

NEWS *from the* BOARD

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August 4, 2026

PCSD



Our Mission

Engage.

Inspire.

Prepare.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

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Superintendent's Report

"District News"...

The district proudly welcomed staff, students, and families as the 2026–2027 school year officially began. We extend our best wishes for a successful year as we embrace our theme, ***From Purpose to Practice***, inspiring us to turn our shared vision into meaningful action. Let's make it our best year yet!

Human Resources Update

DeeCarol Phinnessee, Chief Talent Officer, provided an overview of the Human Resources Department's summer recruitment and onboarding efforts, highlighting the Classified Career Fair, New Teacher Orientation, and the extensive hiring process in preparation for the new school year. The Classified Career Fair welcomed 268 attendees and resulted in 26 new hires.

Jennifer Gavant, Executive Director of Human Resources, shared staffing statistics, reporting 334 new hires, 311 staff separations due to resignations and retirements, and 649 employee transfers, contributing to an impressive staff retention rate of 92 percent. She also noted that 20 paraprofessionals successfully transitioned into certified teaching positions.

Dr. Cynthia Davies, Executive Director of Talent Development, highlighted the success of New Teacher Orientation, which welcomed 170 participants, including 85 educators entering the teaching profession for the first time. The orientation provided new teachers with valuable resources, support, and preparation as they begin their careers in Paulding County School District.



Capital Improvements Update

Doug Carey, Executive Director of Facilities, provided an update on several capital improvement projects across the district. He shared the completion and opening of Crossroads Elementary School, the upcoming Bus Depot project, Phase I of the South Paulding High School renovation, and the completion of four new Multipurpose Athletic Buildings.

Informational Items

Strategic Plan Update—Dr. Jason Gregaydis, Deputy Superintendent, shared the timeline for the strategic plan development as we enter the final year of the current district strategic plan (FY23-27).

2026-2027 SY Local Board Training Plan—Local Boards are required to submit a training plan for board members to the State Board of Education each year.

Operational and Organizational Excellence

Capital Outlay Project Contract - SPHS —The recommendation approve the Georgia Department of Education Capital Outlay Project application for South Paulding High School was presented for review.

IFB 26-260630 Fencing and Gate Installation and Replacement —The recommendation Award Invitation for Bid (IFB) 26-260630 Fencing and Gate Installation and Replacement to Hawk Fences, LLC, Norcross, Georgia and to ASAP Landscape Management Group, Decatur, Georgia was presented for review. This award will be for the period beginning September 2026 through August 2027.

Personnel

School	Status	Employee	New Position	Old Position	Effective Date
Abney	Supply	Maddux, Lori	1st Grade Teacher	NA	8/17/2026
Allgood	Supply	Pearson, Darleen	1st Grade Teacher	NA	9/14/2026
Crossroads ES	New Hire	Geathers, Whitney	IRR Teacher Local	NA	7/28/2026
Crossroads ES	Supply	Moore, Tracey	4th Grade Teacher	NA	8/31/2026
Dallas	Supply	Dunigan, Angela	Music Teacher	NA	7/27/2026
Dugan	Supply	Adamson, Lacinda	5th Grade Teacher	NA	7/27/2026
Hiram	Supply	Bishop, Wanda	1st Grade Teacher	NA	7/28/2026
Hiram	New Hire	Noland, Hannah	Kindergarten Para	NA	8/5/2026
Hiram	New Hire	Thompson, Cheyanne	MOID Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Hiram	Rescind	Vollrath, Imani	NA	AUT Para 6B	7/30/2026

Personnel

School	Status	Employee	New Position	Old Position	Effective Date
Hutchens	Supply	Owens, Sharon	STEM Teacher	NA	7/29/2026
Hutchens	New Hire	Smith, Kelle	MOID Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Northside	Resignation	Arnold, Bailey	NA	AUT Teacher Local	5/22/2026
Northside	Resignation	Deavers, Kimberly	NA	AUT Para Local	5/21/2026
Northside	New Hire	Hemphill, Samiyah	2nd Grade Teacher	NA	7/27/2026
Northside	New Hire	Sinclair-Mason, Michelle	AUT Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Panter	New Hire	Cline, Cristy	EBD Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Poole	Supply	Rodriguez, Deborah	Kindergarten Teacher	NA	7/27/2026
Ragsdale	Supply	Pruitt, Kallyn	1st Grade Teacher	NA	8/17/2026
Ragsdale	Supply	Smith, Toni Marie	4th Grade Teacher	NA	9/11/2026
Ragsdale	New Hire	Steele, Kayla	MOID Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Russom	New Hire	Carswell, Kristina	LEAP Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
Russom	New Hire	Moxey, Lola-Reese	4th Grade Teacher	NA	7/27/2026
Shelton	Supply	Moore, Tracey	4th Grade Teacher	NA	7/28/2026
Shelton	Resignation	Steger, Katarina	NA	AUT Para Local	5/21/2026
EPMS	New Hire	Harrison, Amanda	IRR Para Local	NA	8/5/2026
McClure	New Hire	Willis, Christopher	School Resource Officer	NA	8/5/2026
SPMS	New Hire	Pownall, William	7th Grade Teacher	NA	8/11/2026
SPMS	Resignation	Smith, Paula	NA	Security Guard	5/21/2026
HHS	Rescind	Hamilton, Trajan	NA	Teacher 9-12	7/27/2026
HHS	Resignation	Sheppard, Desiree	NA	IRR Teacher Local	7/31/2026
NPHS	Retirement	Hines, Mark	NA	Teacher 9-12	12/18/2026
NPHS	New Hire	Warlick, Maggie	Audio Visual Teacher	NA	7/27/2026

Personnel (cont.)

School	Status	Employee	New Position	Old Position	Effective Date
PCHS	Supply	Graebner, Casey	Teacher 9-12	NA	7/28/2026
PCHS	Retirement	Walraven, Mary	NA	Media Clerk	5/28/2027
SPHS	Resignation	Nichols, Samantha	NA	SNP Asst. (5 hrs.)	5/21/2026
Central	New Hire	Bryan, Kalin	Assistant Director of Nutrition	NA	8/19/2026
Central	New Hire	Gonzalez, Carolyn	Speech Language Associate	NA	7/28/2026
Central	Transfer	Slate, Karen	Academic Specialist	MTSS Specialist	8/5/2026
Maintenance	Retirement	Walton, Keith	NA	Lead Grounds	7/31/2026
Transportation	Resignation	Childress, Terrell	NA	Bus Driver	5/20/2026
Transportation	Retirement	Perry, George	NA	Bus Driver	6/30/2026
Transportation	Resignation	Stephens, Randy	NA	Bus Driver	5/20/2026
EPHS	Additional Duty	Littrell, Jasmine	Head Girls Cross Country	NA	2026/2027
SPHS	Additional Duty	Barnhill, Ashli	Assistant Softball	NA	2026/2027
SPHS	Additional Duty	Morris, Tanya	Yearbook	NA	2026/2027
SPHS	Rescind-Add 'l Duty	Jenkins, Ansley	NA	Assistant Softball	7/17/2026
SPHS	Rescind-Add 'l Duty	Luke, Chasity	NA	Yearbook	7/1/2026
NPHS	Community Coach	Leonard, Lanier	Volleyball	NA	2026/2027
SPHS	Community Coach	Lockridge, Jordan	Band	NA	2026/2027

Personnel Transfers

School	Status	Employee	New Position	Old Position	Effective Date
Abney	Transfer	Guzowski, Amy	Gifted Teacher	Gifted Teacher	7/27/2026
BHES	Transfer	Lyda, April	Gifted Teacher	Gifted Teacher	7/27/2026
Crossroads ES	Transfer	Brinkley, Chloe	4th Grade Teacher	1st Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
Dugan	Transfer	Hampton, John	PreK Teacher 6B	PreK Teacher State	7/27/2026

Personnel Transfers

School	Status	Employee	New Position	Old Position	Effective Date
Hiram	Transfer	Garner, Caroline	Gifted Teacher	Gifted Teacher	7/27/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Baker, Clarissa	MOD Teacher Local	SID/PID Teacher Local	7/27/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Bateman, Nichelle	AUT Para Local	IRR Para Local	7/30/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Bearden, Robbye	4th Grade Teacher CoF	1st Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Eakley, Sheri	SID/PID Teacher Local	MOD Teacher Local	7/27/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Sammons, Angela	Kindergarten Para	AUT Para Local	7/30/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Seay, Jill	IRR Para Local	Kindergarten Para	7/30/2026
Hutchens	Transfer	Sonnichsen, Stephanie	EIP Teacher 1-3	2nd Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
Northside	Transfer	Edwards, John	AUT Teacher Local	2nd Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
Russom	Transfer	Tribuiani, Kendra	AUT Para Local	MID Para Local	7/30/2026
Shelton	Transfer	Hebert, Rebecca	Dedicated Para Local	AUT Para Local	7/30/2026
Crossroads MS	Transfer	Cowan, Matthew	School Resource Officer	School Resource Officer	7/27/2026
Crossroads MS	Transfer	Strain, Hannah	MID Teacher Local	MOD Teacher Local	7/27/2026
EPMS	Transfer	Durham, Lauren	8th Grade Teacher	7th Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
EPMS	Transfer	Kelley, Ashley	7th Grade Teacher	8th Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
EPMS	Transfer	Ross, Lisa	7th Grade Teacher	8th Grade Teacher	7/27/2026
Scoggins	Transfer	Davis, Abigail	IRR Para Local	MOID Para Local	7/30/2026
Scoggins	Transfer	Goforth, Sarah	MOID Para Local	MID Para Local	7/30/2026
EPHS	Transfer	Ray, Keith	LEAP Para Local	Dedicated Para Local	7/30/2026
NPHS	Transfer	Blankinship, Lindsey	Dedicated Para Local	Dedicated Para Local	7/30/2026
NPHS	Transfer	Wilson, Joshua	School Resource Officer	School Resource Officer	7/27/2026
PCHS	Transfer	Kirby, Jessica	Dedicated Para Local	Dedicated Para Local	7/30/2026
Central	Transfer	Allen, Jacquelyn	Federal Programs Coordinator	Title I Coordinator	7/1/2026
Central	Transfer	Stubblefield, Vicky	Federal Programs Specialist	Title I Specialist	7/1/2026