

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



Board of Education

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Superintendent 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.

Compass Points

Message from Dr. Romain Dallemand, Superintendent of Schools

As I continue working through my Entry Plan, it is good to hear about the achievements of our students, teams, and organizations as they seek out new opportunities to excel. Our students are competing and winning on the local, regional, and state levels, from the Science Fair to recent DECA and math competitions. Students and teachers are accomplishing some great things, but we must realize there are things which certainly need to be improved. On our journey to improve education and opportunities for **all** students, we must advance and expand that which is working and fix that which is not.

This past week, I visited Appling Middle, Skyview Elementary, and Howard High Schools to speak with students, faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and the community. Our conversations have been candid and eye-opening, providing a very real picture of what needs to be improved if we are to move the district forward. Though these schools are in different areas of the county with students from different communities and different backgrounds, there were common concerns expressed, and this indicates to me systemic rather than isolated issues. This includes concerns about a lack of student discipline, outdated technology, and a feeling they were not supported in their college search.

It is very clear to me – through my conversations

in the schools and communities, as well as several recent incidents – that we need to take a strong approach to improving classroom behavior and discipline. Our children cannot learn and our teachers cannot teach if they feel their safety is threatened. This past week, there was another incident which threatened student, employee, and community safety. I want to be clear that these behaviors and actions are **unacceptable** and **will not** be tolerated; when a child is a danger to himself or others, we need to remove them from that environment. As a district, we need to review our Response to Intervention (RTI) process; it works when implemented effectively and consistently. Also, we need to re-evaluate our alternative education setting, our Code of Conduct and our discipline policies and procedures.

I am concerned – as are our students and teachers – about the availability and use of technology in the classroom. There is outdated equipment and software which does not adequately meet the needs of our technology-savvy students. Through technology, we can better engage students in their learning, giving them the tools to be life-long learners better prepared for careers in the 21st century.

Preparing students for college must extend beyond the classroom. We must encourage them to start taking the SAT's as early as they can, and we must make it easy for them to get their information to colleges of interest. It was disheartening to me when students told me it was their parents, not the

schools, providing the encouragement and support to select a college and apply on time. We must prepare our students for college by helping them through the process, from taking the necessary tests to selecting the right school to sending in the application.

At this week's Board of Education Committee Meeting, I will be making a presentation that reviews the opportunity gap in our district by taking a close look at district and national data. I will also be reviewing the district's current leadership structure and bringing forward my plan for a reorganization that will make a positive impact on student achievement.

Our students recognize the need for change; before leaving the schools last week, I had several personal letters from students passed along to me expressing concerns. They want to be heard, and they want a high quality education.

We will be moving this district forward by advancing and expanding what is working while fixing what is not. This will be a tough journey at times and will require tough decisions to be made, but it is within our power to have a major impact on our students' lives.

Our focus is on meeting the needs of **all** our students and making sure they are provided the high-quality education they need to be successful in life. I look forward to continuing my school visits and hearing directly from the students and those people who can have a direct, positive impact on their future success.



Dr. Dallemand meets with a group of Skyview Elementary School parents (above) and employees (below).



Dr. Dallemand meets with a group of Appling Middle School students.

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 distribution, 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.

Student Highlights

Students Win Awards at Georgia DECA Career Development Conference



Deborah Howard campaigns to be elected Vice President of Competitive Events.

The Howard High chapter won the Outstanding DECA Chapter award and, for the second consecutive year, the Outstanding Community Service Award. Several students also won awards at the competition. Senior Alex Johnson won the \$500 Georgia DECA Foundation Memorial Scholarship after going through an extensive process that included an interview by the GA DECA Foundation President Bob Armbruster and writing an essay in thirty minutes with the topic "Marketing Education and Its Importance to

Eleven Howard High School DECA members competed at the 2011 Georgia DECA Career Development Conference in Atlanta at the end of February. More than 2,500 DECA members, advisors, and community members were in attendance.

My Future." Alex also won the Outstanding DECA Member Award; it is given to a DECA member who has made a valuable contribution to her local DECA chapter and Georgia DECA as a whole.

Junior Alexis Collier placed second in the Business Speech Event. In this event, members create a four to six minute speech on this year's topic of "How Social Media Marketing is forcing change within companies' traditional marketing strategies." She competed against 25 other students to earn this award. By placing in this event, Alexis will be able to participate in one of the Leadership Academies at the 2011 DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida taking place April 30-May 3.

Junior Deborah Howard also won an Outstanding DECA Member Award, and she was elected to the Georgia DECA State Office of Vice President of Competitive Events. She earned this prestigious honor after going through an extensive process that included an interview with the current GA



Eleven Howard High DECA members attended this year's Georgia DECA Career Development Conference.

DECA State President Lance Pulliam and Georgia DECA State Advisor Shannon Aaron. Following the interview, Ms. Howard was required to pass a general Georgia DECA knowledge assessment. By passing both the interview and test, she was able to campaign for votes and give a two minute speech in front of the voting delegates from each local Georgia DECA chapter. As Vice President of Competitive Events, she will be responsible for conference planning and management responsibilities. She will assist with the operation of the Georgia DECA Fall Leadership Development Conference in October 2011, the Regional Career Development Conference in January 2012, and the Georgia DECA State Career Development Conference next February.

"It is a great honor to me to be a State Officer; I am excited for my upcoming term and ready to Expand My Network," says Ms. Howard. "I hope that my election will set the bar for students in the following years who want to run."

Students & Teams Win Awards at District Math Team Competition



4th & 5th grade students from across the district competed in the annual Math Team Competition hosted at Union Elementary.

On Friday, March 4 students from across the district competed in the annual Math Team Competition at Union Elementary. Teams of 4th and 5th grade students competed as individuals and teams. Each member was to solve 40 math problems on their own, earning a score for their team and competing for individual awards. The team was then given 15 minutes to answer 10 brain teaser questions to add to the team total. Questions were based on 5th and 6th grade Georgia Performance Standards for mathematics.

Individual Results (4th grade)

- 1st place - Samantha Atkinson, Alexander II Magnet School
- 2nd place - Cole Frankum, Alexander II Magnet School
- 3rd place - Alyssa Daughdrill, Vineville Academy
- 4th place - Donny Musselmon, Alexander II Magnet School

Individual Results (5th grade)

- 1st place - Aidan Hintermaier, Alexander II Magnet School
- 2nd place - Alexis Sumrall, Skyview Elementary School
- 3rd place - Annabel Desmet, Alexander II Magnet School
- 4th place - Andy Greene, Alexander II Magnet School

Team Results

- 1st place - Alexander II Magnet School
- 2nd place - Springdale Elementary School
- 3rd place - Porter Elementary School
- 4th place - Heritage Elementary School

Howard High Competes at State Competition, Student Earns Award



Timothy Lewis was awarded an Honorable Mention.

students representing Howard High School. The Howard group's advisors are Katie Barton and Daniel Cooper.

Earlier in February, Howard High School competed at the 17th annual University of Georgia's Model United Nations Conference, an academic simulation of the United Nations, and Timothy Lewis was awarded Honorable Mention for his work as the delegate from Brazil in the G20 Committee.

Howard's Model U.N. students engaged in a weekend of rigorous debate, insightful resolution writing, and international affairs activities. Twenty schools from around the Southeast competed, with 15

Students prepared by studying the process of international debate, as well as the language and decorum of foreign diplomacy. Students researched their assigned countries by studying the government, political and religious ideologies, history, religion, languages, geography, allies, enemies, economy and GDP, voting records, and foreign policy issues so they would be prepared to address the issues raised at the conference. Each delegate focused on different issues depending on the committee to which they were assigned, such as Human Rights Council, G-20,



Howard High students traveled to the University of Georgia Model United Nations Conference.

Economic Council, Palestinian Peace Process, etc. They then wrote a position paper stating their foreign policy position and the issues they planned to take up at the conference; the papers were submitted before leaving for the conference.

The Model U.N. is a fantastic learning process because it helps students develop an awareness of important foreign policy issues, and it also sharpens their researching, writing, and public speaking skills," says Advisor Katie Barton. "They learn to negotiate and debate objectively, and engage in the process of conflict resolution on a global scale."

School Highlights

Vineville Academy Teacher Funds Supplies Through DonorsChoose.org

Recently, Vineville Academy Strings Teacher Patricia Baser had her fifth project funded through the website DonorsChoose.org: 47 single strings and 25 sets of violin, viola, and cello strings in various sizes. The \$1,091 project was completely funded on February 25, 2011.

"The success of these string projects is a direct reflection of the value people across the country place on access to music education such as that available at Vineville Academy," says Mrs. Baser.

Her first funded project was for three half-size violins for the students to use, and its cost of \$830.49 was funded in

less than two months. The second project purchased shoulder pads, endpin stoppers, and rosin for the instruments and it took approximately two months to fund. Her third project was funded entirely by the Ocmulgee Symphony and provided the school four additional three-quarter size violins for student use. The third project was funded earlier this year and provided the school 14 violin, viola, and cello bows to replace those worn out from use.

"Donors Choose has been an excellent source of additional funding to support the growth of the string program at Vineville Academy," says Mrs. Baser. "Since March 2009,

it has helped fund more than \$4,000 of supplies that directly impact our students' access to musical instruction."

Vineville Academy students have the opportunity to study a string instrument as early as kindergarten, and each year, the program continues to grow. This year, almost 150 students are learning to play the violin, viola, and cello; with almost all students using school instruments, the bows are used a lot and wear out after a while. In the last two years, the Fine Arts Department has purchased an additional 50 fractional size violins.

Upcoming Events

Board of Education Committee Meeting

The Board of Education will hold its March Committee Meeting on **Thursday, March 10** beginning at **2:30 p.m.** in the fourth floor Board Room at 484 Mulberry Street.

Northeast to Play in the Final Four

The Northeast High Girls' Basketball Team will compete in the GHSA Class AA Final Four on **Thursday, March 10** at **4:00 p.m.** at the **Macon Centreplex**. They will play Greater Atlanta Christian of Norcross, GA. The admission price is \$10.00.

Middle School Math Team Competition

The district's Middle School Math Team Competition will be held at Ballard-Hudson Middle on **Thursday, March 10** from **3:30-6:30 p.m.** Students individually answer 40 questions in an hour, and the team competition consists of 10 questions to answer in 15 minutes. This year, a new Speed Round will be part of the competition. A question will be shown on the screen and students will have 45 seconds to buzz in with the correct answer. The school with the most points after 10 minutes will win the Speed Round competition.

Miller Middle School Holds Math & Science Family Night

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 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 De-

partment 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 unbalance 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 challeng-

Heard Elementary Science Days for Students

On **Wednesday, March 9** and **Thursday, March 10** from **9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**, Heard Elementary 5th grade students will participate in science demonstrations and hands on experiments with Dr. A, the Cool Scientist. Sponsored by the school's PTA, students will learn about a variety of Georgia Performance Standards such as air movement, chemical reactions, gravity, and inertia by spending the entire day in the auditorium participating in the activities.

"Students are so excited every time Dr. A comes because he involves all the students in a fun way to learn about our world of science," says Principal Sandra Stanley, adding that students each year are eager to know when he is coming to work with them.

Parent Mentors Hold Support Group Meeting

The Program for Exceptional Children's Parent Mentors will hold a Family & Community Support Group for parents of students with disabilities on **Saturday, March 12** from **10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** at Wesley Glenn Ministries. This will be the third meeting of the group, and the presenter will be Bridget Carter of Puzzle Pieces Intervention Center.

The meetings serve as a support group for families of children with different types of disability, ages, genders, ethnicities, and backgrounds, and it is designed to provide support and encouragement, share resources, build parent leaders and capacity, thereby increasing family engagement and student achievement. Future meetings will be held monthly, and they are open to community members interested in supporting families of children with disabilities or volunteering in different capacities.

ing 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.