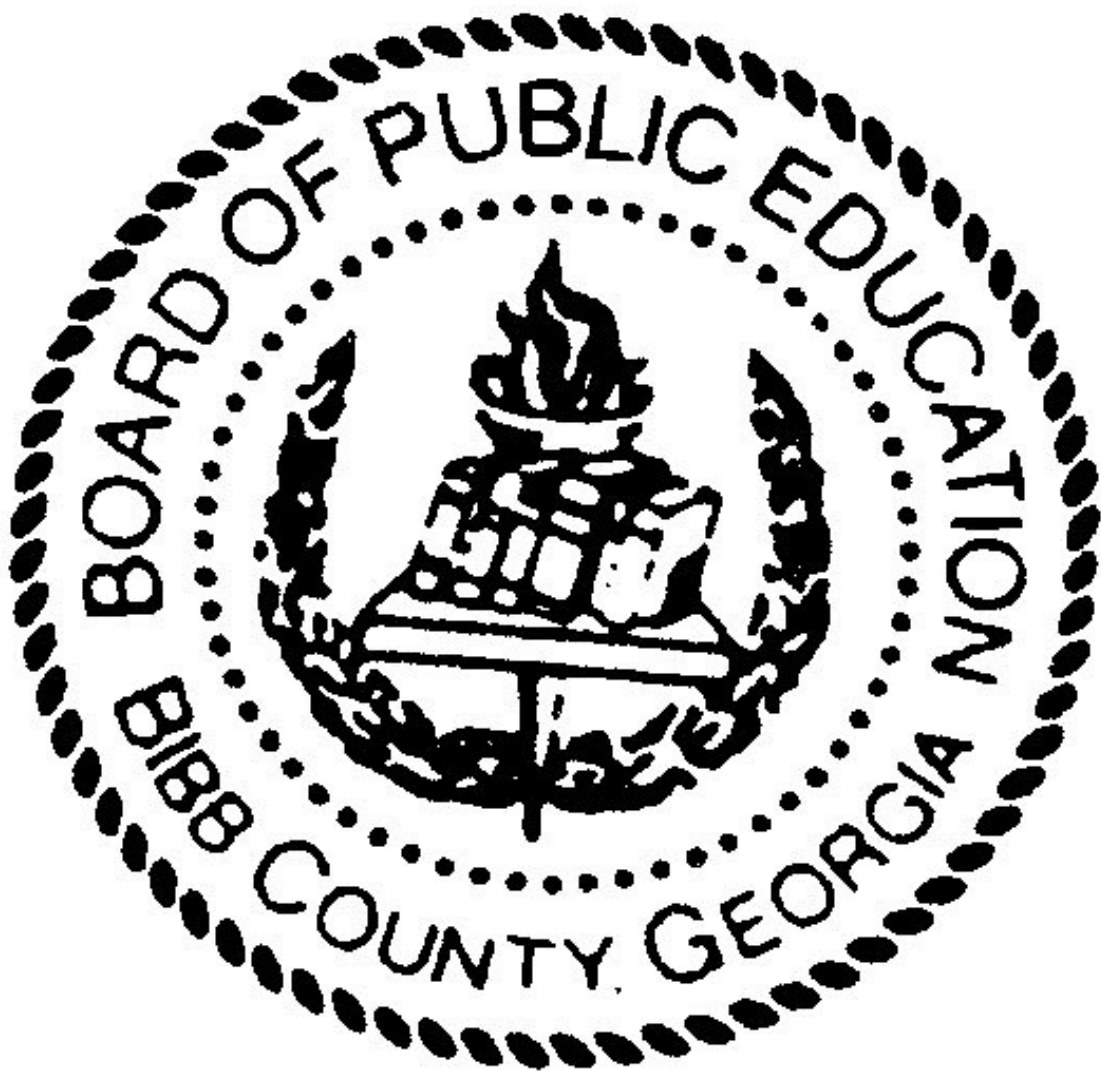


The Board Brief

November 20, 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.)

- Maisah Holloman, Hartley Elementary Assistant Principal

ESPLOST 2021 Budget Amendment Approved

Board members approved a Budget Amendment \$6 to the 2021 ESPLOST budget, for alignment with total revenues received after the final sales tax payment in October 2025. The Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax is a one percent sales tax approved by voters.

The adjustment ensures the budget accurately reflects collections and expenditures for ongoing and future projects approved by the ESPLOST 2021 referendum. The amendment allocates funds for safety and security, facility modifications and/or renovations, technology, HVAC, and energy efficiency. For more information, [click here](#).

Construction Manager for the Renovation of Burdell-Hunt, Vineville Academy Approved

Board members approved a contract with ICB Construction Group Inc. to provide construction management at-risk services for renovations of Vineville Academy of the Arts and Burdell- Hunt Magnet Elementary School. Renovations will be paid with 2021 ESPLOST funds. For more information, [click here](#).

Construction Manager for Northwoods Academy Gymnasium Approved

Board members approved a contract with ICB Construction Group Inc. to provide services for construction of the Northwoods Academy Gymnasium. The new structure will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST funds. For more information, [click here](#).

Architectural Services for Hartley Elementary Kitchen Renovation Approved

Board members approved a contract with Leah F. Jones Architects LLC to provide architectural services for the renovation of Hartley Elementary School's Kitchen. The renovation will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST funds. For more information, [click here](#).

General Contractor Services for Construction of Transportation Parking Lot Approved

Board members approved a contract with Appling Brothers Co. to provide general contractor services for construction and expansion of the Transportation Parking Lot. The expansion will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST funds. 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 DIB, Financial Reports (ACTION -Second Reading)
- Policy ICC - Curriculum Research (ACTION - Second Reading)

- Policy GBN, Professional Personnel Termination (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JCDAF, Use of Electronic Devices (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

District Effectiveness & Federal Programs Presentation

Staff members from the Division of District Effectiveness and Federal Programs presented a division overview to the Board members. They spoke on the CTAE programs, Dual Enrollment, and GEAR UP initiatives. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

Georgia Milestones 2025 Overview Continued

Brian Butler, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, presented Georgia Milestones results for 2024-2025 to Board members. This presentation was the final part to the initial presentation made during the August Committee Meeting. The purpose of the presentation was to share how BCSD students compare to the Georgia state averages. To view the presentation, [click here](#). To review a press release about Bibb's Milestone results, [click here](#).

Superintendent's Highlights

- **ARTWORK BY MLK:** This month's artwork was created by students at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, led by instructor Quintin Banks. The artwork theme is "The Colors of Education" in celebration of American Education Week and features free expression artwork from 4 student artists.
- **CELEBRATIONS & APPRECIATION:** Thank you to schools and departments throughout the district for bringing recognition and awareness to these events this month: Georgia Retired Educators Month, National Parental Involvement Day, Family Engagement Month, National School Psychology Week, Veterans Day, Crossing Guard Appreciation Week, Education Support Professionals Day, and Substitute Educators Day.
- **THANK YOU FOR APPROVING ESPLOST:** During this month's election, the voters of Macon-Bibb County passed the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for the sixth consecutive term. This year, more than 73 percent of voters approved the measure. Thank you, Macon-Bibb County, for voting!
- **VOLUNTEERS READ FOR THE RECORD:** Literacy is a big focus for the District this year, and just like always, our partners at United Way of Central Georgia and other volunteers stepped up to "Read for the Record"! We appreciate all the community members who read to our elementary school students!
- **SOUTHWEST ZONE COMMUNITY CLEANUP:** Last Saturday, more than 100 volunteers collaborated to enhance the neighborhoods surrounding the Southwest High School Zone.

Volunteers, working with Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful, diligently cleaned the streets around Southwest, Ballard-Hudson, Ingram-Pye, Matilda Hartley, and Southfield.

- **TEAM ATTENDS TESOL CONFERENCE:** Our ESOL teachers and staff had an opportunity to keep up with the latest tools to engage and support families whose first language is *not* English. They attended the Georgia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Conference in Athens.
- **HONORING THE PAST WITH WALK TO SCHOOL:** Last Friday, U Create Macon led a team of students, staff and parents on a walk to school from Sam's Club to Veterans Elementary School in honor of Ruby Bridges. Thank you to Campus Police for providing support for this anniversary event.
- **GRADUATION VICTORIES FOR SWD:** The Program for Exceptional Children Department salutes schools and PEC Coordinators for their tremendous work in increasing the Graduation Rate for Students with Disabilities! The high schools pictured demonstrated significant growth. The team's dedication and commitment to student success continues to make a lasting impact.
- **HEARD PARTNERS BUILD RABBIT HUTCH:** A family in our Rutland Zone community donated this amazing rabbit hutch to Heard Elementary School's agriculture program, as well as rabbit food and accessories for the school's newest resident. Students will be assisting their agriculture teacher, Ms. Wilson, with caring for the rabbit and hutch.
- **STUDENTS VISIT SISTER CITY IN JAPAN:** Students and staff from Bibb County School District recently traveled to Kurobe, Japan, where they spent a week experiencing school life, Japanese culture, and visiting landmarks! We are honored to be able to continue this sister city partnership, and we look forward to hosting students from Japan next year.
- **BOE MEMBER HONORED WITH AWARD:** Boy Scouts of America Central Georgia Council hosted the 2025 Stronger Together Gala on November 13, and Board of Education member Dr. Henry Ficklin and numerous others were honored with prestigious awards celebrating outstanding achievements. Dr. Ficklin was the recipient of the Elbert K. Fretwell Award. Congratulations Dr. Ficklin, and thank you for all you have done for our community.
- **ATLANTA FALCONS PARTNER WITH SCHOOLS:** Students at Burdell-Hunt Magnet School and Lane Elementary recently participated in a high-energy, pep rally-style program featuring Freddie Falcon. The event included surprise video messages from Atlanta Falcons Cheerleaders and players. Schools also were presented with a check for \$1,000 each by the Falcons.
- **GEAR UP PROVIDES READINESS OPPORTUNITIES:** Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, or GEAR UP, has provided meaningful post-secondary readiness opportunities for 7th and 8th grade students. GEAR UP students at Appling Middle and SOAR Academy recently participated in a financial literacy workshop facilitated by MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union. MidSouth will continue visiting all BCSD middle schools to provide financial literacy to GEAR UP cohort students. Additionally, GEAR UP students participated in Careers in Energy Week. During this event, students had the opportunity to meet professionals from the energy industry and learn about career opportunities, while engaging in interactive and hands-on activities.
- **STUDENT FITS SHINE IN MACON FASHION WEEK:** Recently, Bibb students showed off their creativity, confidence, and hard work during the Inaugural Macon Fashion Week Student Presentation at the iconic Tubman Museum. Macon Fashion Week is a weeklong celebration of fashion, creativity, and community. Experiences such as Macon Fashion Week open new avenues for our students to explore industries that may ignite lifelong passions.
- **TRANSPORTATION SPIRIT WEEK:** Bibb County School District Transportation Team members got into the spirit for Transportation Safety Week and Driver Appreciation Day this past month,

dressings in different themes throughout the week. We are thankful to these hard-working team members who ensure our students arrive to and from school safely each day!

- **WILLIE SPEARS INSPIRES MIDDLE SCHOOLERS:** Thank you to Middle GA RESA for bringing The Willie Spears Experience to Ballard-Hudson Middle and Appling Middle last week. He even met with the Northeast football team while at Appling. A former student-athlete and coach, Spears is now a motivational speaker. He encouraged students to make intentional choices about coming to school and avoiding pitfalls that could cost them their future goals.
- **LITERACY, RECYCLING, AND LITTER PREVENTION:** In observance of America Recycles Day, Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful presented recycling and litter prevention books to third graders at Bruce and Southfield. In addition to the book giveaway, Ryland Environmental did a live demonstration with their recycling truck.
- **BIBB REPRESENTS AT GA PBIS CONFERENCE:** Bibb PBIS was well represented at the 2025 GA PBIS Conference in Duluth, GA! A special shoutout goes to Northeast High students and staff who represented the first Leader in Me Lighthouse High School in the state, and to staff from Northwoods, Bruce, Rosa Taylor, SOAR and Hutchings College and Career Academy for their outstanding presentations. Bibb PBIS District Coordinator Curlandra Lightfoot Smith also did an excellent job as keynote speaker for the conference.
- **AG PROGRAM ON LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL STAGE:** Georgia FFA President and Rutland High senior Remiya Stephens represented agricultural education at the fall Governor's Workforce Summit, joining educators and employers focused on building Georgia into the Top State for Talent. She then traveled to Indianapolis for the 98th National FFA Convention with Georgia FFA leaders to participate in committee meetings, business sessions, and delegate discussions addressing key issues that impact FFA members nationwide. Additionally, the Agriculture Technology and Equipment CDE Team from Rutland Middle FFA stamped their ticket to compete in the State Championship in Carpentry and Woodworking. This middle school team is among the top 12 teams in the state! Finally, mark your calendar to learn more about our legislative-approved Bibb County Young Farmer Program. Join us Dec. 4 from 5:30-7:30 PM at Fall Line in downtown Macon to learn more about agriculture and its impacts on Georgia's economy.
- **FEEDING FAMILIES THIS SEASON:** This holiday season, we are teaching our students the strength and positivity that come with giving back. Every contribution helps feed families, strengthen community bonds, and spread holiday cheer throughout Bibb County Schools.
- **LITERACY EVENT BRINGS FAMILIES TOGETHER:** This week, the Macon-Bibb Mayor's Literacy Alliance partnered with the District's Family Engagement Team to host Celebrate Reading, Celebrate Family, an evening of Family Literacy. Thank you to the many families from throughout the district who attended and participated in literacy engagement activities!
- **COMMUNICATIONS TEAM EARNS HONORS:** Recently, the District's Communications Department won a total of 15 awards as part of the Georgia School Public Relations Association's annual Publications Awards! Highlights included awards for photography, videography, social media excellence, special events, and newsletters.
- **ON THE HORIZON: STATE OF THE DISTRICT:** Save the date for the annual State of the District event on January 30, 2026, at Central High School. More details will be forthcoming, but this event will be open to parents and community partners alike, to hear from our students about all that is happening in Bibb.
- **HAPPY THANKSGIVING:** Thank you to all of the parents and family members who visited schools this week to celebrate Thanksgiving with our students! On behalf of the District, we hope you have a wonderful and restful holiday break next week.

Highlights

Meet the New Leaders

Congratulations to our new BCSD leaders!

- Amber Lynch, Director II of School Nutrition
- Dr. Sheree Gray, Assistant Principal, Central High School

Keep Building for Bibb Students

On November 4, the voters of Macon-Bibb County approved the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for the sixth consecutive term. The ESPLOST, which supports capital projects across the District, received more than 73 percent of the votes cast. This year, this crucial measure was backed by the support of the Keep Building for Bibb Students Committee, made up of business and community members in Macon-Bibb County. This group worked tirelessly to inform and encourage voters about the importance of continuing the work that the District can do with this funding. Thank you to the following people:

- Roy Bibb
- Horace Braswell
- Lynn Farmer
- Rebecca Richard
- Amy Morton
- Cyndey Busbee
- Bruce Leicht
- Ron Shipman

AARP Foundation Experience Corps - Bronze President's Volunteer Service Award

A connection to the AARP Foundation Experience Corps for volunteers is a vital part of the District's partnership with the United Way of Central Georgia. These dedicated retirees devote their time to our students and our schools to help improve literacy in the District through Read United. Recently, AARP Foundation Experience Corps recognized a select group of volunteers for Bronze President's Volunteer Service Awards. In Bibb County, four individuals were recognized for logging almost 500 total volunteer hours in our schools.

- Shirley Brox, Hartley Elementary School, 130.75 hours
- Darly Hughes, Hartley Elementary School, 118.75 hours
- Barbara Griggs, Hartley Elementary School, 130.75 hours
- Vanessa Jones, Veterans Elementary School, 110.75 hours

Partnership Impact Award

The Griffith Foundation

GACTE Mentor Teacher Award – Middle School

Across the District, teachers take on the role of mentor for student teachers and new educators. This year, a pair of District teachers were recognized for their efforts in this endeavor.

Congratulations Priscilla Brown, Ballard-Hudson Middle School. Ms. Brown is an instructional specialist at Ballard-Hudson, and she was recognized recently as an Outstanding Mentor Teacher by the Georgia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. Only nine teachers statewide were recognized with this honor.

Georgia Association of School Business Officials Board

In addition to her role as an accountant in our District, Ms. Kelly Oliver has represented Bibb County as a member of the Board of Directors for the Georgia Association of School Business Officials. This organization provides programs and services to improve the business operations and services for school districts across the state. Ms. Oliver, a graduate of Central High School, has served on this board for the last two years and has been a member of our accounting team since 2012.

Georgia Department of Education – Gateway Growth for Literacy and Math

Recently, the Georgia Department of Education recognized Literacy and Math Leader schools for achievement and growth on the Georgia Milestones assessments for 2024-2025. These awards recognize schools that made designated levels of progress at the chosen grade level based on previous results. In all, the District had nine schools recognized with one of these awards.

Gateway Growth for Literacy

- Alexander II Math & Science Magnet School, 3rd grade
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Elementary School, 3rd grade
- Springdale Elementary School, 3rd grade
- VIP Academy, High School level

Gateway Growth for Math

- Burdell-Hunt Magnet School, 5th grade level
- Miller Magnet Middle School, 8th grade level

Gateway Growth for Math High School Level

- Appling Middle School
- Ballard-Hudson Middle School
- Howard Middle School
- Miller Magnet Middle School
- VIP Academy

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Aria Drew, a 5th grade student at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School.

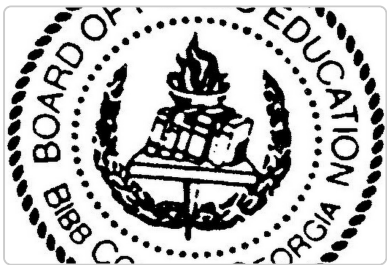
Board Members

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. Henry C. Ficklin, District 2
- Mr. Barney T. Hester, District 4
- Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5
- Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6
- Dr. Lisa W. Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

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

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Bibb County School District

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