



Bibb County School District

Department of Communications / Community & School Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRUCE ELEMENTARY, FIRST CHOICE PRIMARY CARE PARTNER TO CELEBRATE NEW SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER

May 13, 2025

(MACON, GA) – The Bibb County School District, in partnership with First Choice Primary Care, is proud to announce the opening of a new School-Based Health Center at Bruce Elementary School. Bruce Elementary is located at 3660 Houston Avenue. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 1 p.m., marking a significant step in the district's efforts to support the health and well-being of its students.

The center, located within the Bruce Elementary School, will provide on-site medical care for Bruce Elementary students, staff and families during the school day. Services will include preventive care, immunizations, treatment for common illnesses, and support for chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes. With parental consent, students will have access to care without needing to leave school, reducing absenteeism and eliminating common barriers to healthcare.

"Everyone should have access to quality healthcare. This is just one more step toward achieving fairness for our families – breaking down one more barrier to students not only showing up to school but showing up healthy. It extends past the students because this will benefit the family. The stronger we make our families, the stronger we make our schools," said Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent of Bibb County Schools.

The health center is operated by First Choice Primary Care, a local nonprofit healthcare provider dedicated to improving access to affordable, high-quality medical services. The clinic will be staffed by licensed professionals and designed to serve the needs of both students and the surrounding community.

"We are honored to join the Bruce Elementary community, where everyone is working toward student success. Our goal is to keep students healthy and ready to learn, and to support families and school staff as well. We are grateful for our partnership with the Bibb County School District and look forward to growing this partnership," said Katherine McLeod, Chief Executive Officer of First Choice Primary Care.

Lasharn Ferroudj, School-Based Health Center Project Manager for Bibb County Schools, added: “I am overjoyed for the opportunity to expand the school-based health presence in Bibb County. Thanks to the vision of Governor Kemp allocating resources and the support of an amazing, compassionate team at GaDOE, Emory and Bibb County School District Facilities and Maintenance Department, we are now able to provide comprehensive support to more students, staff, and families. We are working to expand this community health presence in additional schools across our district.”

The ribbon-cutting ceremony will feature remarks from district and community leaders, a tour of the new health center, and light refreshments. Members of the media are invited to attend.

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