Balanced Literacy and Eureka Math Updates!

At the Informal Meeting of the Board of Education, the Board was presented a report on the continued progress of the Balanced Literacy curriculum framework. Key Highlights from the report include:

- Assessment Data in Early Reading has shown improvement
- GMAS EOG ELA Content Mastery Points have shown improvement
- Staff Development and Professional Learning opportunities have provided effective practices – From survey data collected 100% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the information shared would help them reach objectives around implementing stronger independent reading practices.
- All participants agreed or strongly agreed that the new learning around Guided Reading would make them more effective in their roles.

To view the full report, click here: [http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBBPJT64D585](http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBBPJT64D585)

The Board was also presented a report on progress made in the continued progress of the Eureka Math Curriculum. Initially implemented district-wide in Grades Pre-K-2 (though some schools did accelerate implementation to higher grade levels), Eureka Math was expanded to Grade 3 this school year and is set to be expanded to Grades 4 & 5 in the upcoming 2019-20 SY. Test results are showing early success for our students.

- Average Growth for the two years of implementation From BOY - MOY:
  - Kindergarten – 13.6  (Average national norm - 11.5)
  - 1st Grade – 12.6  (national norm – 11.4)

In Grades 3-5 GMAS scores increased in proficiency and content mastery. Scores are at or above the comparison groups in proficiency and content mastery.

To view the full report, click here: [http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBSLAD546373](http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBSLAD546373)

Impact Schools Update!

Board members also received an update on efforts to provide identified impact schools with more prescriptive and directed assistance to improve staff performance and academic performance of students this school year. Schools were provided this year with:

- Instructional Coaching & Effective Feedback
- Leadership Development
- Modeling
- Professional Learning
- Data Analyzation and Training
- Collaborative Planning (Intersession, Instructional Focus, Lesson Planning)

Schools have seen improvement in a number of areas:

- 8 Schools realized increases in their Climate Rating score by 1 or more points
- Addition of Behavior Interventionists assisted with decrease in discipline referrals and out of school suspensions
- Attendance Rate has improved with addition of social workers and school counselor support
- Curtis V. Cooper provides Physical, Dental and Behavioral Health Services support
To view the full report follow this link: http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBBPHK64B429

Budget Process
Finance Division staff also presented the Board with an overview of the Budget Process for FY 2020. The Board is scheduled to hold the first Public Hearing on the 2020 FY Budget on May 15th. For a look at the budget process follow this link: http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBBPHY64B442

Mid-Term Adjustment – Charter School Funding Report
Chief Finance Officer Larry Jackson presented the Board with a report on Mid-Term Budget Adjustments to Charter School Funding. To view the full report: http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBRSZ2727B6C

Legislative Update!
The 2019 Legislative Session concluded on April 2, 2019. The Governor has 40 days to sign or veto these bills. This year’s session included many education related matters. Bills of particular interest included the Governor’s FY20 Budget that includes pay raises for certain state employees, Educational Scholarship Accounts (or Voucher Bills), limitations to Dual Enrollment, and modifications to the Teacher Retirement System. The Governor has signed a number of educational related bills. A summary is provided at this link: http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7BQ675F92

Sharing the Good News!
The Superintendent’s Student of the Month for April was announced! Congratulations to Aneih Hernandez— a 7th grader from Hubert Middle School! http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7BC675F86
Presidential Volunteer Service Award Recipients

This year, the Savannah Chatham County School System began offering the President’s Volunteer Service Award to encourage and strengthen volunteerism in our schools based on hours entered into our Volunteer Tracker Program software APP Garden. 17 volunteers - 9 students and 8 adult volunteers at our schools – have qualified for the Gold Level Presidential Volunteer Service Award!

http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7BF675F89
Community Partner Spotlight
Mr. Bernard Polite and Ms. Ruby Lipscomb sit on the Board of Directors for the Community Help Inc organization. Mr. Polite was the driving force - along with the Historic Savannah Foundation - to start the SCCPSS Historic Preservation program at Savannah Early College. Mr. Polite himself has also been a chaperone on numerous field trips for the program’s students and has contributed to the Savannah Early College Social Studies Department and Historic Preservation Program as a guest speaker. Savannah Early College Principal Ms. Caroline Gordon-Jelks accepted the recognition on Mr. Polite’s behalf.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBRSN4703E71

ArtsNOW Program!
The Atlanta-based ArtsNow Program kicked off its work in Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools last month. ArtsNow has been awarded more than $2.27 million over four years to fund its smART Literacy! Project in three SCCPSS schools – Heard Elementary, Marshpoint Elementary and Garrison School for the Arts.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBRSPAN70A141
Reports from our Teacher of the Year and Instructional Support Person of the Year were presented following recent meetings of the Superintendent’s Professional Senate.

Professional Report:  
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC8AH68AB4B

National School Nurse Day!  
This year, the theme for National School Nurse Day is “Making the Grade on School Health.” To recognize the valuable contributions of our school nurses, the Board of Education proclaimed Wednesday, May 8, 2019, as National School Nurse Day.  
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7C4675F9E
National Teacher Appreciation Week!
To recognize the valuable contributions of our teachers, the Board of Education proclaimed May 6 through May 10, 2019, as National Teacher Appreciation Week.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7BZ675F9B

First Reads!
Policy GAG and Administrative Regulation GAG-R – Staff Conflict of Interest have been updated to provide guidance on employee limitations regarding paid speaking engagements and acceptance of gifts.

Regulation Review!
Regulation JBA-R(1) Compulsory Attendance Ages has been modified to align with State Board Rule 160-5-1-.10 Student Attendance which no longer ties requirements for driver’s or learner’s licenses to student attendance or unruly behavior.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBRSQL70DCE0

Policy Adopted!
Policy BDF – Administrative Regulations has been modified to provide for a period of preparation when certain policy actions require operational adjustments. The Superintendent shall establish and provide an effective date.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7E3675FDD

Summer Lunch Feeding Program 2019
The School Nutrition Program has again been offered the opportunity to provide meals for the City of Savannah Recreation Department’s Summer Lunch Feeding Program. It is anticipated the summer program will provide an estimated 80,000 meals over a thirty-eight (38) day period. The Program dates will be from May 28, 2019 through July 19, 2019. The Board approved the Summer Feeding Program with the City of Savannah Recreation Department at the estimated reimbursement cost of $280,000.00.
New Buses!
The Board approved the use of Statewide Contract 999999-SPD-G20160601-002 for the purchase of 02 buses at a total cost of $181,520.00.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBRSYP724CC7

Substitute Teacher Contract Services
The Board approved the third and final renewal option to extend the district’s contract with Source4Teachers for the company’s final one (1) year term at an annual estimated cost of $9,000,000.00.
http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BBC7EH675FEB

Personnel Moves!
Windsor Forest Elementary Principal Kimsherion Reid is retiring effective July 1, 2019.
Brandi Brown has been named Interim Principal at Windsor Forest Elementary (effective 7/1/2019).
Andrea Burkiett has been named Interim Director of Curriculum and Instruction. (effective 7/1/2019).
Rachel Hurst has been named Interim Principal of Largo-Tibet Elementary School. (effective 7/1/2019).
Sonji Leach has been named Interim Principal at Beach High School. She had been serving as Acting Principal. (effective 7/1/2019).
Alonna Curry has been promoted from Interim Principal to Principal of Heard Elementary School. (effective 7/8/2019).
Erica Swindell-Foster has been promoted from Interim Principal to Principal of the Henderson E. Formey, Jr. Early Learning Center. (effective 7/8/2019).
Tahisha Wright has been promoted from Interim Principal to Principal at the School of Humanities at Juliette Gordon Low Elementary. (effective 7/8/2019).

May Committee Meetings

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 9, 2019
4:00pm
Whitney Administrative Complex
2 Laura Avenue

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
10:00 AM
Whitney Administrative Complex
2 Laura Avenue
PUBLIC HEARING - BUDGET
Wednesday, May 15, 2019
6:00 PM
Whitney Administrative Complex
2 Laura Avenue

BOARD ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 28, 2019
3:30 PM
Whitney Administrative Complex
2 Laura Avenue

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS, MAY 21 – 24, 2019
The District high school graduations are at the Savannah Civic Center at 301 W. Oglethorpe Avenue.

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**
Savannah Arts Academy  9:00 AM
Savannah Early College   12:00 PM
Liberal Studies at Savannah High School 3:00 PM

**Wednesday, May 22, 2019**
Woodville Tompkins High School  9:00 AM
Islands High School   12:00 PM
Windsor Forest High School  3:00 PM

**Thursday, May 23, 2019**
Beach High School  9:00 AM
Jenkins High School   12:00 PM
New Hampstead High School  3:00 PM

**Friday, May 24, 2019**
Groves High School  9:00 AM
Johnson High School   12:00 PM