

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

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

Video highlights from the June 1 Board Meeting from Public Information Manager Sheila Blanco. Click [here](#) to watch.



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### Student of the Month Recognized

The Superintendent's Student of the Month for May is **Zakya Hancock**, a 4<sup>th</sup> Grader at the School of Humanities at Juliette Low Elementary. Congratulations, Zakya!

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/scps/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP356085A8>



### GOOD NEWS FROM SCCPSS!

#### Savannah area students celebrate return of Massie May Day Festival

WTGS, May 4

One of the largest multicultural events in the Savannah Chatham County Public School System returned Wednesday, in Calhoun Square. The festival allows students to move to the beat and the county celebrated its first May Day back since 2020.

<https://fox28media.com/news/local/savannah-chatham-public-schools-celebrate-return-of-may-day-festival-since-2020>

#### State Schools Superintendent Visits Pooler Elementary

WTGS, May 10

Richard Woods, State Superintendent of Schools made a stop at Pooler Elementary Tuesday morning. Woods, along with Savannah Chatham County Public School System officials, say these visits are important to ensure students are engaged.

<https://fox28media.com/news/local/state-schools-superintendent-visits-pooler-elementary>

## **Opportunity, jobs await workers at warehouses, ports in West Chatham**

Savannah Morning News, May 10

Stepping into the midday sun, Kiairah Johnson couldn't wipe the smile off her face. Kiairah and her family were gathered at Step One Automotive on Chatham Parkway, where she was gifted a brand-new Dodge Durango, a month of gas cards and a paid bill for her title, registration, and taxes.

<https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/local/2022/05/10/savannah-ga-workers-lack-transportation-west-chatham-logistics-jobs/9631063002/>

## **SCCPSS Students Selected as 2022 Bank of America Student Leaders**

sccpss.com, May 12

Sarah Kate Maher, a junior from Savannah Arts Academy and Andre'I Shuman, a senior from Alfred Ely Beach High School were named as Bank of America Student Leaders for 2022. Sarah Kate and Andre'I are among 300 young people from across the country who were selected as Student Leaders due to their passion for improving the community.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/SCCPSS-Students-Selected-as-2022-Bank-of-America-Student-Leaders.aspx>



## **Port Wentworth Elementary closes after more than 100 years of educating students**

WSAV, May 16

An elementary school in Port Wentworth where students were educated for more than 100 years is now closed for good. Port Wentworth Elementary doors were officially closed Sunday.

<https://www.wsav.com/news/education/port-wentworth-elementary-closes-after-more-than-100-years-of-educating-students/>

## **US News and World Report Rankings Released for 2022**

sccpss.com, May 12

U.S. News & World Report has released their rankings of the nation's top high schools for 2022 and 6 Savannah-Chatham County Public High Schools were among the top schools in the state.

<https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/US-News-and-World-Report-Rankings-Released-for-2022.aspx>

### **Top Teacher: Nicole Knoblauch**

WTOC, May 18

It's almost time to the end the school year, but before the student's head home for summer, WTOC has one last teacher to recognize. These first students have come a long way since they started this school year. Helped along by their teacher Nicole Knoblauch at Hesse k-8 school in Savannah. “

<https://www.wtoc.com/2022/05/18/top-teacher-nicole-knoblauch/>

### **Beach High Holds First SCCPSS Senior Decision Day Celebration**

sccpss.com, May 19

Alfred Ely Beach High School participated in College Decision Day with a celebration on Thursday, May 12, 2022. The celebration was held for the senior class to recognize and celebrate the decision to enroll in a post-secondary institution, enlist in the Armed Forces, or gain career-based employment upon high school graduation. Decision Day is to recognize high school seniors for their postsecondary plans and encourage younger students and families to prepare early for postsecondary education.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/Beach-High-Holds-First-SCCPSS-Senior-Decision-Day-Celebration.aspx>

### **SCCPSS urges parents to sign up for free, reduced meals in July**

sccpss.com, May 20

The National PTA Reflections program is the Parent Teacher Association's cornerstone arts program. Each year, students in Grades Pre-K through 12 are recognized for bringing the theme to life through dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts. This year's theme was “I will change the world by...”. Out of approximately 315 students across the state who participated, five Savannah-Chatham County students were recognized this spring with Georgia PTA Reflections Awards.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/Five-SCCPSS-Students-Receive-PTA-Reflections-Recognition-in-State-level-Competition.aspx>

### **SAA Students Receive Recognition for High Performance on National Spanish Exam**

sccpss.com, May 20

Thirty-three students from Savannah Arts Academy recently completed the National Spanish Exam with 20 students earning a certificate and eight earning medals for exemplary performance. The National Spanish Examinations (NSE) recognize student achievement and proficiency in the study of Spanish.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/SAA-Students-Receive-Recognition-for-High-Performance-on-National-Spanish-Exam.aspx>

### **Johnson, Islands stars sign to college**

WSAV, May 20

It was a big day for signings across the Chatham County Public School System on Friday. Islands high school sent two to the next level. Cooper Bachman will wrestle at Emanuel College and Mitchell Singletary will play baseball at USC-Beaufort.

<https://www.wsav.com/sports/johnson-islands-stars-sign-to-college/>

## **Woodville Tompkins High School Earns Industry Certification for Business and Recertification for Marketing Hospitality**

sccpss.com, May 20

The Business Pathway at Woodville Tompkins Technical and Career High School has recently earned Industry Certification while the Marketing/Hospitality Pathway has been re-certified by the Georgia Department of Education. A program that is recognized as "industry certified" has received a "stamp of excellence" from the Georgia Department of Education, which represents the apex of program quality.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/Woodville-Tompkins-Technical-and-Career-High-School-Earns-Industry-Certification-for-Business-and-Recertification-for-Marke.aspx>

## **Savannah Early College Student Named a Horatio Alger State Scholar**

sccpss.com, May 31

A rising senior at Savannah Early College has been named a Horatio Alger State Scholar. This designation means SCCPSS student James Thompson will receive a \$10,000 scholarship to be used in pursuit of a Bachelor degree.

<https://www.sccpss.com/Pages/Savannah-Early-College-Student-Named-a-Horatio-Alger-State-Scholar.aspx>

## **News From The Board Meeting**

### **Budget Process Update**

Board Members received an update on the Budget Process at the Informal Meeting. The FY 23 All Funds Preliminary Budget totals \$791,921,511 with a recommended .50 mill rollback due to an overall increase in the tax digest. The preliminary budget also includes a 5% cost of living salary increase for all employees.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP67609564>

### **Tentative Adoption of the FY 2023 Budget for All Funds**

The Board tentatively adopted the Budget for FY 2023 at the Regular Meeting. Discussion at the Informal Meeting could lead to changes based on concern about the compensation level for some positions. Final adoption of the FY 23 Budget is scheduled for June 22, 2022.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP5N6085F9>

### **Tax Millage Levy Tentatively Approved**

The Board tentatively approved the recommendation of a millage rate of 17.631 mills for Fiscal Year 2023.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP5P6085FA>

### **SY 2022-23 Transportation Update**

An update on Transportation for the upcoming school year. The District is dealing with a bus driver shortage that is impacting the ability to provide transportation for all students. At this time, there will continue to be no transportation for Choice Program students. The Transportation Department continues to recruit new drivers through a wide variety of methods while offering incentives and supplements.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CESGXL45F3F3>

## **American Rescue Plan Cares Act III Budget Ratified**

The Board approved, subject to final state review and approvals, the ARP Act ESSER III LEA Bonus budget ratification in the amount of \$99,088,044.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CESJCX4B21D2>

## **Business System Updates**

At the Informal Meeting of the Board, a report on the work of the District to transition to the new Munis Business System was presented. As the transition to the new system continues, employees will be able to manage their personal information and view their paystubs online. The change to the Munis system will speed up the change to employee paychecks based on the June approved budget. Find out more here:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CESGXB45EB0A>

## **ESPLOST Updates**

At the Regular Meeting of the Board, an update on ESPLOST projects ongoing across the district was presented. Those updates included, but are not limited to:

### **K-12 Multi-School Campus**

Under Construction. Work continues on masonry walls, structural steel, and roofing. Mechanical and electrical rough in work in progress at enclosed areas. Terrazzo work scheduled to begin in August 2022. Work on the CTAE building also under construction. Scheduled to open in August 2023.

### **Windsor Forest High School Replacement**

Design phase. Studying options for building and site layout that will allow for campus to remain on site during construction including temporary parking and incorporate additional site features. Scheduled to open in August 2025.

### **Godley Station K-8 Addition**

Design phase. New additions will replace three existing modular buildings. Interior grassed play areas will be redesigned for artificial turf play areas. Work to finalize building and site layout is underway. Scheduled for completion in February 2024.

### **Pulaski Elementary Conversion to K-8 Additions**

Design phase. New classroom additions will be built for Grades 6-8, a new gymnasium will be built to meet requirements for a K-8 design and new athletic facilities will be added. The program and site layout are being finalized. Expected completion will be in August 2024.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP5H6085F4>

### **Budget Transfer Approved for J.G. Smith Elementary New/Replacement School**

The Board approved the transfer of funds totaling \$3,233,000 from ESPLOST III Jacob G. Smith Addition Accounts to ESPLOST III Jacob G. Smith New School Replacement Accounts. The Transfer of funds will be used to cover construction and the purchase of classroom equipment.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP5L6085F7>

### **Port Wentworth Conversion Design Services**

The Board approved the contract with Raymond Engineering for Design Services for Port Wentworth Elementary Conversion to SCCPSS Police Headquarters for a total Design Professional Fee of \$145,000.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP4T6085DE>

## **Synthetic Turf Installation Approved for Garrison School for the Arts**

The Board approved the purchase of Synthetic Turf and Installation Services for the Garrison K-8 School using RFP C22- 07 – Synthetic Turf and Installation Services (Annual Contract) at a cost not to exceed \$825,550.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP4W6085E1>

## **Name Approved for Jenkins High Baseball Field**

In accordance with Policy FDC and Administrative Regulation FDR-R, Naming Facilities, a committee was appointed by the Superintendent to provide a recommendation for the naming of the Baseball Field at Jenkins High School. The committee proposed that the field be named after Terry Webb. Mr. Webb joined the coaching staff at HV Jenkins in 1983, following 13 years working at Windsor Forest High. He worked alongside his players, their parents, friends and the community to improve the field. Thanks to his efforts, the facility became a source of pride for the school and a much better field to practice, teach and play ball. Mr. Webb passed away in 2021 following a battle with cancer. The name was first read into the record at the May meeting of the Board. The name was read for a second time the Board voted to approved it at the June Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP3H6085B4>

## **School Safety Grant**

The Board approved a grant awarded by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) in the amount of \$248,483 to purchase a law enforcement specialized training simulator for the Campus Police Department, capable of providing law enforcement officers with interactive simulation training for small arms and use of force training in both life-threatening and non-life-threatening scenarios. Utilizing the simulator will provide officers with the ability to enhance their decision-making capabilities while under stress in a safe environment.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CERP4H6085D4>

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **Public Hearing #1 – Millage Rate**

Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 11:00 AM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G, 2 Laura Ave., Savannah

### **Public Hearing #2 – Millage Rate**

Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 6:00PM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G, 2 Laura Ave., Savannah

### **Public Hearing #3 – Millage Rate**

Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 6:00PM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G, 2 Laura Ave., Savannah

### **Special Board Meeting - Budget Adoption**

Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 6:30PM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G, 2 Laura Ave., Savannah

### **SCCPSS Audit Committee Meeting**

Thursday, June 23, 2022, 8:00AM

Whitney Administrative Complex- Building G, 2 Laura Ave., Savannah