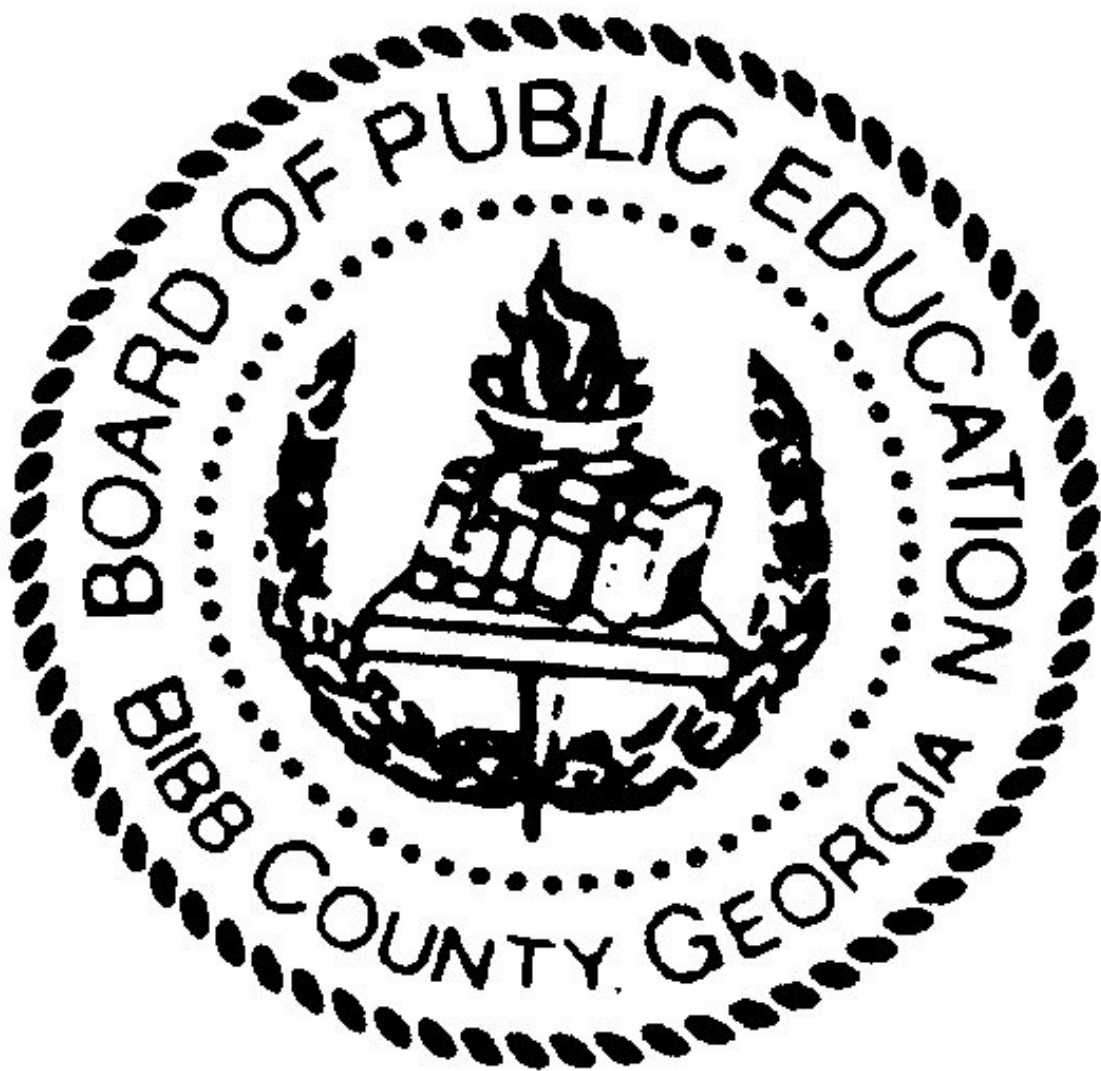


The Board Brief

December 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

Personnel Items Approved

Board members approved various personnel items, including an administrative appointment.

- Dr. Lisa Thompson, Interim Assistant Principal of SOAR/VIP Academy

To view all personnel items, [click here](#).

FY 2026 Budget and CY 2025 Millage Rate Calendar Approved

Board members approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Budget Process Calendar. Board Policy DCCA directs administration annually to provide a budget calendar for the ensuing fiscal year. This calendar must provide targeted dates for meetings such as budget work sessions, public hearings, and committee and board meetings for tentative and final adoption of the budget and millage rate. For more information, [click here](#).

District to Purchase 25 Propane, Electric Buses

Board members approved the purchase of 25 school buses from Yancey Bus Sales. The purchase will include ten (10) 72-passenger propane-fueled school buses and fifteen (15) 72-passenger electric school buses. For more information, [click here](#).

Contract with Highlight Electric Approved for EV Charging

Board members also approved a contract with Highland Electric to provide an electric vehicle charging depot for electric buses. For more information, [click here](#).

Bus Parts and Supplies Purchase Approved

Board members approved the purchase of bus parts and supplies from Yancey Brothers Co. Yancey Brothers Company serves as the distribution dealer for Blue Bird buses, parts and services for the state of Georgia. The Transportation Department purchases these items from Yancey for the maintenance and repair of the District's fleet of school buses. For more information, [click here](#).

First Phase of Interactive Flat Panel Refresh Approved

Board members approved an interactive flat panel refresh throughout the District. This project will be completed in multiple phases with the first phase targeting elementary schools. Interactive panels are utilized in each classroom as the primary tool for daily instruction. While traditional white boards are still available in most classrooms, direct and interactive instruction are facilitated through these touch screen computers. For more information, [click here](#).

Certified Literate Community Program Payment Approved

Board members approved a payment to Central Georgia Technical College for the Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) Mayor's Literacy Alliance. On August 26, 2021, during a joint session of the Bibb County School District and the Bibb County Commissioners, Central Georgia Technical College presented plans for developing a CLCP in Macon-Bibb as part of the Mayor's Literacy Alliance. A CLCP is a nonprofit collaborative initiative designed to raise awareness about literacy

and support local literacy providers and individuals needing assistance. For more information, [click here](#).

Committee and Board Meeting Calendar for CY 2025 Approved

Board members approved a calendar for the Bibb County Public Board of Education and Bibb County School District that includes Committee, Board, and Retreat meetings for February 2025 through January 2026. The proposed calendar meets the requirements of Georgia's Open Meetings Act and includes some best practices of school board meetings as suggested by Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA). 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 BH, Board Code of Ethics (ACTION - Second Reading - Tabled)
- Policy EE, Food Services Management (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IED, Scheduling for Instruction (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy EEA, Free and Reduced Nutrition Programs (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IBB, Charter Schools (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy JCAC, Sexual Harassment of Students (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy KM, Visitors to School (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy KMA, Trespassing (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

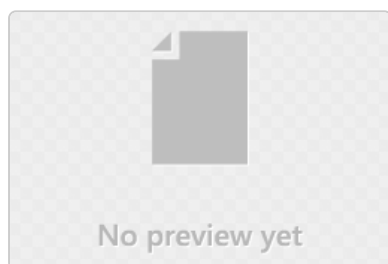
Board Members Sworn in for New Term

The Bibb County School District hosted a swearing-in ceremony for recently elected Board of Education members on Thursday, December 19. Judge Sarah Harris presided over the ceremony. The following individuals were sworn in to office for a four-year service term beginning January 1, 2025:

- Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1
- Dr. Henry C. Ficklin, District 2
- Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3
- Barney T. Hester, District 4
- Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5
- James M. Freeman, District 6

All six were elected during the May 2024 elections. Dr. Woodford will begin her third and final term as a Board member; Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Hanlon, and Mr. Freeman will begin their second terms; and Dr. Ficklin and Mr. Hester will begin their first terms. The remaining two Board of Education seats are elected on an alternate election cycle. They are currently in the middle of a four-year service

term. These Board members include Daryl Morton, At-Large, Post 7; and Dr. Lisa Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8.



Join us for a swearing-in ceremony for Board Members. The following individuals will be sworn in to office for a four-year service term beginning... | By Bibb County School District | Facebook

Join us for a swearing-in ceremony for Board Members. The following individuals will be sworn in to office for a four-year service term beginning...

[facebook.com](#)

Board Reviews School Consolidation Update

Dr. Katika D. Lovett, Deputy Superintendent, presented Board members with an update on the school consolidation review occurring during the 2024-25 school year.

The District conducted an engagement survey this fall to gain feedback regarding school consolidation. A total of 1,497 responses were completed. The survey included 11 multiple-choice/Likert-Scaled questions and two open-ended questions: What additional information would you like to have about the school consolidation process? Is there anything else you would like to share with the district? All schools and stakeholder groups were reflected in the responses.

Summary of Bibb County Schools Consolidation Exploration Survey

- Stakeholder Groups: Responses from parents, teachers, administrators, and community members.
- Familiarity with School Consolidation: Varied levels of familiarity among respondents.
- Important Factors: Key considerations include educational outcomes, financial efficiency, and community impact.
- Potential Benefits: Improved educational resources, better facilities, and enhanced extracurricular opportunities.
- Primary Concerns: Larger class sizes, transportation issues, and loss of community identity.
- Community Involvement: High importance placed on community involvement in the decision making process.
- Support for Consolidation: Support likely if it leads to improved educational outcomes and financial efficiency.
- Additional Services: Interest in counseling services, extracurricular activities, and academic support during the transition.
- Comfort with Larger Schools: Mixed comfort levels with children attending larger, consolidated schools.
- Preferred Communication Channels: Email, newsletters, and community meetings.

Next Steps

December 2024 (Currently In-Progress):

- Develop Preliminary Scenarios:
 - Create multiple consolidation and non-consolidation models based on collected data, emphasizing the impact on student outcomes, financial implications, and community

sentiment.

- Conduct a detailed analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of each scenario, including impacts on student achievement, community cohesion, operational efficiency, and financial health.
- Review data and preliminary scenarios for feedback and refinement.

January 2025:

- Host Community Forums:
 - Present preliminary scenarios to the public and gather feedback, with specific sessions for students and parents. Provide detailed pros and cons for each scenario.
- Conduct Additional Focus Groups:
 - Focus on areas with high impact from consolidation to understand specific concerns, particularly from students and families.
- Refine Scenarios:
 - Incorporate community and student feedback into revised models, ensuring a balanced view of consolidation and non-consolidation options.

To view the presentation update, [click here](#). To watch the update, [click here](#). To learn more about the school consolidation review process occurring this school year, [click here](#).

District to Host Public Meetings on House Bill 581

The Bibb County School District shared its intent to recommend that the Bibb County Board of Education approve a decision to opt out of House Bill 581 ("Save Our Homes Act"). HB 581 introduces significant changes to property tax caps, homestead exemptions, and school funding. Opting out will ensure long-term financial stability and flexibility for our district, protecting essential revenue streams necessary for student achievement, staff effectiveness, and stakeholder engagement.

As a part of the opt-out process, the District will engage in public hearings and advertisements in the local newspaper prior to the proposed adoption of a resolution. Additionally, the District must file the resolution, pending board approval, with the Secretary of State by the March 1, 2025. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Update on Federally Identified Schools

Dr. Lori Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent of District Effectiveness and Federal Programs, and Dr. Ethel Lett, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented Board members with an update regarding federally identified schools. The presentation provided an understanding of the criteria for federally identified schools, as well as the state identification of each school. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

District Continues Efforts to Increase Dual Enrollment Opportunities

Dr. Cassandra Miller-Washington, Executive Director of CTAE and CEO of W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy, and William Johnson, CTAE Coordinator, presented Board members with an update on the District's dual enrollment partnerships with Central Georgia Technical College, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Tech, Middle Georgia State University, and Wesleyan College. Dual enrollment programs enable students to gain college credits and career skills while in high school. The transformative impact of dual enrollment includes accelerating student achievement, reducing

college expenses, and equipping students with the skills and credentials needed for future success in education and careers. To view the presentation, [click here](#).



Save
THE DATE

JANUARY							2025	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

**Bibb County School District
2025 State of the District
Westside High School
9:45 am**

www.bcsdk12.net

Superintendent's Highlights

- ON THE HORIZON: STATE OF THE DISTRICT: [Save the date to join Bibb Schools for the State of the District on January 30 at Westside High School](#), where we'll discuss the latest updates, achievements, and plans for the future of our district. This event is a great opportunity to connect with fellow community members, educators, and district leaders. Get ready to be inspired and informed about the direction of our schools. We can't wait to see you there!
- INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY OPENS: Bibb County School District joined partners Macon-Bibb County, the Macon-Bibb Urban Development Authority, and the Butler family to celebrate the ribbon-cutting for the Innovation and Technology Academy at 2122 Eisenhower Parkway. This innovative venue will provide our students with the opportunity to participate in cutting edge Career, Technical and Agricultural Education pathways while preparing for careers in AI, Robotics, Cyber Security and EV. The facility will open to Robotics programming in January 2025, with plans to open to pathways and courses in August 2025.
- HOUR OF CODE WEEK: Schools have been utilizing technology to celebrate Hour of Code this month. Pictured here are students in Howard Middle teacher Crystal Gordon-Randall's Computer Science classes coding Sphero robots for Hour of Code Week! Thank you to our

Instructional Technology team for collaborating with teachers across the district to expand our teachers' and students' use and understanding of technology!

- **PARTNERSHIP WITH MBCIA:** The Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority hosted community leaders for an end-of-year celebration this week to announce over \$1 billion in investments made this year in Macon-Bibb County. At the event, MBCIA celebrated our continued partnership and presented Bibb Schools with a \$1,941,643 check on behalf of Macon-Bibb County's PILOT (which stands for Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) Program, through which Macon industries choose to reinvest in the development and education within the county.
- **REACH GEORGIA SCHOLARS:** Congratulations to our newest cohort of REACH Georgia Scholars! Bibb County School District joined the REACH Georgia Scholarship Program in 2016 and has graduated 4 cohorts of scholars through the program as of May 2024. REACH Scholars are supported through the Mentor's Project of Bibb County and Communities in Schools of Central Georgia. The District held a Signing Day Commitment Ceremony for the following REACH Georgia Scholars and their parents this month:
 - Cedric Jackson III - Appling Middle School
 - Taylor Cruz - Ballard Hudson Middle School
 - Elana Evans - Miller Magnet Middle School
 - De'Ryan Harris - Rutland Middle School
- **CELEBRATING PBIS EFFORTS:** Bibb County School District celebrated PBIS Week and what better time to shout out all of our school PBIS Coaches who lead this programming at schools! Coaches, thank you for all you do to support student success! Bibb was also well-represented at the 2024 Georgia PBIS Conference last week. PBIS Coordinator Curlandra Smith, along with teams from Rutland High, Central High, Northwoods Academy and Rosa Taylor Elementary were invited to lead sessions on PBIS implementation at this state conference!
- **ATHLETES SHINE IN HISTORIC SEASON:** What an amazing season this fall has been for sports in Bibb County! Not only did our Northeast High School Raiders football team make a historic run to the State Championship, but our Westside High School Lady Noles flag football team went undefeated in the regular season and, In the three years since Bibb began flag football, the Westside Lady Noles have won their area championship each year and advanced to the state playoffs! Thank you to so many community members supporting our student athletes.
- **CENTRAL HARDWOOD INVITATIONAL:** Over Thanksgiving break, Central High School proudly hosted thrilling boys' and girls' basketball invitationals, showcasing talent from across Georgia, including Middle Georgia, South Georgia, the CSRA, and Metro Atlanta. This exciting event united players and fans in celebration of the sport, while advancing basketball's prominence in Georgia. College coaches attended both weekends, resulting in scholarship offers and well-deserved recognition for athletes. Additionally, the event captured attention from media, reinforcing the community's commitment to excellence in academics and athletics.
- **CAMPUS POLICE TEAM GROWS:** Please join us in congratulating Officer Emmitt Bivins for choosing to join the Bibb County Campus Police Department. His dedication and commitment will undoubtedly make a positive impact on our community. Let's give Officer Bivins a warm welcome and support him as he embarks on this new journey with us.
- **BEP CELEBRATES TEACHER MATCHES:** During our most recent Business Education Partnership (BEP) meeting, 7 new teachers were matched with amazing business partners. These business partners signed up to support our new teachers throughout their first school year in Bibb and to aid with their growth in our community! If you would like to join us in

supporting new teachers, [use this link to sign up!](#) Thank you to Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce for helping lead this effort!

- SPRINGDALE BETA TAKES STATE: Congratulations to Springdale Elementary School students who placed in the State Beta Convention competitions. Award winners qualified to compete at the national level later this school year!
- VETERANS DANCERS PERFORM AT MERCER: The Veterans Elementary School Dancing Heroes had the opportunity to dance at Mercer University recently! They did an amazing job and represented BCSD well, while having the amazing experience of visiting a college campus!
- YOUTHBUILD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Macon Area Habitat for Humanity shared a construction update! What may look like simply dirt now is soon to be our YouthBuild 2025 home site! We are so excited about this partnership supporting YouthBuild scholars who will work from start to finish on this build project.
- HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM BIBB SCHOOLS: Thank you to Herra Buenaventura, a fifth grader at Sonny Carter Elementary School! Herra's artwork was one of so many beautiful art pieces created by talented students this year and it is featured on the annual Superintendent's Holiday Card. Poinsettias were gifted to Board members by CTAE and Northeast High School from their annual poinsettia sale. On behalf of the Bibb County School District, have a wonderful holiday season filled with family, friends, special memories, and joy!



Meet New Leaders

Congratulations to Desia Selby, GEAR UP Coordinator!

Georgia School Boards Association, Exemplary Board

The Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) recently honored local boards that display reliable school governance and leadership. The Bibb County Board of Education was recognized as Exemplary, the highest level of GSBA recognition. The award marks the second consecutive year the current Bibb County Board of Education has reached Exemplary status.

Recognition of Board of Education Service

Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2 – 12 years

A true career educator, Dr. Thelma Dillard graduated from Ballard-Hudson Senior High School and has served for 12 years on the school board after holding numerous other leadership roles. She has twice served as Board President, as well as terms as Vice President and Treasurer. Prior to serving on the Board, she retired from Bibb County School District after 44 years as an educator. Watch a special tribute to Dr. Dillard below: <https://youtu.be/pacwFivXGX4>

Thank You, Dr. Dillard!



BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Thank you,
DR. THELMA DILLARD

Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4 – 4 years

A graduate of Westside High School, Dr. Juawn Jackson has served one four-year term representing District 4. He has chaired committees and served as Board President in 2023, while also being active in other capacities like the District's Consolidation Steering Committee.

Watch a special tribute to Dr. Jackson below: <https://youtu.be/8u3sL3cHmFs>

Thank You, Dr. Jackson!



BIBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT





Thank you, **DR. JUAWN JACKSON**

Winningest Football Coach in Bibb County History Since Integration

Coach Sheddrick "Spoon" Risper, Westside High School

Coach Spoon, as he's lovingly known, has been the Seminoles' head coach since 2009. In that time, he has amassed a 116-64 record for a winning percentage of over 64 percent. In those 16 seasons, he's led Westside to the playoffs 14 times, including a second-round trip this season. Beyond that, his 116 wins make Coach Risper the District's winningest football coach since schools integrated in 1970. We appreciate his dedicated and successful leadership for our student athletes.

First 11-Win Season in School History, Advancement to the State Championship

Northeast High School Football Team, Head Coach, Jeremy Wiggins

This year, the Raiders made history as the first Bibb County team to host a semifinal game and then advance to the state championship game since 1975. Northeast went 12-3 in the year, including an 8-1 record in region play, before advancing to Mercedes-Benz Stadium to play Toombs County for the GHSA Class A, Division 1 championship this Tuesday. While they finished as runners-up, we are proud of the way they represented our community and our District. In addition to Coach Wiggins and his staff, the Raiders were led by a group of seniors that included running back Nick Woodford. Having already attained the District's single-season rushing yardage and touchdown records, Nick's performance in the state title game also made him the all-time Bibb County in career rushing yards with 6,282, and his 88 career rushing touchdowns are also a county record.

Flag Football Undefeated Regular Season, 3rd Straight Area Championship

Westside High School, Head Coach, Joshua Grube

Through an NFL grant, the District added flag football to its selection of high school sports for the 2022 season. In the three years since, the Westside Lady Noles have won their area championship each year and advanced to the state playoffs. This season, the Lady Noles went undefeated in the regular season, including a perfect 8-0 in Division 1, Area 5 play. They advanced to the quarterfinals of the GHSA Division 1 playoffs with wins over Shaw and St. Vincent's before falling in the state semifinals. In all, the Lady Noles accumulated 10 shutouts in 16 games this season.

ACTE Rising Star Award, Counseling & Career Development Division

Brittney Brisco, Co-Lead High School Counselor, Northeast High School

Each year, the Counseling and Career Development Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) recognizes school counselors with Rising Star awards. This honor recognizes these individuals for their impact in counseling students toward their future pathways. This year, Ms. Brisco was recognized with this important honor as we seek to guide every student through our #4ME Initiative!

Recognition of Dual Enrollment Partners

As part of our #4ME Initiative, we have reached agreements with several colleges and universities from across the state in our dual enrollment efforts. This program allows high school students to enroll in classes for college credit at Central Georgia Technical College, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Tech, Middle Georgia State University and Wesleyan College while they're still in high school.

Presentation of Bibb County Education Foundation Teacher Mini-Grants

This fall, teachers across the District were presented with an opportunity to apply for \$1,000 mini-grants from the Bibb County Education Foundation. These mini-grants were intended to support teachers who integrate STEAM concepts as well as literacy efforts into their classroom activities. Congratulations to the following teachers:

- Heather Harris, Ingram-Pye Elementary School
- Linda Burgess, Southfield Elementary School
- Tumaini Afful-Cornett, Appling Middle School
- Jory Newman, Howard Middle School
- Portia Nottingham, Rutland Middle School
- Shayla Ford, Weaver Middle School
- Steluchia Miller, Weaver Middle School
- Santiago Rivers, Weaver Middle School
- Destiny Woods, Weaver Middle School
- Suneetha Panda, Central High School

Teachers Receive \$1,000 Mini-Grants to Implement Projects



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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paul Risper, an 11th grade student at Westside High 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

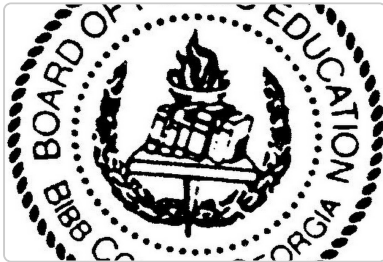
Dr. Thelma D. Dillard, District 2

Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3

Dr. Juawn A. Jackson, District 4

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

Watch Bibb County Board of Education Meetings



bibbschools

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

[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/bibbschools)



Bibb County School District

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