

BOARD MEETING BRIEF

District Mission - "Together, we ignite and foster lifelong learning at the highest levels for all"



M. Ann Levett, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Public School System
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Highlights from the April 12, 2023 Board Meeting

Academic Affairs Update

The Academic Affairs department presented an update on Pre-K enrollment and Summer Programming at the Informal meeting. 1,483 Pre-K applications were submitted for 2023-24 school year – an increase of 343 applications over last year – and 1,140 students were accepted. Summer Programming components will focus on credit recovery, readiness and acceleration, wellness activities and enrichment experiences.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLUT580738>

Literacy Task Force Recommendations

The Literacy Task Force was assembled and charged with building a collective understanding of K-12 literacy best practices to make recommendations that would increase the number of students reading on grade level districtwide. Their report was presented to the board at the Informal meeting.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMPY5C2961>

Charter School Annual Reports

Also at the Informal meeting, annual reports were presented to the Board from Coastal Empire Montessori Academy and Tybee Island Maritime Academy

Coastal Empire Montessori Academy
<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLS5742B1>

Tybee Island Maritime Academy

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLSE5742B2>

Internal Audit Annual Update

The Internal Audit Department presented its annual summary report to the board at the Informal meeting. The report lists each external and internal audit, along with the current status of each comment or recommendation.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLSK5742B7>

National School Library Month Proclaimed

The Board proclaimed April 2023, as National School Library Month. This year the theme for National School Library Month is "There's More to the Story." Lead Program Manager for Instructional Technology and Media Services was joined by Library Technology Media Service managers from elementary, middle, K8 and high schools.



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Student of the Month Recognized

The Superintendent's Student of the Month for March is **Brianna Cuevas**, an 8th grader at Hesse K8. Congratulations, Brianna!

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLP657330E>



Superintendent's Professional Senate Report

A report from the latest meeting of the Superintendent's Professional Senate was presented by our District Teacher and Instructional Support Persons of the Year.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLP9573311>

Contract for Learning Management System Approved

An RFP was released to request a vendor to provide a commercial cloud-based learning management system that meets the District's requirements for online learning. The initial performance period is for one (1) year with three (3) one year renewal options. The proposals were evaluated based on company experience and qualifications, functionality and technical approach, implementation and training, and cost. The Board approve the award of RFP 23-37 Learning Management System (Annual Contract) to D2L, LTD for an initial performance period of one (1) year with three (3) one-year renewal options at an annual estimated annual cost of \$164,024.00, pending final contract negotiations.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLQK57333B>

NearPod Instructional Platform Contract Renewed

The board approved the renewal of NearPod®, an instructional platform that enables educators to create interactive learning materials using their own content or the company's library of lessons, videos and activities. Nearpod Lesson Library provides 7500+ interactive lessons with Georgia Standards aligned content for K12 English/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts, Foreign Language, Music, and Health/Physical Education. Additionally, Nearpod's Premium Plus Subscription, included in this purchase, will provide content for: 21st Century Readiness Program for College and Career Exploration, Digital Citizenship and Financial Literacy.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLQL57333C>

District Copier Print Center Management Services (Annual Contract)

The Board approved the award of RFP 23-19 District Copier Fleet Management Services (Scope 1) at an estimated annual cost of \$610,838.00 and District Print Center Management Services (Scope 2) at an estimated annual cost of \$620,354.00 to the firm of Ricoh USA, Inc. for an initial one-year period, with the option to renew for four (4) additional one-year terms.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKU5Z7A531A>

Amira Returns to SCCPSS

Amira, a reading assistant that uses artificial intelligence to assist teachers with reading and learning supports, has been in use in the District for one year. Since then, the District has observed improvements in reading and fluency. The Board approved the renewal of the sole source contract with Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt for the AMIRA Suite software licenses for the FY 2023/2024 and FY 2024/2025 school years at a total cost of \$352,000.00. The two-year agreement will reflect savings of \$141,015.00 which is allowable by GADOE under the ESSER grant if cost saving is identified.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLQM57333D>

International Teacher Recruitment Services (Annual Contract)

On April 13, 2022, the Board approved the contract with the firm Intalage, Inc. (Atlanta, Georgia) for international teacher recruitment services to the district for the SY22/23. This vendor provides a valuable service to the district by providing experienced teachers in critical teaching fields (mathematics, science, special education, computer science, and engineering.) The Board approved the contract award to the firm of Intalage, Inc. to provide international teacher recruitment services at a total estimated annual cost of \$400,000 for school year 2023-2024.

Community Partners Recognized

SCCPSS recognized Community Partners for their support in District efforts. In her Cause for Applause report, the Superintendent thanked United Way of the Coastal Empire for Read United Day in Chatham County. Read United was celebrated at over 30 local schools, over 45 classrooms, and provided nearly 10,000 books. Also, Josh Mallard and Allen Strange from SavannahRx provided medical supplies and supports during the pandemic and has continued to support our allied health students. Finally, SCCPSS thanked the Savannah Ghost Pirates for their support in their inaugural year. The Ghost Pirates presented a check to the Educate Chatham Foundation for \$3,084 from the proceeds of SCCPSS Night On The Ice.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLP757330F>

Policy First Reads

Policy JQK and Regulation JQK-R(0) – Exchange Students

(Four Year Review – Changes Recommended) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JQK along with the supporting regulation and has determined a need for changes. The policy has been updated for minor grammatical improvements and the regulation language has been updated for current titles, improved language, and to align with current District practices.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLPB573313>

Policy IHD and Regulation IHD-R – Honor Rolls (Four Year Review – Changes

Recommended) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy IHD along with the supporting regulation and has determined a need for changes. Minor changes have been made to both the Board Policy and Regulation for grammatical and formatting improvements.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLPD573315>

Policy JGI and Regulation JGI-R – Child Abuse or Neglect (Four Year Review)

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE-Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JGI along with the supporting regulation. There are no changes recommended for both the Board Policy and the Regulation.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLPE573316>

Policy JBA and Regulation JBA-R(1) – Compulsory Attendance Ages (Four Year Review)

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JBA along with the supporting regulation. There are no changes recommended for both Board Policy and Regulation.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLPE573317>

Policy IDCH and Regulation IDCH-R: Dual Enrollment (Mid Period Review – Changes Recommended to Regulation)

District Administration has reviewed Board Policy IDCH and determined no changes are needed for Board Policy, but modifications to the Administrative Regulation are being provided for Board review to align with recent changes in State Board of Education Rules.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLXU58BB00>

Policy Second Read**Policy JGFF and Regulation JGFF-R – Automobile Use (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended)**

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JGFF along with the supporting regulation and determined a need for changes. Minor changes to the policy have been made. The regulation has been revised to clarify language concerning student on-campus automobile use. Based on board input at the first read, adjustments were made, and the policy was adopted.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMCR5A7E96>

Policy JGJA – Suicide Prevention (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended)

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JGJA and determined changes are needed to align with current District procedures and best practice. This Board Policy has been reviewed by the Board Attorney and the Superintendent and was presented for first read on March 1, 2023.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMCS5A7FCA>

Policy IFBGA and Regulation IFBGA-R(0) – Electronic Communications (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended)

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy IFBGA along with the supporting regulation and determined a need for changes. Minor changes to the policy have been made to remove unnecessary language. The regulation has been revised to reflect the current process for email usage concerning sensitive information and an update to user restrictions for mailbox storage.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMCT5A815A>

Policy GAM and Regulation GAM-R– Staff Rights and Responsibilities (Mid Period Review – Changes Recommended – Policy Only)

District Administration has reviewed Board Policy GAM and determined policy changes are needed to ensure timely response by employees when reporting a violation. No change to the regulation is needed.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMCU5A8266>

Policy BBAB – Duties of Board Members (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended)

Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy BBAB. Language has been updated to also include an order of succession during public events that specifies the Board Officers as representatives. The District representative where the venue is held may also serve as the Board designee in the event Board Officers are not available.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMCV5A83DE>

ESPLOST Updates

Contract Approved for High School Artificial Turf Fields

The Board approved the award of RFP C23-09 (ESPLOST) High School Artificial Turf Fields to Advanced Sports Group for the turf conversions at New Hampstead High School, Johnson High School, and Beach High School at a total cost of \$3,195,000.00, and Sports Turf for the turf conversions at Savannah High School and Island High School at a total cost of \$2,038,573.00. Total cost not to exceed \$5,233,573.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKU5Y7A50E3>

Budget Transfers Approved

The Board approved the transfer of funds for the following projects: To K-12 expendable non-computer equipment account from K-12 classroom office equipment furniture account for the purchases of items \$5,000.00 or less per unit cos; from EIII Contingencies Account to EIII Coastal MS HVAC Replacement Account; funds to be transferred from EIV HVAC Replacement Multiple Locations Account.to EIV Coastal MS HVAC Replacement Account

Windsor Forest High School Change Order Approved

On February 2, 2022, the Board approved the award of RFP #C22-05, Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) for the Windsor Forest High School Replacement to JE Dunn Construction Co. Inc. To expedite the construction timeline and to provide construction documents for the summer work, an early bid package was developed. Under the direction of the architect, bid documents for sitework, foundations and steel purchase were developed, and bids were received by the CMR. The Board approved

Component Change Order #1 in the amount of \$18,771,014 for early sitework, foundations, and steel purchase bid package for the construction of the Windsor Forest High School Replacement to JE Dunn Construction Co, Inc.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQLLUF583EDB>

Bids Awarded for Roof, HVAC

The Board approved the award of bids for re-roofing Largo-Tibet Elementary School and replacing the HVAC system at Savannah High School . The Board approved the award of Bid C23-03 (ESPLOST) Largo-Tibet Elementary School Re-Roof to Metalcrafts A Tecta America Company in the amount of \$1,741,476.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKLQY573348>

The Board approved the award of Bid C23-04 (ESPLOST) Savannah High School HVAC Replacement to Boaen Mechanical in the amount of \$1,812,451.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKMKY5BB114>

Georgia Power Contract – HVAC Renovation and Replacement for Coastal Middle School

The Board approved a contract with Georgia Power for HVAC Renovation and Replacement for Coastal Middle School for a lump sum pricing of \$5,814,751.00. The Renovation and Replacement project follows the Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) per Georgia DOE approved drawings and specifications submitted by Duloherly Weeks Engineers.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQLT7M73FD45>

Charging Stations for Electric Buses

The Board approved the purchase of twelve (12) Dual Port EV charging stations with Express Plus System and one (1) Standalone DC fast charger from ChargePoint, Inc. at a total cost of \$822,643.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CQKU5X7A4EF0>

PERSONNEL MOVES

Stacie Pottenger has been named **Interim Principal** at **The School of Liberal Studies at Savannah High** effective June 1, 2023.

Vivian Smiley has been named **Acting Benefits Director** for Human Resources.

Anna Belue has been named **Interim Principal** at **Savannah Arts Academy** effective April 10, 2023.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Public Hearing on the Budget

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Whitney Administrative Complex, Bldg. G

Audit Committee Meeting

April 27, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

Whitney Administrative Complex, Bldg. G

May Budget Committee Meeting

May 10, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Whitney Administrative Complex, Bldg. G

May Board Meeting

May 10, 2023 – Informal: 11:00 a.m.; Regular: 2:00 p.m.

Whitney Administrative Complex, Bldg. G