. Following the presentation, there will be an ice cream social reception featuring food trucks, local vendors and cold beverages, where business community and educators can connect and create invaluable opportunities for collaboration, support and sharing of resources. Register to attend by connecting with the Chamber.
- Transportation will host its own Open House this year so that parents can meet their child's bus driver and register for transportation. The Transportation Open House will be Wednesday, July 24, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at the PLC on Riverside Drive. We are getting ready with our community partners and volunteers to host the PBIS Back-to-School Bash on Friday, August 2, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Ed DeFore Sports Complex.
- Open House for middle and high schools will be Thursday, August 1, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. and Open House for elementary schools will be Friday, August 2, from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

- This is all in purpose to make sure our students are ready for the first day of school on Monday, August 5.





OPEN HOUSE 2024

Middle and High School Open House

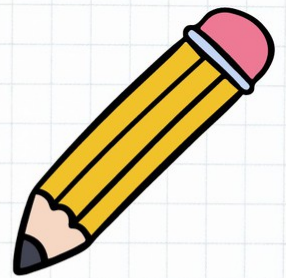
Thursday, August 1

3:30-6 PM

Elementary School Open House

Friday, August 2

3:30-6 PM



PBIS BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

August 2nd

9:00 - 11:30A.M.

Ed Defore Sports Complex

2851 Heath Road, Macon, GA 31206

*Families must remain in their vehicles



Highlights

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 23

Our main goals as a District include Operational Excellence and Building Trust with the Community. These efforts extend through everything that we do, from student services to our administration, and no doubt include our financial practices. 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.

Visit www.facebook.com/bibbschools for photos of highlights and recognitions.



Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gabriel Gilbert, a rising 6th grade student at Miller Magnet Middle School.

Board Members

The following Board Members were present at this meeting:

Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6 - President

Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5 - Vice President

Mr. Daryl J. Morton, At-Large, Post 7 - Treasurer

Mrs. Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1

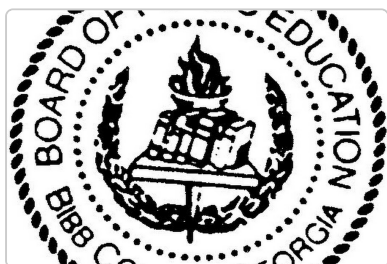
Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2 (*In attendance virtually by Teams*)

Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3

Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4

Dr. Lisa W. Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

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