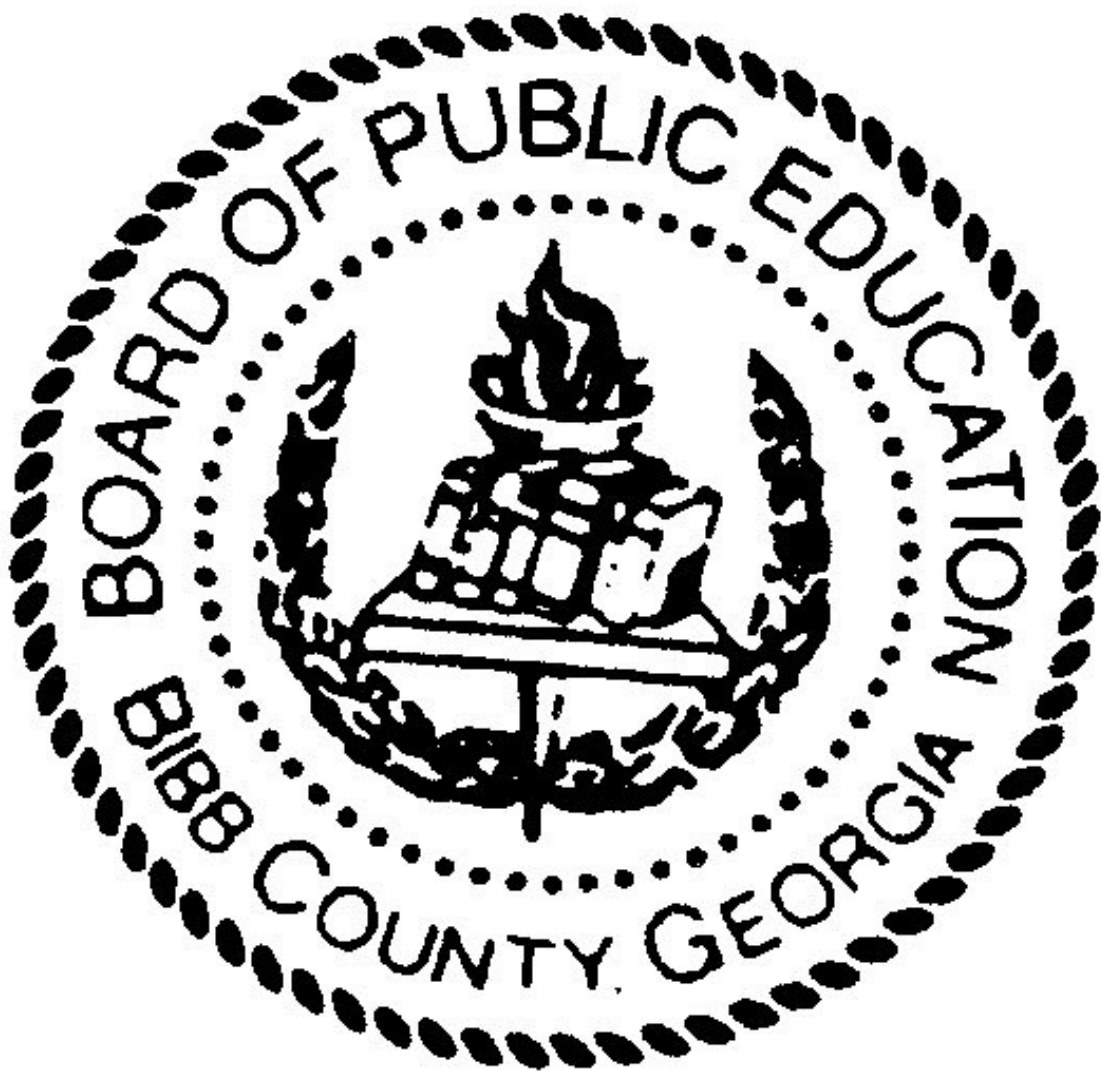


# The Board Brief

February 15, 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>.

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## Superintendent's Report

Each month, Superintendent Dr. Dan A. Sims presents highlights happening within schools and the District. Here are just a few of the recent highlights from the past month.

- **ART FOR MONTH:** Thank you to Williams Elementary School for providing the artwork for this month's Board meeting. Artwork was coordinated by the school's art teacher, Char Lockett. In honor of Black History Month, community members are invited to celebrate the history of Pleasant Hill this Saturday with the program, "I Am Black History," in the L.H. Williams Recreation Center from 12 to 2 p.m. The showcase will feature student performances, live entertainment, and more.
- **APPRECIATION & AWARENESS:** There is so much to celebrate and commemorate this month! From Black History Month to National CTAE Month; from Counselor Appreciation Week to School Resource Officer Appreciation Day; there have been wonderful tributes, programs, and sentiments of thanks and appreciation taking place in our district this month. To our dedicated Counselors and School Resource Officers, thank you for all you do each day to support students and staff members. You are truly #Built4Bibb.
- **VETERANS BLACK HISTORY:** Speaking of Black History Month, you just have to see the hallways at Veterans Elementary School! They brought the 4ME Framework to life in the most amazing Black History way! Just WOW! Make time in your schedule to stop by the school and share in this experience this month.
- **SPRINGDALE BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM:** Last week, students at Springdale Elementary School celebrated Black History Month with musical performances and a parade. They honored key figures in Black History such as Langston Hughes, Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with poems, quotes and costumes.
- **STATE OF DISTRICT:** Thank you to the more than 100 business and community members who joined us last month for State of the District: #2gether4Action. This exciting opportunity was a chance to review the blueprint of the #Built4Bibb: More Victory Planned Strategic Plan. As guests left the event, they were invited to select a piece of artwork to take with them as a reminder of how they will commit to partnering with the District. Watch the presentation at [www.youtube.com/bibbschools](http://www.youtube.com/bibbschools).
- **COMMITTING TO CO-CREATING:** During the State of the District, a challenge was issued to business and community partners to join together with BCSD in the Call to Action of Empowering Students to Learn, Lead, Innovate and Serve. Guests read letters written by elementary students. In these letters, students shared their hopes and dreams, what they see and experience in our community, and ideas and requests for resources at their school. Some partners were so touched by the letters that they wanted to meet the authors personally. One such partner was Christy Kovac, President and CEO of Sheridan Construction Co. After reading Vineville Academy fourth grader Loie Mote's inspirational letter, Sheridan partnered with Vineville Academy of the Arts to provide a ceramics wheel for the school's Fine Arts Department. What a way to create enrichment opportunities for our students now and far into the future! Thank you, Sheridan, for committing to our students!
- **NORTHEAST MASTERCLASS:** This month, Brigadier General Kelvin D. McElroy, who is the Commander, Force Generation Center, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, *and* a proud alumnus of Northeast High School, was the next guest lecturer for the Hutchings College and Career Academy On the Menu Masterclass Series. General McElroy

returned to alma mater Northeast High to speak to JROTC students on the topic: Go. Inspire. Serve. Go Inspire is an initiative of the U.S. military to connect with communities in face-to-face conversations on the true meaning of service. Thank you, General, for your service and for taking time out of your schedule to visit with our students and tour the new building.

- **CENTRAL BAND ALUM AT SUPER BOWL:** Congrats to the Chiefs and to A'Ryan McColumb, a Class of 2022 graduate of Central High School and Central High School Marching Sugarbear Band, on performing with the Jackson State University Sonic Boom of The South Band during the halftime show at the Super Bowl this past weekend! It was a moment of immense pride for Central High and the entire Macon-Bibb community to see one of our own shining so brightly on such a grand stage. A'Ryan's achievement is a testament to his hard work, perseverance, and immense talent, Central Band Director Kameron Agee said. We couldn't be prouder of him and all that he has accomplished.
- **AMIRA & PEER TUTORING:** Jessica Sargent, an AMIRA Coach at Vineville Academy of the Arts, is leading fourth grade PANDA Leaders who are excelling with the District's new AMIRA reading program. As an incentive, they have launched an Amira Buddy Program to provide peer tutoring and support of Vineville's Kindergarten classes.
- **BERND LEADERSHIP DAY:** Leadership is Magical! Bernd Elementary hosted its Leadership Day this month and students were able to show off their skills and talents to parents and local community members! Coming up next month: Appling Middle will host its first Leadership Day on March 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the community is invited to participate!
- **CAMPUS POLICE COLLABORATION:** Recently, BCSD Campus Police Chief Curtis Adams and team members sat down with representatives from the Bibb County Sheriff's Office to collaborate and discuss how they can work better together to identify and deter some of the crimes in our school district and in the community. Thank you, BSO, for your support.
- **BALLARD-HUDSON PODCAST:** Students in Ahleesha Bryant's 7th Grade ELA classes at Ballard-Hudson Middle School are creating their own podcast! They developed a creative visual and wrote an explanatory essay informing the audience about their dream job or someone they admire the most. As part of the project, students got on the microphone and presented this project to their peers. Stay tuned and subscribe to their YouTube Channel, "Ballard-Hudson Macon," for the final product!
- **ON THE HORIZON - BCSD RECRUITMENT FAIR:** Are you interested in being #Built4Bibb? How about making an impact on the lives of students in our community? The Bibb County School District is holding a Recruitment Fair on March 2 from 9 to 11 a.m. Join us at Rutland High School located at 6250 Skipper Road in Macon. You have the power to help Macon-Bibb students co-create a path to excellence. For more information, visit <https://www.bcsdk12.net/careers>

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## Actions

### Leadership Appointments, Personnel Items Approved

Board members various personnel items, including leadership appointments and contracts. To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

Congratulations to the following new leaders who were appointed at the meeting!

- Eric Bush, Chief Financial Officer
- Betty Anderson, Ingram-Pye Elementary Principal

- Dr. Berina English, Porter Elementary Principal
- Dr. Shavone Laney, Southfield Elementary Principal
- Shandreka Gibson, Miller Magnet Middle Principal
- Joshua Money Penny, Director of Technology Services
- Dr. Sarah Mayberry, Director of Media Services
- Jessie Porter III, Howard High School Head Football Coach

### **Renovation Costs Approved for CTAE Project**

Board members approved renovations of the former Butler Collision Center at 2122 Eisenhower Parkway with a Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$4,300,000. As part of Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathway expansions, the Bibb County Board of Education previously approved renovations to the former Butler Collision Center. This project will be paid for with ESSER funds. To learn more, [click here](#).

Previously, Board members authorized the District to enter into contract with Warren Associates Inc. to provide Construction Manager At-Risk Services for the renovation project at the Board meeting on December 13, 2023. This followed authorization at the Board meeting on October 19, 2023, for the District to enter into a lease agreement with the Macon Bibb County Urban Development Authority to lease approximately 25,000 square feet of building space located at 2122 Eisenhower Parkway for future design and use of potential CTAE district-wide pathway expansions.

### **Furniture Vendor Approved for New Springdale Elementary School**

Board members approved Georgia Specialty Equipment to provide all furniture for the new Springdale Elementary School. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST, or Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax - a one percent sales tax approved by voters. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **WAN & Internet Services Approved**

Board members approved Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity between all BCSD buildings and internet services for all BCSD locations. This fiber optic network will connect all sites to the Network Operations Center (NOC) and offer services ranging from 1Gb/s to 40Gb/s. The expense will be approximately \$446,700 per year. The funds will come from E-Rate (\$402,030) and General Funds (\$44,670). To learn more, [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. For more information, [click here](#).

- Policy Policy CJ, Administrative Consultants (ACTION - Second Reading; Tabled for Editing)
- Policy Policy LA, Inter-Organizational Goals and Objectives (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IDFA, Gender Equity in Sports (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy BBH, Awards, Recognition, and Certificates (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy FDC, Naming Facilities (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy FHCA, Names on Building Plaques (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](http://www.bcsdk12.net), under "About Us" and "Simbli." On [Simbli](#), "Pending Policies" will appear on the right side of the screen.

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## Information

### Supporting STEM/STEAM K-12 and Advanced Academics 6-12

Board members heard a presentation about the work occurring at the district, school, and classroom levels to provide students with experiences in STEM/STEAM education that will support increases in achievement in science and mathematics and how advanced academics is being supported throughout the district, school, and classroom levels for gifted learners. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

### 2022-2023 CCRPI Results Overview

Board members heard a presentation about the 2022-2023 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Results. CCRPI is Georgia's annual tool for measuring how well its schools, districts, and the state itself are preparing students for the next educational level. CCRPI provides a comprehensive roadmap to help educators, parents, and community members promote and improve college and career readiness for all students. To view the results, [click here](#).

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## Highlights

### Bibb County Spelling Bee Winners

For decades, students have participated in school spelling bees to showcase their literacy and quick-thinking skills. These school winners go on to compete in the Bibb County Spelling Bee, which is hosted by the Bibb Association of Educators and supported by Masab Temple No. 11, to determine which students will advance to represent the District in the region competition.

Congratulations to these winners!

- 1st Place – A'Mauri Woodard, Bruce Elementary School
- 2nd Place – Erik Wang, Springdale Elementary School
- 3rd Place – Gabe Gilbert, Vineville Academy of the Arts

### Georgia Music Educators Association District XI Music Teacher of the Year &

### Georgia Music Educators Association Music Educator of the Year Award

Congratulations to John Sweat, Howard Middle & Howard High School! Music education enriches our students' school experience and provides many with lifelong skills and even career fields. Mr. Sweat plays a huge role in that for Howard students as orchestra instructor and recently received a pair of honors. Formerly a Howard High Teacher of the Year, Mr. Sweat was recently named the District 11 Music Teacher of the Year and then advanced to be named the State Music Educator of the Year by the Georgia Music Educators Association.

### The Frank Kovalski Professional Development Award

Congratulations to Kevin Grooms, Director of Athletics! Coach Grooms was recently honored by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association with the Frank Kovaleski Professional Development Award. This award recognizes an individual who “most possesses and has contributed to the vision of Professional Development.”

Coach Grooms has displayed incredible commitment to professional development for coaches and athletic leaders. In addition to meeting regularly with these team members to provide continual learning, Coach Grooms has led an Aspiring Athletic Directors cohort to prepare future leaders in the District.

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**Visit [www.facebook.com/bibbschools](https://www.facebook.com/bibbschools) for photos of highlights and recognitions.**

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## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boone Stanfield, 3rd grade student at Springdale Elementary School

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## **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

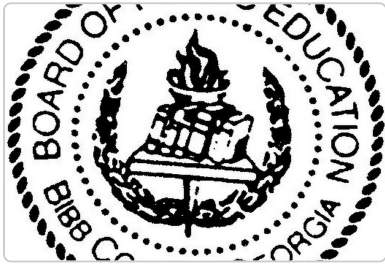
Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3

Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4

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

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**Watch Bibb County Board of Education Meetings**



## **bibbschools**

The official channel for the Bibb County School District in Macon, Ga.

[youtube.com](#)



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