

Belief

We will work to help each student achieve high standards of learning because we believe all students can learn.

Vision

Achievement and Performance for Every Child, in Every Classroom, and in Every School.

Mission

Our Mission is to provide a high quality education for all Bibb County students in a safe and comfortable environment, and to make use of all human and technological resources in preparing graduates for post high school objectives.

Strategic Objectives

Student Achievement

Highly qualified workforce

Positive culture and climate

Communication and information



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Supervisor of Schools

Campus Police Tip Line

An anonymous web-based tip line has been created by the Campus Police Department in an effort to improve safety and security through communication. Information is also provided Student Crimestoppers for additional support.

To report information about a crime or possible threat to student or community safety, visit www.bibb.k12.ga.us and go to the Campus Police site. You can also call 779-2040 for Dispatch.

A Commitment to Students Compass Points

I truly believe our community needs a portfolio of high achieving and highly effective schools, and this will require great change, beginning with our top administrators. At last week's Board of Education Committee Meeting, I made a very important presentation about the opportunity gap in Bibb County and our need to make immediate, drastic changes.

We should be educating all children, whether that means bringing up our lowest achieving students, raising the students who are in the 'meets' category to exceeding, or propelling our 'exceeding' students to new heights. During my conversations with students, employees, and the community – as well as conducting an in-depth review of district and school data – it has been made clear that change is needed now so our student achievement can improve.

There are high achieving students in our schools, and they will go on to be successful in life. For those students, we must work with them to exceed at even higher levels and achieve at greater heights. However, the achievement exhibited by those students is not systemic and the level of expectation required to achieve is not present for all students.

Of the 1,950 ninth grade students in our high schools in 2006-2007, only 861 graduated four years later, or 45%. More than half our students are not graduating in four years,



Dr. Dallemand was interviewed by the Bruce News Network Eagle News Team before touring the school and speaking with students, faculty, and staff.

and only one high school had a rate higher than 50%. We are a part of a national crisis, with approximately 1.2 million students dropping out each year, which is 7,000 per day and 4.8 every minute. Additionally, in grades 3-8 and in the Georgia's High School assessments, more than 3,000 students are not proficient in Reading/Language Arts and more than 6,000 students are not proficient in Mathematics.

We want high schools that are preparing all students for their future, but with only 45% of our 9th grade students graduating after four years, we are failing them and we are failing

our community. When you look at what we are doing and the results we are getting, it is obvious that what we are doing is not working. We must meet our students where they are academically and take them where they need to be if they are to be successful. The change needed will require a strong, cohesive leadership team that is willing to direct the appropriate resources and support to the classroom to meet the individual needs of students.

The changes begin with top-level district administration so that we can have a structure that is effectively aligned to provide the best education and services to our students. In the new leadership structure, 16 positions have been eliminated and there will be 6 new or restructured full-time positions. This will save the district approximately \$1,000,000, and that money can be used for resources that our students need in the classroom. (The full presentation and the pending restructured Leadership Team may be found on our website at www.bibb.k12.ga.us.)

There will be major changes made because we have a moral and ethical responsibility to improve the system and give our students the chance to compete on a global level. We owe it to our children, and we owe it to our community. I will be looking to you for your feedback and support in identifying and implementing the necessary changes.

Together, we will renew our commitment to students and their success.

District Announcements

2011-2012 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten enrollment registration for the 2011-2012 school year will take place from March through May 2011.

In order to enter a Georgia public school for the 2011-2012 school year, a child must be five years of age on or before September 1, 2011. The parent/guardian must reside within the school's attendance zone as designated by the Bibb County Board of Education. Parents/guardians are required to supply the following documents at registration time to complete the process:

- Child's registered birth certificate
- Child's immunization records (Form 3231)
- Hearing, Vision and Dental Health (Form 3300)
- Proof of residence (Electric Bill, Gas Bill, Rental/Mortgage letter only)
- Social Security Card

The Georgia Performance Standards for Kindergarten are designed to meet the educational, social, physical, cognitive, and emotional needs of all five year old children. These standards

guide Kindergarten teachers in teaching children how to become independent, creative, and critical thinkers. Language Arts in Kindergarten provides children a literacy rich environment. When children participate in these activities, they have the opportunity to talk, listen, write, and explore the world of letters, words, sentences, and books. For math, the district utilizes 'manipulatives' to help children understand concepts such as measuring, comparing things, counting objects, and matching items that are alike. The focus is on teaching children HOW to think and learn throughout all their lives.

Academic Calendars Posted Online

The revised 2010-2011 Academic Calendar has been posted on the district's website (www.bibb.k12.ga.us); the revisions reflects the make up days needed after the district closed on January 10 and 11 for a winter storm. To make up instructional time, students will attend

school on March 11 and May 19, 2011.

The 2011-2012 Academic is also posted on the website; however, this calendar is still subject to change. Should any changes be made, it will be announced through the district's regular communication channels. This includes e-mail distribu-

tion, posting on the district's website, community phone call, posting at the schools, and announcements on the district's Facebook (www.facebook.com/bibbschools) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/bibbschools) pages.

This Week in the District is created and distributed by the Office of Community Affairs & Public Relations as a means to inform the community of the events, announcements, and highlights of the Bibb County School District.

District Announcements

8th Grade Writing Assessment Results Improve

	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards			
	2008	2009	2010	2011
Georgia	77%	75%	79%	82%
Middle GA RESA	71%	67%	71%	77%
Bibb County	58%	53%	53%	62%
Appling Middle	58%	44%	45%	42%
Ballard-Hudson Middle	53%	56%	58%	67%
Bloomfield Middle	32%	33%	36%	68%
Howard Middle	67%	64%	58%	70%
Miller Middle	61%	52%	48%	72%
Rutland Middle	69%	70%	67%	68%
Weaver Middle	62%	44%	52%	49%

In January, eighth grade students took the Grade Eight Writing Assessment, which is required by the Georgia Department of Education as a means of determining students' written communication skills and is used primarily as an assessment tool. As a district and at all but two schools, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards increased from 2010 to 2011. There were significant increases at Bloomfield, Howard, and Miller Middle Schools.

"The results of this assessment are another indicator of our need to change the system now," says Superintendent Dr. Romain Dallemard. "It is good to see the increases, but we should have more than 62% of our eighth grade students meet or exceed

the standards. If the other 38% are not proficient in writing now, how can we expect them to be prepared for the Georgia High School Graduation Test in their junior year?"

The Writing Assessment evaluates expository and persuasive writing as defined by the Georgia Performance Standards; student work is analytically assessed for ideas, organization, style, and conventions. All eighth grade students take the assessment on the same day, and they are provided 100 minutes to complete their writing. Students pick from three different genres, and they are scored on how well they are able to communicate their thoughts clearly and how well they develop the essay within the genre.

Upcoming Events

Miller Middle School Holds Math & Science Family Night

math + science = success

Miller Middle School will hold a Math & Science Family Night on **Tuesday, March 15** from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** The Museum of Arts and Sciences will have a live animal program beginning at 6:00 p.m., and the Central High School Science Club will facilitate activities for parents and students, including a working hover craft, a nail balance, a trash bag mummy, silly putty demonstrations, boom whackers, magnet demonstrations, a computer simulation of a missile launch, fossil and rock displays, and fungus observations.

"Math and science are the foundations for many high quality jobs, and we want to provide our families with strategies and activities that will reinforce what their children are learning in class. Our teachers have a planned a variety of engaging hands on activities that will strengthen their critical thinking skills," says Miller Middle Math Coach Lena Floore. "It will be a fun and

educational evening, and we are very excited to have Central High School and the Museum of Arts and Sciences as our partners."

According to Central High Science Department Chair Tina Perkins, they will bring a home made hover craft that can support 185 lbs (84 kg) operating on a leaf blower. Using a cushion of air, a person can float off the ground and be moved around the room. The nail balance provides an opportunity for students to see the pivot point as well as forces acting on the nails including gravity, and the trash bag mummy gives students a way to see how an unbalanced force can be used to keep an object from moving. Silly putty demonstrates the ability of a chemical reaction to change the nature of a polymer, and the boom whackers allow students to understand how sound is produced, as well as how you can vary the pitch of a note. Magnets will be used to demonstrate to families how magnetic fields surround us everyday. The missile launch is a computer simulation that allows student to learn about projectile motion. Using a digital microscope, students will be able to

see deeper into the world around us, including the hyphae of a fungus, individual grains of sand in sandstone, and algae and other small protest in pond water.

The Family Night is being hosted as part of the school's and district's participation in the Partnership for Reform in Science and Mathematics (PRISM) initiative, a comprehensive research, development and implementation grant awarded in 2003 by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The project was designed to test key strategies to increase student learning and achievement in science and mathematics in schools and colleges, to codify what works, to use it to influence statewide change in policy and practice, and to inform the nation about successes that should be replicated to rebuild America's competitive advantage in science and mathematics. Bibb County is participating in Phase II of the grant which began in 2008 and ends this year.

The Public Awareness Campaign (PAC) is one of ten strategies conducted by the PRISM grant. The PAC seeks to correlate high P-12 science and mathematics performance to successful performance in

college and beyond; influence student selection of challenging courses by positively altering their perceptions about science and mathematics; reinforce parental and guardian involvement to increase student interest science and mathematics; and encourage public support for science and mathematics teaching methodologies that assure enhanced student learning and achievement.

Students, faculty, and parents in Bibb County are being featured in a nation-wide instructional video for the math and science family nights. The video is currently airing on Cox Cable Channel 17 during the 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. lineup of district and community information videos. It was filmed over the course of two days at Vineville Academy, and students, parents, and teachers from all schools participating in the PRISM initiative were invited to be interviewed and featured. The district was selected to be featured in the video due to its early participation in the initiative, interest in teacher professional development, and interest in trying new and proven methods of improving student achievement in science and math.

Board of Education Meeting

The Board of Education will hold its March Meeting on **Thursday, March 17, 2011** beginning at **6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at Springdale Elementary at 4965 Northside Drive. The meeting will be preceded by a Called Committee Meeting.

State Spelling Bee

Howard Middle School Jeremy Watts will compete at the State Spelling Bee at Georgia State University on **March 18** after he earned 2nd place at the District Six Spelling Bee at Fort Valley State University

Middle Georgia Teacher Recruitment Fair



The Bibb County School District will host the Middle Georgia Teacher Recruitment Day in partnership with Middle Georgia RESA on **March 19, 2011** from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** at **Westside High School**. Schools from six Middle Georgia districts will be represented to speak with potential teachers.

Each year, the Bibb County School District hires between 100 and 150 teachers, and they are specifically in need of Special Education, Math, Science, and Foreign Language teachers. Participants are encouraged to bring

at least 20 copies of their resume.

"The annual Teacher Recruitment Fair gives our principals, teachers, administrators, staff, and those interested in teaching a chance to meet each other," says Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Professional Development Dan Ray.

For people interested in teaching, but do not have a degree in education, information sessions on the Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (TAPP) will be held at **9:15 a.m., 10:15 a.m., and 11:15 a.m.** The TAPP program provides a path for people outside of education - and holding a bachelor's degree - to teach early childhood, middle grades, or secondary education.