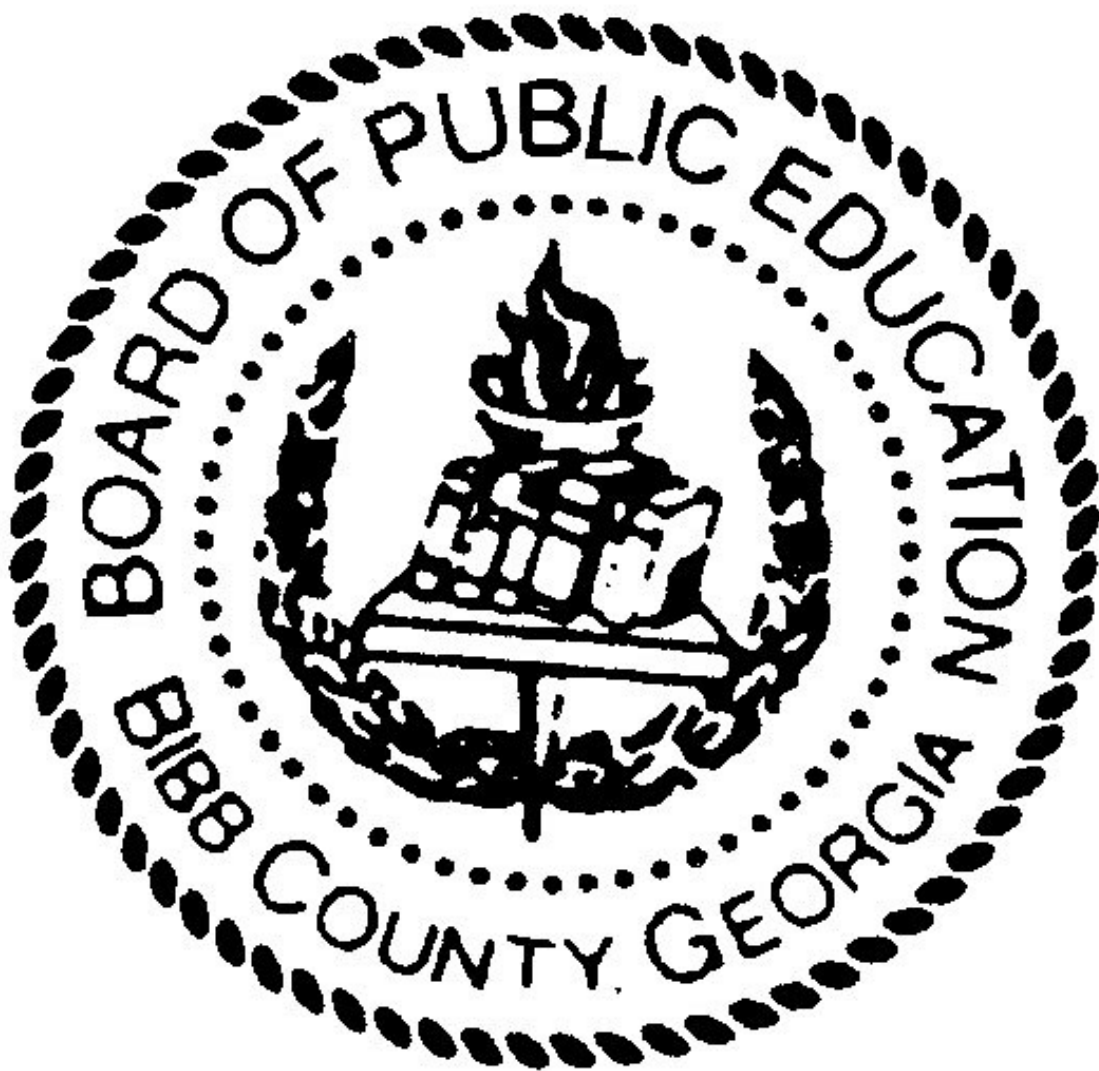


The Board Brief

September 19, 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

Administrators Appointed; Personnel Actions Approved

On Thursday, September 19, Board members approved two administrative appointments, as well as various personnel items. For more information, [click here](#). Appointments are listed below.

- Jarred Moore, GEAR UP Director
- Dr. Anna Watson, Ingram-Pye Elementary Assistant Principal

Board OKs Academic Calendars 2025-26 and 2026-27

Board members approved the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school year academic calendars. Each proposed academic calendar includes 180 instructional days for students and 190 contract days for teachers. In both academic calendars, school begins in August and ends in May. To view the calendars, [click here](#).

Perkins Funds Supporting CTAE Approved

Bibb County School District's Career, Technical, Agriculture Education (CTAE) Program has been awarded \$502,868 in Carl D. Perkins federal funds. Grant funds must be spent for local programs in compliance with the Perkins Act, State Plan, State Rules, and Local Plan Guidelines. Each eligible recipient must use federal funds to improve CTAE Programs. For more information, [click here](#).

Renovations Approved for Vineville Academy, Burdell-Hunt

Board members approved funding from the Georgia Department of Education for school renovations to Vineville Academy of the Arts and Burdell-Hunt Magnet School. The renovations are included in the district's approved long-term facilities plan. In order to receive state funds for these projects, Board approval is required. For more information, [click here](#).

Funding Application for Rutland Middle and High Schools Updated

Board members approved the revision of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Capital Outlay Funding Application. For more information, [click here](#).

At the September 15, 2022, monthly Board meeting, the Board approved the FY 2024 Capital Outlay Application. In this application, the renovations for Rutland Middle and High Schools included a fire alarm, intercom, provisions for handicapped, canopy, serving lines and dishwasher, and cooler/freezer. During the planning and design phase of the project the needs evolved, and the above items were not completed. The Georgia Department of Education requires a School Board Resolution addressing the above in order to approve final reimbursement and close the project.

Butler Collision Center Site Name Change Approved

Board members approved changing the former Butler Collision Center site name to the W.S. Hutchings College and Career Innovation Center. As part of continued development for cutting edge Career, Technical, Agriculture Education (CTAE) pathways and programs, the Bibb County School District entered into a lease agreement with Macon-Bibb Urban Development Authority for the Butler Collision Center. Phase 1 - renovation of the facility - is complete, and the Butler Collision Center will soon be moving to its new location. Transforming the vacant building into an

education space supports the school district's priorities around career readiness and workforce development. For more information, [click here](#).

External Evaluator for GEAR UP Grant Approved

Board members approved Towering Your Success as the external evaluator for the FY25 GEAR UP grant. Towering Your Success is a company specializing in research and program evaluation for educational agencies and non-profit organizations. With extensive experience evaluating grants from federal agencies like the U.S. Department of Education and Labor, Towering Your Success has managed the evaluation of more than \$63 million in grant-funded projects. For more information, [click here](#).

Howard Middle, Howard High Renovations Move Forward

Board members approved a contract with SP Design Group to provide architectural services for renovations at Howard Middle and High Schools. The funds will be paid out of the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST), a one percent sales tax approved by voters in 2019. 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 BBFA, Local School Councils (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy GCRD, Classified Personnel Overtime Pay (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy GBT, Professional Publishing (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy GBA, Professional Personnel Compensation Guides and Contracts (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy BBE, School Board Attorney (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy IFCB, Field Trips & Excursions (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JC, Student Rights & Responsibilities (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

Universal Screener Data Presentation

Dr. Ethel Lett, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, reviewed beginning of the year Universal Screener data from STAR and iReady. Current Universal Screener data tell us how well students are performing at the beginning of the year and can predict readiness for grade-level knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in reading and mathematics. Overall, Bibb County achievement data in reading and math appears consistent with Georgia Milestones spring performance, where applicable. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Board Notified of 21st CCLC and GEAR UP Grant Awards

Through a competitive grant process, Georgia Department of Education awarded Bibb County School District \$3,849,412 of 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants for Fiscal Year 2025. The funding will support 11 new and 17 existing 21st CCLC programs in 28 out of 34 schools in the district, which will provide critical support for extended school programs that benefit our students.

The District also highlighted the award of \$18.5 million with the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) Partnership Grant. BCSD is one of only three districts nationwide to receive the seven-year GEAR UP Partnership Grant in this cycle from the U.S. Department of Education. Partnering with Central Georgia Technical College, Mentors Project of Bibb County, MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union, and United Way of Central Georgia, this grant will enhance college and career readiness, boost academic achievement, and provide support for students graduating in 2030 and 2031.

For more information and to review the presentation, [click here](#).

YouthBuild Grant Renewed for Third Cycle

Dr. Julia Daniely, Director of Personalized Learning, shared a presentation with Board members about the YouthBuild Grant. YouthBuild is a pre-apprenticeship model that provides at-risk youth, ages 16-24, with education and occupational skill development to obtain employment in construction and other in-demand industries.

Through a competitive process, the U.S. Department of Labor awarded Bibb County School District three YouthBuild Grants totaling \$4.1 million. In 2019, Bibb County School District's SOAR Academy was one of two grantees in Georgia selected to receive a YouthBuild Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The grants were awarded in 2019, 2021, and 2024. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Superintendent's Highlights

- **ART FOR MONTH:** The ESOL students from Heard Elementary, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, created folk art to represent their cultural backgrounds. Our students' heritage is represented by the flags that are displayed from the countries of Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico. We would like to thank our community partner, LA Mexican Food Mart on Houston Road, for the special treats for the Board Members.
- **TEACHER SURPRISED WITH NEW CAR:** This month, Grand Infiniti of Macon visited Howard Middle School to announce a partnership that will provide 2025 Bibb County Teacher of the Year Sarah Mallett with a lease on a new Infiniti for a year! Ms. Mallett will receive the keys to the new car this Saturday during the dealership's grand opening celebration! Thank you so much to Grand Infiniti of Macon and General Manager Chris Williams for making this happen!
- **CELEBRATION OF GRANT AWARDS:** In case you missed it earlier today, the U.S. Department of Education's award to BCSD of \$18.5 million through the GEAR Up grant is a significant investment in our students' future. The grant will support various initiatives focused on improving post-secondary readiness and academic achievement. Also highlighted at today's meeting were the announcements of \$3.8 million in grant funding awarded for the district's 21st Century Community Learning Centers programming to support before and after school

opportunities for students, and \$1.5 million awarded through a third grant to continue the YouthBuild Program. YouthBuild provides pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services to opportunity youth, ages 16 to 24, who left school without a secondary diploma.

- **TEACHERS 'GRANTED' DONATIONS BY RFCU:** Four Bibb teachers were awarded grants by Robins Financial Credit Union through its 3rd Annual GRANTED program. GRANTED was created by the credit union in 2022 in an effort to alleviate some of the financial burden on local teachers and provide them with the tools they need to educate and engage their students. BCSD recipients included April Harvey, Alexander II; Courtney Henderson, Rutland Middle; Jenny Gordon, Westside High; and Joshua McCorkle, Central High. Thank you, Robins FCU, for seeing that, "together, we can provide the tools needed to inspire, educate and empower our students to succeed."
- **NEW SPRINGDALE ELEMENTARY OPENS:** Bibb County School District celebrated the ribbon-cutting for the new Springdale Elementary on September 6 in partnership with ICB Construction Group. The new Springdale facility is over 90,000 square feet and can support about 900 students. The new school opened in August 2024, and this project is funded by ESPLOST, a one percent sales tax approved by voters. Thank you to our community for the amazing support provided by these tax dollars!
- **PREPARING FOR NEW ELA STANDARDS:** Secondary ELA teachers and their Instructional Coaches recently worked together as they delved deeper into the Practice Domain and Literacy Strategies for the new ELA Standards to be implemented next school year. Teachers and Instructional Coaches were able to participate in a STEM-like structured lesson to enhance student engagement, literacy, comprehension, writing, and a little flight simulation with a homemade airplane. This is just session one out of three they will be attending to prepare for the new standards.
- **RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF LITERACY:** On the topic of literacy, BCSD partnered with the Macon-Bibb County Mayor's Literacy Alliance to celebrate Adult Education & Family Literacy Week this week! Events included a neighborhood cleanup, The Truth About Reading Movie Night, Lights on Family Reading Night, and school tours by Miss Georgia and Miss Georgia's Teen, who promoted literacy at several Bibb elementary and middle schools.
- **CENTRAL HIGH HONORED AS 'BEST OF':** Congratulations to Central High School on being voted among the best of high schools in Middle Georgia for the second year in a row!
- **CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEE MEETS:** BCSD's Consolidation Steering Committee, made up of about 50 members representing various stakeholder groups in BCSD and the community, gathered for its initial meeting this week. The committee will meet through March 2025 to review and consider potential school consolidations in support of instructional and operational efficiencies.
- **ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH:** September is Attendance Awareness Month, and Matilda Hartley Elementary School hosted a "Walk Your Child To School" initiative where teachers and staff met students within the Hartley zone and walked with them to school! Thank you to the community partners who took part in this initiative!
- **NIGHT TO UNITE PEP RALLY:** BCSD and Bibb County Sheriff's Office hosted a joint pep rally at Northeast High School for Night to Unite! This is an annual community event for the Bibb County Sheriff's Office that promotes involvement in crime prevention activities, neighborhood camaraderie, and encouraging communities to unite against crime.
- **CELEBRATIONS AND APPRECIATION:** September is filled with many celebrations! Our schools hosted special activities in recognition of Grandparents Day and Attendance Awareness Month. We're also taking time to celebrate Payroll Appreciation Week, World Physical Therapy

Day, National Arts in Education Week, National Hispanic Heritage Month, Constitution Day, National IT Professional Day, Educational Technology Day, Finance and Accounting Appreciation Week, and Human Resources Professionals Day. Thank you to all of these staff members who help support our schools and staff each day!

- **ON THE HORIZON: HISPANIC FESTIVAL:** National Hispanic Heritage Month is recognized each year September 15 through October 15! In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, the annual Macon-Bibb Hispanic Festival will be held this Saturday, September 21, from 1 – 7 p.m. at Carolyn Crayton Park. The festivities will kick off with a parade, and all families are invited to participate! Those interested in participating in the parade should arrive at the park by 12:30 p.m. The flyer for the event features artwork by Westside High School student De'Maya Kitchens!

Highlights



Meet the Leaders

Congratulations Amber Daniel for being named the new Principal at Bernd Elementary School.

Georgia Department of Education PBIS Distinguished Schools

The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports system has been a game-changer in our schools. PBIS is an evidence-based, data-driven framework proven to reduce disciplinary incidents, increase a school's sense of safety and support improved academic outcomes. In addition to improvements in discipline data and school climate, our schools have become an exemplar for PBIS implementation across the state. Recently, many of our schools were recognized as Distinguished PBIS Schools for these implementation efforts. Congratulations to these schools!

Alexander II Magnet School
Bernd Elementary School
Burdell-Hunt Magnet School
Matilda Hartley Elementary School
Heard Elementary School
Heritage Elementary School
McKibben Lane Elementary School
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School
Porter Elementary School
Rosa Taylor Elementary School
Skyview Elementary School
Southfield Elementary School
Springdale Elementary School
Veterans Elementary School
Vineville Academy of the Arts
Appling Middle School
Miller Magnet Middle School
Central High School
Howard High School
Northeast High School
Rutland High School
Southwest High School
Westside High School
Elam Alexander Academy at Burke
Elam Alexander Academy at Southwest
Hutchings College and Career Academy
SOAR/VIP Academy

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

Pledge of Allegiance



The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kaci Dawson, a first grade student at McKibben Lane Elementary 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

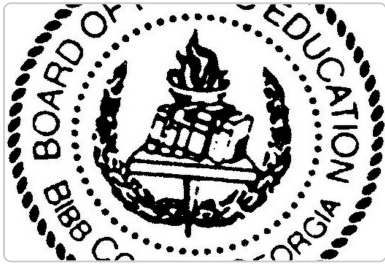
Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2

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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bibbschools

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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.