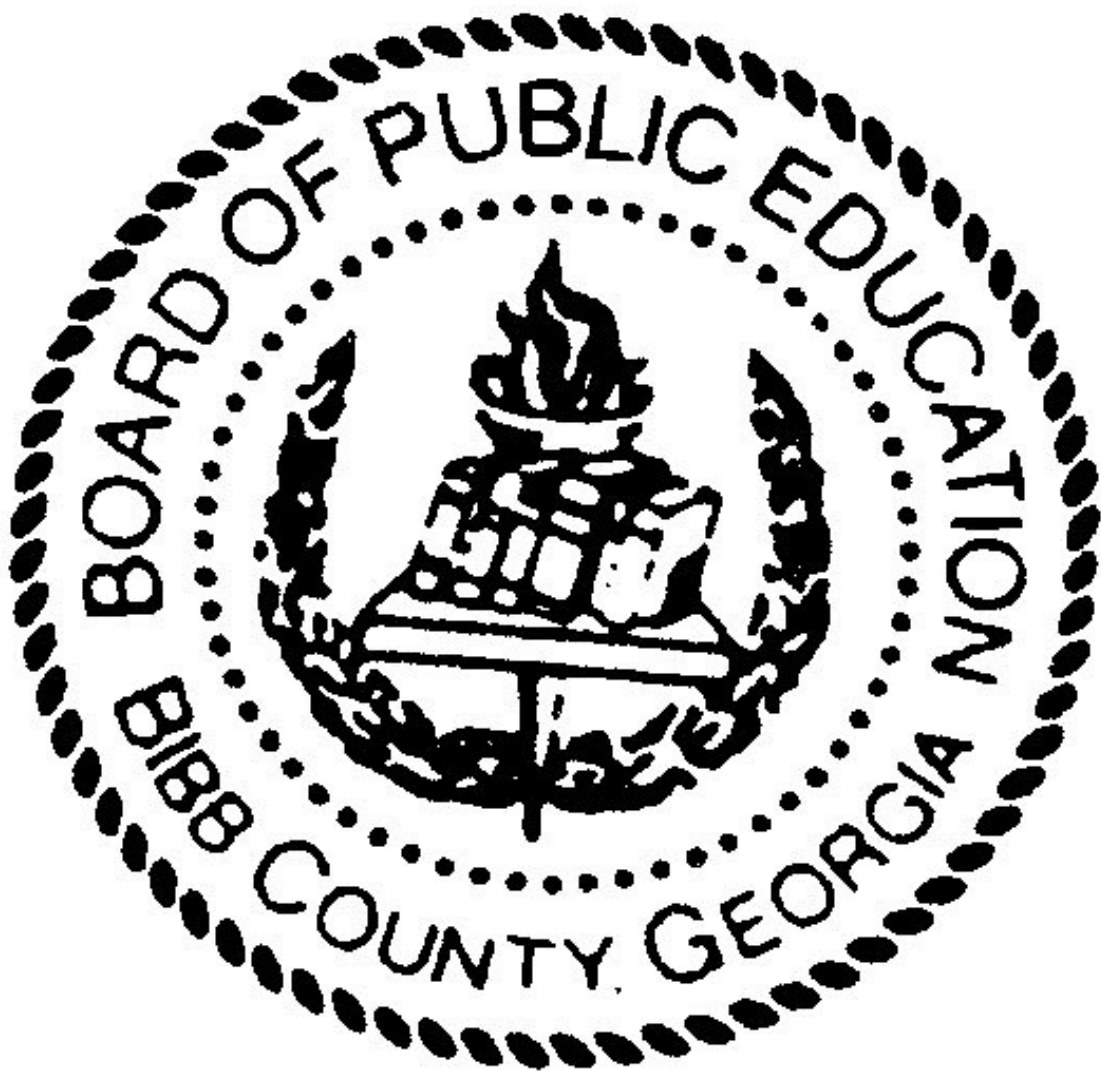


The Board Brief

September 18, 2025



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. To view personnel items, [click here](#). *(Note: Some items may be delayed in posting. Return soon for updates.)*

K-12 Assessment Solutions Approved

Board members approved a contract with K-12 Assessment Solutions to create assessments aligned to Georgia standards. For several years, the District has utilized internally developed assessments to monitor student progress. A recent audit of these assessments identified concerns related to rigor and content alignment, which have limited their effectiveness in maximizing high quality, actionable data for educators and District leaders. For more information, [click here](#).

CTAE Grant Awards Approved

Board members approved CTAE grants for the 2025-2026 school year. The Georgia Department of Education has awarded Bibb County School District federal and state grant funds for the 2025-2026 school year to strengthen Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE). These resources will be invested to expand career pathway opportunities, modernize instructional equipment, enhance agricultural education programs, and provide professional learning for educators. For more information, [click here](#).

USDA Commodity Processing Piggyback Contract Approved

Board members approved purchases from USDA Processing Vendors under the Piggyback Clause in the Carrollton City Commodity Processing Procurement Plan/Bid. Bibb County School District is one of several Georgia districts included in the Lowndes County Schools School Nutrition Commodity Processing Bid. School Nutrition receives commodity products from USDA and diverts them to multiple processing vendors to produce end products used on menus, in recipes, and as single-serve items for student meal services. The vendors charge both a processing fee and, in some cases, freight during the supply chain challenge periods. For more information, [click here](#).

Cleaning Services for 484 Mulberry Street Approved

Board members approved a contract with Elite Environmental Services LLC to provide cleaning services for the 484 Mulberry Street/Central Office building. 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 EBB - Safety (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy EBC - Security (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IBB - Charter Schools (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy BBF - Advisory Committees (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy FD - Facilities Long-Range Planning (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JGFG - Concussion Management (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

Georgia Milestones Presentation, Part 2

Dr. Ethel Lett, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, presented Georgia Milestones results for 2024-2025 to Board members. This presentation was the second part to the initial presentation made during the August Committee Meeting. The purpose of the presentation was to analyze student readiness, student performance and student attendance. To view the presentation, [click here](#). To review a press release about Bibb's Milestone results, [click here](#).

Superintendent's Highlights

- **VINEVILLE ACADEMY CELEBRATES ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK:** Thank you to Vineville Academy of the Arts for this month's featured artwork! Under the direction of art teacher Toni Siebenmorgan, students honored National Arts in Education Week. Fifth-grade Advanced Art students crafted one-of-a-kind paintings using trending techniques, such as pulled paint and finishing with striking black contrasts. Fourth-grade students brought vibrancy and meaning to the abstract table runners adorning board members' desks, symbolizing the essential role of art in their education and daily lives. First- and second-grade students shared their love for the arts through imaginative pop-up projects, capturing the joy they experience at Vineville Academy. Through their remarkable work, our students remind us of the invaluable place the fine arts hold in shaping thoughtful, creative, and expressive learners.
- **CELEBRATIONS & APPRECIATION:** Thank you to schools and departments throughout the district for bringing recognition and awareness to these events this month: Attendance Awareness Month, National Grandparents Day, Payroll Appreciation Week and Finance and Accounting Appreciation Week, Patriot Day, National Arts in Education Week, National Hispanic Heritage Month, National IT Professional Day and Educational Technology Day, Constitution Day, and Human Resources Professionals Day.
- **SOUTHFIELD GETS NEW SIGNAGE:** Southfield Elementary School's entry got a little facelift this month when it received new signage through Capital Programs funding. Future plans are in the works to add an awning to protect students from the rain and elements.
- **CELEBRATING LITERACY WEEK WITH ALLIANCE:** The Macon-Bibb Mayor's Literacy Alliance put the spotlight on literacy awareness, hosting a luncheon to kick off Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, as well as partnering with Miss Georgia and Miss Georgia Teen's Educational School Tour. Miss Macon's Teen, a Howard High student, also joined in as the team visited schools to discuss their community service initiatives and emphasize the importance of literacy to students.

- **BRIGHT FINANCIAL FUTURES WITH ROBINS FCU:** We're excited to announce a new partnership with Robins Financial Credit Union to bring financial education and athletic support to our six high schools! Through this partnership, Robins Financial will deliver on-campus financial literacy workshops for juniors and seniors; provide resources for students, parents, and teachers; and help prepare students for lifelong success.
- **MERCER ATHLETICS WELCOMES STUDENTS:** Thank you to Mercer University student athletes who visited schools to greet students during morning arrival! Mercer also celebrated Bibb's Teachers of the Year during its football game on August 30.
- **COLLEGE READY WITH WESLEYAN:** Big news from Hurricane Nation! Wesleyan College President Meaghan Blight visited Rutland, and 15 students were accepted on the spot and offered over \$600,000 in scholarships! We're so proud of students for stepping into their futures with confidence.
- **SPRINGDALE MENTOR TEACHER WINS AWARD:** Join us in celebrating Springdale Elementary teacher Julianne Cassara for winning the Mentor Teacher Award for the MIDDLE P-20 Collaborative. This award was bestowed by the Georgia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, co-sponsored by GAE, GAEL, and PAGE, to honor outstanding educators who serve as mentors to the upcoming generation of Georgia teachers by modeling, coaching, instructing, and investing in their development.
- **RIBBON-CUTTING FOR THOMPSON COMPLEX:** In partnership with Sheridan Construction, Bibb County School District is excited to celebrate the official ribbon-cutting for Harry Thompson Complex! The ribbon-cutting will be held Friday, October 17, at 2 p.m. at 1210 Shurling Drive.
- **HOWARD MIDDLE WINS AWARD:** The votes are in, and Howard Middle earned 2nd Place in 41NBC's "Give Your School A Scholarship" contest! The school was presented with school supplies and a financial award! This comes on the heels of Howard Middle being voted among the Best of the Best in Middle Georgia for Middle Schools by The Telegraph!
- **SEEING CLEARLY WITH VISION TO LEARN:** Vision to Learn visited Hartley Elementary to offer vision care to students. The nonprofit charity provides vision screenings, eye exams and glasses to children in underserved communities across the nation, at no cost to the child or their family. Thank you, Vision to Learn, U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff, and State Rep. Tangee Herring for this amazing partnership. When students can see better, they can read better, learn better and thrive in the classroom!
- **MOBILE DENTIST BRIGHTENS SMILES:** Big smiles all around! A huge thank you to Help a Child Smile Mobile Dentist for partnering with Bernd Elementary and helping students shine a little brighter. We appreciate your care and commitment!
- **PUSHING FOR ATTENDANCE GAINS:** THE PUSH for attendance gains continues! Here's a glance at the State of Attendance: Average Daily Attendance for August was 94%, with Perfect Attendance at 41.5% and Chronic Absenteeism at 17.5%. Community members will notice billboards going up around town, reminding families that every day counts. Stay tuned for exciting news about partnerships with Tex James for a series of middle and high school events, and Mike and Jaime Kaplan with The Merrie Christmas Project to help remove barriers for families! Schools are also working on partnerships to promote attendance, including Rise Up for Perfect Attendance. Here, Bruce Eagle Deante's commitment to perfect attendance for August earned him the opportunity to attend the Falcons vs. Buccaneers game rocking a new pair of sneakers. Students, let's keep showing up every day, because attendance = opportunities.
- **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BUILD BRIDGES:** United Way of Central Georgia's Community Schools United coordinators play a pivotal role in strengthening our schools and communities. CSU

Coordinators are more than facilitators – they are strategic leaders who build bridges between families, educators, and community partners to ensure every child is supported and empowered to succeed. As we mark Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week, September 14-20, let's lift up these dedicated professionals and often-unsung heroes. Their daily work to align resources, elevate student voice, and create inclusive learning environments is transforming education from the inside out. CSU Coordinator Beverly Wright, on the left, serves at the L.H. Williams site in the Pleasant Hill neighborhood and CSU Coordinator Tia Lockhart, on the right, is based at Burdell-Hunt Magnet in the Fort Hill neighborhood.

- **SUBARU OF MACON CELEBRATES TEACHERS:** Subaru of Macon presented school supplies to 10 teachers at Alexander II Magnet School as part of the Subaru Loves Learning Adopt-A-Classroom Program. These teachers each received a box of supplies as well as a gift card to meet even more classroom needs. We are grateful for these educators and our community partners!
- **A VISIT TO BARNEY HESTER STADIUM:** On August 29, Tattnall Square Academy renamed its football stadium "Barney Hester Stadium" in honor of Bibb County Board of Education member Barney Hester. Currently in his second stint leading the Trojans, Coach Hester has won the sixth-most games of any high school football coach in state history with 340 wins. He spent six seasons at Howard High School, including the Huskies' first playoff berth, and went on to serve as Bibb's Athletics Director.
- **MLK RAIDERS GO GREEN WITH KMBB:** Thank you to Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful for partnering in THE PUSH! Volunteers came together with members of the school community to create "The Cozy Corner" as a way to encourage attendance by providing a fun and engaging space for students. The outdoor space, including a garden checkerboard, will be top-notch fun for scholars during lunch. Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful also launched an Afterschool Gardening Program at MLK this week.
- **ENGAGING AND INTERACTIVE INSTRUCTION:** Check out our students engaging in interactive and fun instruction. To the left, fifth-grade students at Carter Elementary produced outstanding volcano projects, and to the right, Central High IB Spanish students celebrated the independence of Central American countries, Mexico and other countries from South America with a Lantern Parade showcasing lanterns they made.
- **TIME WITH TEACHERS OF THE YEAR:** It was an honor to meet with members of the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council and receive their feedback about the start of the school year. Each of Bibb's Teachers of the Year serves on this council, which meets throughout the year. As a reminder, we'll honor Bibb Teachers of the Year on September 30, at the Grand Opera House with a 5:30 p.m. reception and 6:30 p.m. celebration.
- **SENDING STRENGTH TO ALEX II STUDENT:** An Alexander II Magnet School mom reached out to share the story of her daughter, Myliyah Grace Leitzsey. Grace's heart is failing, but the family's hope is not! Grace was born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome and congestive heart failure. By the age of two, she had already undergone two open-heart surgeries. Now, at just six years old, she urgently needs a new heart. I was able to visit her recently and share gifts from staff members and her classmates.
- **ON THE HORIZON: GEAR UP WEEK:** Bibb County School District will celebrate National GEAR UP Week next week, kicking off with College Day! As we prepare students to be future focused and 4ME Ready, we are calling on community members and families to join us in sharing your choice of college and what the experience meant to you.

Highlights

Leader In Me Lighthouse School

Implementing the Leader In Me habits in our schools with fidelity has been vital to recent victories in our District. One of the highest levels of school recognition within this program is receiving Lighthouse Status. This honor comes after an involved application process that requires demonstration of leadership development from students all the way up through administration. Congratulations Burdell-Hunt Magnet Elementary School for receiving their fourth Lighthouse Certification.

Partnership Impact Award

In the Bibb County School District, we believe that every student's success is strengthened when our schools and community work hand in hand. Our partnerships not only provide resources but also inspire hope, open opportunities, and help us fulfill our mission of ensuring each student demonstrates strength of character and is college or career ready. Each month, we will take a moment to shine a spotlight on a partner whose contributions have made a real difference for our students, staff, and families. This month, we are proud to recognize Atrium Health Navicent as one of our key partners in the area of Career & Workforce Support.

Their commitment to preparing our students for the future is exemplified through their innovative REACH program. This four-week program, launched in 2024, offers high school sophomores and juniors a unique opportunity to shadow healthcare professionals and gain hands-on experience in a variety of health care fields. Through weekly professional development, medical skills simulations, educational field trips, and personalized mentoring, students explore career options in nursing, pharmacy, respiratory therapy, radiology, physical therapy, and many more. This program not only sparks interest in healthcare careers but also creates a pipeline of skilled professionals ready to meet the needs of our community. We proudly recognize the 28 Bibb County students selected for the REACH program, who gained valuable training, mentorship, and career insights with lasting impact. Below are the scholars who participated in the REACH program:

- Ashanti Coach, Central High School
- Aubri Hollings, Central High School
- Mandi Jackson, Central High School
- Kaylin Mack, Central High School
- Christen Scott, Central High School
- Ja'keia Dixon-Martin, Howard High School
- Amelia Faulks, Howard High School
- Diamond Jackson, Howard High School
- Miyah Johnson, Howard High School
- Andrea' Morman, Howard High School
- Serenity Parks, Howard High School
- Vidhi Patel, Howard High School
- Tamiyah Basley, Northeast High School
- Kaitlynn Dixon, Northeast High School
- Zaris Odoms, Northeast High School

- Zuri Cole, Rutland High School
- Mi'Kayla Partridge, Rutland High School
- Zunyia Vinson, Southwest High School
- Trisha Mistry, Westside High School
- Lily Respaldiza, Westside High School

National Beta Schools of Distinction and National Beta Schools of Merit

The National Beta Club is an established student organization that encourages our young people to pursue academic excellence and community service. Students across our District participate in their school chapters and even compete at the state and national conventions. Each year, National Beta Club recognizes chapters with awards for their efforts to grow the organization. The National Beta School of Distinction Award is given to schools that increase their chapter membership by 10 percent for the year, while the National Beta School of Merit Award is given to schools that have students representing all eligible grade levels within their chapters. Congratulations to the following schools:

National Beta School of Distinction

- Bernd Elementary School
- Bruce Elementary School
- Burdell-Hunt Magnet School
- Skyview Elementary School
- Springdale Elementary School
- Miller Magnet Middle School
- Westside High School
- VIP Academy

National Beta School of Merit

- Alexander II Math & Science Magnet School
- Bernd Elementary School
- Bruce Elementary School
- Burdell-Hunt Magnet School
- Heritage Elementary School
- Skyview Elementary School
- Springdale Elementary School
- Veterans Elementary School
- Miller Magnet Middle School
- Central High School
- Westside High School
- VIP Academy

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chloe Ussery, a 8th grade student at Miller Fine Arts Magnet Middle School.

Board Members

The following Board Members were present at this meeting:

Ms. Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1 - President

Mr. Daryl J. Morton, At-Large, Post 7 - Vice President

Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3 - Treasurer

Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5

Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6

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

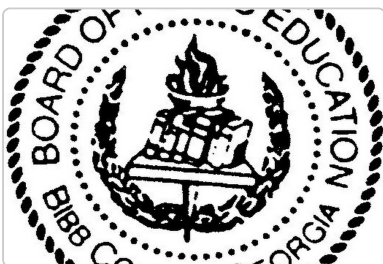
Not present:

Dr. Henry C. Ficklin, District 2

Mr. Barney T. Hester, District 4

To learn more about Bibb County Board of Education members, [click here](#).

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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.

