

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

## A Brief Recap of the Board Meeting & News from Savannah Chatham County Public Schools



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### SCHOOL BOARD

Dr. Joe Buck  
President

Denise Grabowski  
District 1

Dr. Dionne Hoskins-Brown  
District 2

Cornelia H. Hall  
District 3

Shawn A. Kachmar  
Vice President  
District 4

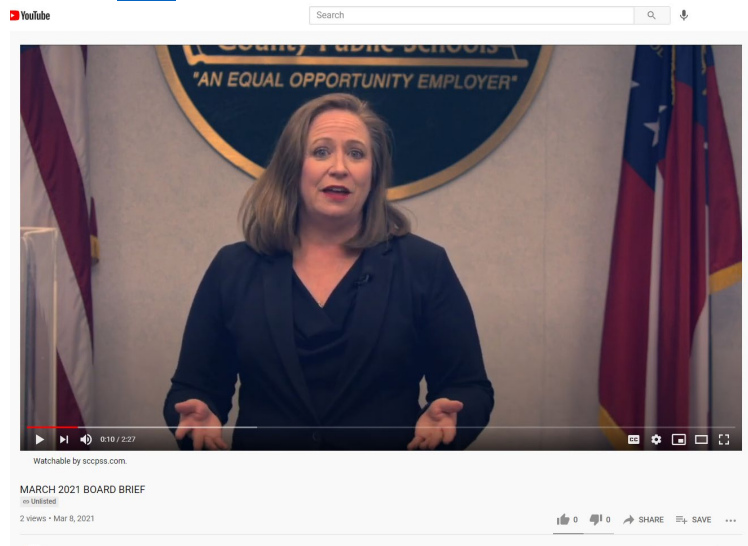
Irene Hines  
District 5

Dr. David Bringman  
District 6

Michael Johnson  
District 7

Dr. Tonia Howard-Hall  
Vice President Pro-Tempore  
District 8

Video highlights from the March 3 Board Meeting from Public Information Manager Sheila Blanco. Click [here](#) to watch.



### **New K-8 School Opening Update**

At the Informal Meeting, the Board received an update on the new K-8 school being built behind New Hampstead High School. The school is scheduled to open for students in August and district staff are working to review projected enrollment, community growth indicators and existing school capacity levels for western Chatham County schools which will be taken into consideration as part of the redistricting process.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUVF73AEAF>



### **Naming the New K-8 School**

In accordance with Policy FDC and Administrative Regulation FDC-R, Naming Facilities, a team was appointed by the Superintendent to provide three proposed names for the new K-8 School constructed in western Chatham County. Three proposed names were read at the March Board Meeting and will be voted on in April. The nominated school names are:

New Hampstead K8 School  
West Chatham K8  
Bloomingdale K8

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYK4TR0840C5>

## **The Way Forward 2026 Strategic Planning**

As we come to the close of our existing 5-year strategic plan, we have started The Way Forward 2026 strategic planning process. The purpose of this initiative is to formulate a plan that will focus our work, resources, and funding for the next five years. This is a six-month process that is scheduled to be completed in August of 2021.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYJQD768BD4E>

## **Budget Update**

Board members also received an update on the Budget Process during the Informal Meeting, including a presentation by Roderick Conley, Chief Appraiser of the Chatham County Board of Assessors.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYJQAL685B64>

## **Superintendent's COVID-19 Operational Update**

An Operational Update was provided during the Superintendent's Report to the Board to include District updates for the second semester launch of the 3/Day-2/Day Hybrid Model. A review of current COVID-19 Transmission Rates was covered also.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUMS72F232>

## **School Board Appreciation Week**

Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools are joining a statewide celebration to salute the efforts of local school board members this month. The week of March 15-21, 2021 has been proclaimed School Board Appreciation Week in Georgia. Each member of the School Board was recognized and thanked for their dedicated service.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUMV72F235>



## **National School Nutrition Month/Breakfast Week**

At the Formal Meeting of the Board, members proclaimed March 8-12, 2021, as National School Breakfast Week and the month of March as National Nutrition Month to recognize the benefits of the School Breakfast Program and to highlight the importance of nutrition education.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUYR75744E>

## **National School Social Workers Week**

This year the theme for National School Social Workers Week is "Beacon of Hope: School Social Workers – Lighting the Way." To recognize the valuable contributions of our School Social Workers, the Board of Education proclaimed March 8 to March 12, 2021, as National School Social Workers Week.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUYS757626>

## Students of the Month Recognized

**The Superintendent's Student of the Month for January** is Patrick Weiland, a 1st grader from Southwest Elementary School. **The Superintendent's Student of the Month for February** is Eriona Fludd, an 8th grader from West Chatham Middle School. Congratulations, Patrick and Eriona!



## ESPLOST NEWS

### Project Updates

At the Informal Meeting of the Board, an update on ESPLOST projects across the district was presented to Board Members. Highlights include:

- Jenkins High School Replacement: Roofing and masonry in progress. Interior framing and drywall started.
- New Hampstead K8: Exterior masonry; roofing; and interior painting in progress.
- New Multi-School Campus: Construction demo activities have begun.
- Beach High Auditorium Addition: Terrazzo flooring in lobby, drywall ceilings, stage floor, site work, interior painting are in progress.
- Woodville Tompkins Gym & Auditorium Addition: Roof is complete, electrical and mechanical rough ins are ongoing, brickwork is 90% complete on gym.
- Savannah High Stadium: Site work, utilities, footing & foundations for field buildings in progress.
- Savannah Arts Academy New Cafeteria & Interior Renovation: Design work underway.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUSG72F2C7>

### Savannah High Stadium Change Order

The Board approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$53,135 to Sprinturf LLC to provide a dark blue track to match the school color.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYJQVS6AC5F9>

### Professional Senate Report

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

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUY274D29E>

## Policy Adoptions

### **Policy II & II-R Testing Programs (Mid Period Review – Changes Recommended)**

Based on continued COVID-19 fluctuations in the testing/assessment schedule and to improve District operational efficiencies, Administration has reviewed Board Policy II and the supporting regulation.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUNY72F258>

### **Policy JR & JR-R Student Records (Mid Period Review – Changes Recommended)**

Language has been added to clarify the disclosure of Directory Information in response to Georgia Open Records Act. District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JR and supporting regulation. It was presented for first reading on February 3, 2021.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUR472F29B>

### **Policy and Regulation IFBG & IFBG-R – Internet Acceptable Use (Four Year Review) /Deletion of Exhibits IFBG 1 and IFBG 2**

District Administration has reviewed Board Policy IFBG along with the supporting regulation and has determined a need for changes to adapt to the most current conditions of employee and student social media and internet usage. District Administration also recommends that the exhibits be deleted from the policy manual and be maintained in other places. It was presented for first reading on February 3, 2021.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUQZ72F298>

### **Assessment Calendar Amendment Ratification (3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment)**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following updates were necessary to the assessment calendar after the July 2020 published date.

- Elimination of MOY and EOY MAP Reading and Math Readiness Assessment.
- Postponement of National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test.
- Extension of GMAS-EOC Make-Up days.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYJQVM6AC3DD>

## Policy First Reads

**Board Policy ABD – School Superintendent Legal Status** has been reviewed by District Administration and a need has been determined for changes to the policy to include more defined language of the Superintendent’s functional relationship with the Board.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUNE72F246>

**Policy and Regulation AFC- Emergency Closings** has been reviewed by District Staff who have determined a need for changes in order to identify the responsible person(s) and actions taken for the opening, delay, or closing of the District’s facilities.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUNH72F249>

**Policy JG (1) Video Surveillance and New Regulation JG (1)-R** District Administration has reviewed Board Policy JG (1) Video Surveillance and created Board Regulation JG (1) – R to enhance and improve video surveillance, monitoring, and preservation protocols. In addition, the supporting links within the Board Policy are recommended to be removed from Board Policy, as they are no longer valid.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BYBUNV72F255>

### **Savannah's Beach Institute celebrates Black History Month with '#BLM' exhibit**

Connect Savannah, February 10

For Black History Month, the King-Tisdell Cottage Foundation's Beach Institute and the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System called on students and teachers to create artworks that reflect the importance of Black and Brown lives, influences, and culture in the community throughout history, which are now presented in the new #BLM exhibit.

<https://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/savannahs-beach-institute-celebrates-black-history-month-with-blm-exhibit/Content?oid=15944065>

### **First round of SCCPSS staff receive COVID-19 vaccinations**

WSAV, February 12

"It's a great day for us," SCCPSS Superintendent Dr. Ann Levett said. "We're looking forward to our faculty and staff coming in today to get their first shot and then of course to get their second."

<https://www.wsav.com/news/first-round-of-sccpss-staff-receive-covid-19-vaccinations/>

### **SCCPSS celebrates school counselors & CTAE teachers**

WTOC, February 15

"All of our teachers and counselors are out here and we're celebrating them and what they do." <https://www.wtoc.com/2021/02/15/sccpss-celebrates-school-counselors-ctae-teachers/>

### **SCCPSS and Second Harvest offer food pantries in local schools for families in need**

WSAV, February 17

"On a day-to-day basis, our guidance counselors, our social workers, our teachers, as well as our principals engage with our children," Associate SCCPSS Superintendent Vallerie Cave said.

<https://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/new-school-based-food-pantries-aim-to-feed-chatham-county-children-community-members/Content?oid=15990103>

### **More than 200 Savannah-Chatham teachers, staff received first COVID vaccines**

Savannah Morning News, February 17

More than 200 district teachers and staff received the Moderna vaccine administered by volunteer staff from Savannah-based Coastal Care Partners.

<https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/2021/02/17/more-than-200-savannah-chatham-teachers-staff-receive-covid-vaccines/6768812002/>

### **New Hampstead High School's choir delivers virtual 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' performance**

WSAV, February 17

From their homes, New Hampstead High School's Rising Flame choral performers recently delivered a [virtual rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing,"](https://www.wsav.com/hidden-history/black-history-month/new-hampstead-high-schools-choir-delivers-virtual-lift-every-voice-and-sing-performance/) known as the Black national anthem.

<https://www.wsav.com/hidden-history/black-history-month/new-hampstead-high-schools-choir-delivers-virtual-lift-every-voice-and-sing-performance/>

### **Good News: SCCPSS celebrates CTAE month**

WTOC, February 18

"We're not the vocational program that sat in the corner years ago, the shop class. We actually teach construction. We actually teach welding."

<https://www.wtoc.com/2021/02/18/good-news-sccpss-celebrates-ctae-month/>

### **New school-based food pantries aim to feed Chatham County children, community members**

Connect Savannah, February 18

“What I can tell you, in the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, and in this community, people care about children,” Levett said. “I’m happy that we are going to be able to serve our children and our families”

<https://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/new-school-based-food-pantries-aim-to-feed-chatham-county-children-community-members/Content?oid=15990103>

### **Safety at forefront as SCCPSS students return to in-person learning**

WJCL, February 23

Masked up and distanced from one another, many students are back learning in the classroom two days a week and at home, the other three, while others are learning at home full time.

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/safety-at-forefront-as-sccpss-students-return-to-in-person-learning/35604189>

### **Dual teaching helps make hybrid learning possible for SCCPSS**

WTOC, February 23

“When you’re in the classroom you want to focus on the students who are here,” said Amanda Fanelli, Social Studies Teacher at Johnson High School. “However, majority of our students are still online so I have to be cognizant of the fact that I’ve got 23 kids still on zoom that need my attention.”

<https://www.wtoc.com/2021/02/23/dual-teaching-helps-make-hybrid-learning-possible-sccpss/>

### **Take a virtual tour of artworks by Chatham County schoolkids**

Connect Savannah, February 25

The Links, Inc., Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, and the City of Savannah is presenting the 20th Annual New Beginnings Youth Art Exhibition. The exhibition features Savannah Chatham County middle-and high-school students' artworks, created based on the theme “Visual Art in a Virtual World.”

<https://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/take-a-virtual-tour-of-artworks-by-chatham-county-schoolkids/Content?oid=16027276>

### **Three SCCPSS High Schools Named AP Honor Schools For 2021**

Patch.com, February 25

The 2021 SCCPSS AP Honor Schools are named in seven categories, based on the results of 2020 AP courses and exams.

<https://patch.com/georgia/savannah/three-sccpss-high-schools-named-ap-honor-schools-2021>

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **BOARD ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM- Via Zoom

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, March 25, 2021- 8:00 AM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 – Informal 11:00 a.m.; Regular 2:00 p.m.

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G