The Board Brief

January 15, 2026

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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.)

General Fund Budget Amendment Approved with Adjustment

Board members approved a Budget Amendment #1 for the FY 2026 General Fund budget, with an adjustment to the budget amendment to remove Line Item C,3 for "$(1,275,000) - identified cost reductions across various programs and departments." The General Fund Budget is routinely updated whenever new information arrives from federal, state, or local agencies, so that it accurately reflects both expected and confirmed changes in revenue and expenses. For more information, click here.

Board Officers Elected

Board members elected new officers for the 2026 calendar year. Daryl Morton was elected to serve as President, Dr. Sundra Woodford was elected to serve as Vice President, and Kristin Hanlon was elected to serve as Treasurer. Outgoing officers for 2025 are Myrtice Champion Johnson, President; Daryl Morton, Vice President; and Kristin Hanlon, Treasurer.

Board Meeting Calendar Approved

Board members approved the Board Meeting calendar for 2026-2027. To view the action item, click here. Below are the approved dates:

- Thursday, January 15, 2026
- Thursday, February 19, 2026
- Thursday, March 19, 2026
- Thursday, April 16, 2026
- Thursday, May 14, 2026
- Thursday, June 18, 2026
- Thursday, July 16, 2026
- Thursday, August 20, 2026
- Thursday, September 17, 2026
- Thursday, October 15, 2026
- Thursday, November 19, 2026
- Thursday, December 17, 2026
- Thursday, January 21, 2027

Contractor Services for Canopy Upgrades Approved

Board members approved a contract with Renfroe Construction Co. LLC, Macon, GA, to provide general contractor services for upgrades to canopies at Southfield Elementary, Ballard-Hudson Middle, and L.H. Williams Elementary Schools. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Contractor Services for Permanent Stages Approved

Board members approved a contract with Ogles Construction Inc., Lizella, GA, to provide general contractor services to furnish and install permanent stages at Ballard-Hudson Middle, Skyview

Elementary, and Southfield Elementary Schools. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Furniture for Elementary Schools Approved

Board members approved two purchase orders to replace furniture for Vineville Academy of the Arts and Burdell-Hunt Elementary School. This project will be funded by the 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Consultant for Roofing and Energy Enhancement Project Approved

Board members approved a purchase order to Merik Consulting Inc., Byron, GA, for consulting services related to roof repairs at Heritage Elementary, Skyview Elementary, Howard High, Howard Middle, Rutland High, and Rutland Middle Schools. This project will be funded by 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Contractor Approved for Auditorium Upgrades at High Schools

Board members approved a contract and purchase order with Sheridan Construction for auditorium upgrade services at Central, Southwest, and Howard High Schools. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Student Headset Purchase Approved

Board members approved a purchase order to 525 Technologies for student headsets. The funding source is 2021 ESPLOST. For more information, click here.

Advanced Manufacturing Equipment Approved for CTAE Program

Board members approved a purchase order for Southern Educational Systems for the purchase of Advanced Manufacturing Equipment. The funding source is 2021 ESPLOST. The Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Department will introduce an additional CTAE pathway at the Innovation and Technology Academy aligned with advanced manufacturing industries within the Macon-Bibb County community. This expansion will ensure that students graduate equipped with employability skills that directly meet the advanced manufacturing workforce needs of our local community. 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 IHA, Grading Systems (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IFBGA, Electronic Communications (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy JGF(2), Seclusion or Restraint of Students (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy JGFG , Student Accidents (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy GBN, Professional Personnel Termination (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

Overview of CCRPI Performance

The Office of School Leadership presented a districtwide overview of the 2024–2025 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) results for all Bibb County School District schools. The presentation explains CCRPI components, highlights school and district performance, and clarifies how results inform continuous improvement efforts across all schools. To view the presentation, click here.

Board Work Session on Budget

The Bibb County Board of Education held a Work Session prior to the Committee and Board Meetings. During the Work Session, CFO Eric Bush reviewed budget information with Board members. To view the agenda for the Work Session, click here.

Superintendent's Highlights

- **ARTWORK BY HOWARD HIGH STUDENTS:** This month's artwork by Howard High School students features 3D small and light clay sculptures. Students were led by instructors Michael Gillies and Thomas Hays, and their artwork reflects work from the past semester on animals and animal habitat. Some of the artwork was completed by the Art Club at Howard High and some of it is reflective of work from Ceramics I and II courses at Howard High.
- **CELEBRATIONS & APPRECIATION:** Thank you to schools and departments throughout the District for bringing recognition and awareness to these events this month: Gifted Education Month, National Mentoring Month, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- **BIBB CTAE GRAD RATE TOPS STATE:** Bibb County School District's Career, Technical and Agricultural Education students topped the state CTAE average with a 98.97 percent graduation rate for the Class of 2025. This marks the third year in a row that Bibb students having completed a career pathway have graduated at a rate of 98 percent or higher. For the Class of 2025, all seven District high schools had CTAE graduation rates of 96 percent or higher, led by Howard High School, Southwest High School and VIP Academy with 100 percent CTAE graduation rates.
- **COMPASS ROSE CAFÉ IN TODAY'S AJC:** If you haven't visited Compass Rose Cafe at W. S. Hutchings College and Career Academy, you are missing out! It is described by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution in an article out today: It is "a rare gastro-instructional incubator" ... . "This is like a Michelin-star restaurant with all the unusual, daring dishes," a guest said. "Every dish is a discovery." We are so proud of the students and instructors who continue to do amazing things in this Culinary Arts Pathway program! Read the article: https://www.ajc.com/news/2026/01/how-a-georgia-high-school-classroom-became-a-fine-dining-restaurant/
- **MVP GRANT SUPPORTS BRUCE ELEMENTARY EFFORTS:** Bruce Elementary Principal Kizzie Lott gave a moving speech today about how the 100 Black Men of Macon-Middle Georgia have led with encouragement as they have supported students and staff at Bruce. The organization was one of several agencies to be recognized during today's announcement of the next round of MVP grants. The latest grant will support the 100 Black Men's Academy to Inspire Readers A.I.R. 100 initiative at Bruce Elementary School to strengthen reading proficiency among early elementary students. It will use structured, school-based literacy instruction to support

students who are not yet reading at grade level. The program is designed to improve daily reading habits and comprehension skills through consistent engagement.

- **A 'DIAMOND' AMONG OUR TEAM:** Campus Police Chief Curtis Adams was honored with the 2026 Diamond Award Laureate for his dedicated contributions in the areas of justice and literary engagement. He was presented with the award by U.S. Rep. Sanford Bishop during the 20th anniversary celebration of The Not Alone Foundation, alongside the 10th milestone anniversary of The Academy of the Diamond Awards, this month, with Rep. Bishop reflecting on the profound impact Chief Adams has made through his exceptional legacy of service, courage, literary contributions, and transformative engagement within the community.
- **THIRD SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER OPENS:** The Bibb County School District, in partnership with First Choice Primary Care, is proud to announce the opening of its third School-Based Health Center, located at L.H. Williams Elementary School. This latest expansion of school-based healthcare services was made possible through funding from Gov. Brian Kemp and the Georgia Department of Education's Office of Whole Child Support, reinforcing the state's commitment to student health, well-being, and academic success.
- **PARAPROFESSIONALS COMMIT TO TEACHING PROGRAM:** Bibb County School District launched its Grow Your Own Para-to-Teacher Apprenticeship Program and celebrated the selection of five paraprofessionals for the Spring Cohort. This innovative apprenticeship pathway is designed to remove barriers to the teaching profession by allowing participants to earn their degree and teacher certification on the job while continuing to serve BCSD students.
- **RUTLAND HIGH FFA PARTICIPATES IN RODEO:** Rutland High School FFA students helped with events this month at the Coliseum when the rodeo came to town! My students never cease to validate me, amaze me, and warm my heart!
- **OLYMPIC ATHLETE VISITS SCHOOLS:** We were honored to welcome Olympian Jessica Ramsey to several schools. Her visit inspired students to dream big, work hard, and believe in themselves. She shared a powerful message of perseverance, discipline, and excellence that truly resonated with our students.
- **EMA CALENDARS FEATURE STUDENT ARTWORK:** The Macon-Bibb County Emergency Management Agency is making it easy to stay prepared in 2026 by offering free Emergency Preparedness Calendars filled with helpful safety tips. Created in partnership with students from across our community, this is the third Emergency Preparedness Calendar produced by EMA. The calendars are now available at locations throughout Macon-Bibb County. Students from multiple Bibb County schools participated in an art contest held in September, creating artwork that illustrates how people can stay safe before and during emergencies.
- **NEXT LEVEL WITH INSTRUCTIONAL INNOVATION:** Mrs. Robin Thompson's first grade REACH class, filled with students from Skyview Elementary and Porter Elementary, has been busy blending literacy with educational technology in meaningful ways! After listening to The Chinese New Year in Myon, they worked together to recount and retell the events of the story, which strengthened comprehension and sequencing skills. Students illustrated key moments from the text, and they were even able to work on meeting their AR goals by completing the AR test! Finally, they took their learning a step further by using Ozobots for color coding to retell the story's events in order! This hands-on experience supported literacy development while introducing foundational computational thinking skills. Follow more Instructional Innovation in Bibb Schools at www.facebook.com/BibbInstructionalInnovation.
- **STATE OF THE DISTRICT – WE ARE THE PROMISE:** Stakeholders are invited to attend the annual State of the District on Friday, January 30, at 9 AM at Central High School for an update on all things happening in Bibb County Schools as we PUSH for aligned efforts, rigorous approaches, and committed delivery. In the midst of forces against public education and distractions to our work, WE ARE THE PROMISE for a better world. The fight is real for respect

in public education, and moving with excellence is our best defense. Register to attend at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1977506658649?aff=oddtdtcreator.

- **ON THE HORIZON: 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL:** And, finally, there is a BIG day coming up next week! Bibb Schools will mark the 100th day of school on Wednesday, January 21. Elementary students have been invited to dress as 100-year-olds in celebration. At Heard Elementary, they are diligently preparing for the annual Mac and Cheese Countdown for the 100th Day of School. During this annual event for more than 15 years at Heard, kindergarten students practice counting macaroni box donations in groups of ten before the domino of boxes takes off throughout the school building.
- **HHS ATHLETE RECEIVES VISIT FROM UGA COACH:** None other than THE Coach Kirby Smart touched down with his UGA helicopter today to visit Howard High School student athlete and 4-star recruit Ta'Shawn Poole.

Highlights

Presentation of Gavel: Myrtice Johnson, 2025 Board President
In recognition of her service as Board President for 2025, the District presented District 1 representative Myrtice Champion Johnson with a commemorative gavel.

Partnership Impact Award: Corebridge Financial
This month's Partnership Impact Award was presented to Corebridge Financial, recommended by Ingram-Pye Elementary School for their outstanding support of the District's literacy focus. The organization donated 120 literacy kits for kindergarten and first-grade students. These kits are being used during small-group instruction to support early reading development and help increase the percentage of students recognizing high-frequency words to 80 percent. Corebridge Financial's commitment to early literacy is already making a positive and measurable impact on student learning at Ingram-Pye Elementary.

National Beta Convention Qualifiers
Each year, Beta Club members from across the state compete in a variety of disciplines as part of Georgia's Beta Convention. This year, two students from Springdale Elementary School placed high enough in these competitions to qualify for national competition in Nashville, Tenn., this summer.
Tucker Smith, Springdale Elementary – Second Place, Woodworking
Leela Milton, Springdale Elementary – Fifth Place, Cake Decorating
Advisors: Tyler Lewis and Madolyn Hicks, Springdale Elementary

4-H National Conference Delegate
Last month, VIP Academy junior Shaelin Calder-Denny was chosen by Georgia 4-H as one of five delegates to represent the state at the National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. This event, held in April, will allow her to connect with student leaders from across the country. This is just the latest honor for Shaelin, who was previously named to the organization's Board of Directors last summer.

2025 Leader in Me Lighthouse Academic Honor Roll
The "Leader in Me" Lighthouse Academic Honor Roll recognizes schools that have not only maintained the necessary standards for Lighthouse status, but that have also met academic growth or proficiency standards. This year, Miller Middle was recognized for its academic growth

from 2024 to 2025. Miller improved 9 percentile points in the Schooldigger.com statewide rankings based on Georgia's academic data.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Avery Denny, a first grade student at Heard 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 (Present for part of meetings via Teams)
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 is located in Macon, Ga., with about 22,000 students.