

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

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



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Video highlights from the December 7 Board Meeting from Public Information Manager Sheila Blanco. Click [here](#) to watch.



Student of the Month Recognized

The Superintendent's Student of the Month for October is Azaria Hope Robinson, a 7th grader at Mercer Middle School. Congratulations, Azaria!

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTGL74F791>



Superintendent's Professional Senate Report

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

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CJQSW9748832>

GOOD NEWS FROM SCCPSS!

SCCPSS Receives *Leading Edge* Award from GSBA

sccpss.com, November 16

For the fourth time, SCCPSS has been named one of the recipients of the Georgia School Board Association's *Leading Edge* Award for 2022. The District was honored at the Annual Conference Friday, December 2, in Atlanta. This unique achievement recognizes the innovative design and implementation of projects and programs by school systems that are having a significant and positive impact on students. Those recognized are seen as leading the way in student achievement and engagement, ensuring students are competitive in an ever-changing global market. The SCCPSS application focused on the District's early childhood education efforts, including the newly opened Little Acorn Academy at Gould Elementary School.

<https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/Savannah-Chatham-Recognized-with-GSBA->

Teacher Feature on Jennifer Clark from Isle of Hope

WJCL, November 9

Jennifer Clark's room might tell you she's a seventh grade math teacher, but what she's teaching her students goes well beyond the core curriculum.

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/instilling-confidence-in-the-classroom-one-7th-grade-math-teacher-whos-doing-so-much-more/41908268>

SCCPSS Selected as One of Twelve School Districts to Pilot New Teacher Evaluation System

sccpss.com, November 16

The Georgia Department of Education has chosen the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System to be one of 12 counties to pilot a new teacher evaluation program beginning next school year. The list of twelve includes urban, rural and charter school districts. The pilot program will feature a comprehensive educator evaluation system that promotes teacher collaboration and shared ownership for professional growth, recognition for effective practices, and clear pathways for career advancement.

<https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/SCCPSS-Selected-as-One-of-Twelve-School-Districts-to-Pilot-New-Teacher-Evaluation-System.aspx>

Kidz Biz Reaches Record Number of Students With Career Information

sccpss.com, November 16

Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools hosted the second annual Kidz Biz Career Exploration Fair last month at the Savannah Mall. For two days, fourth and fifth grade students from each school in the district had a chance to learn about high school career pathways and the role business and industry plays in creating future career opportunities. High school students shared information about pathways and business partners from across Chatham County provided exciting activities and games to show what sorts of skills and studies a student might pursue in high school and beyond. From welding, and nutrition/culinary arts, to automotive, photography, medicine and cosmetology, students had a blast exploring options for future careers.

<https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/Kidz-Biz-Reaches-Record-Number-of-Students-With-Career-Information.aspx>

Garden City Elementary Receives Donation from International Paper for Literacy Garden

sccpss.com, November 16

International Paper presented a check for \$8,500 to Garden City Elementary School for a Literacy Garden for kindergarten through 2nd grade readers.

<https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/Garden-City-Elementary-Receives-Generous-Donation-from-International-Paper-for-Literacy-Garden.aspx>

Teacher Feature on Mrs. Rachel Moore at Butler Elementary

WJCL, November 22

They say that if you love what you do, you never work a day in your life, and for Rachel Moore, it couldn't be more true.

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/connecting-to-her-kids-how-one-teacher-is-making-a-huge-difference/42035944>

A.B. Williams Elementary honors 'hometown hero,' Georgia's first black policeman

WTGS, November 15

The students of A.B Williams Elementary School marched in a parade Tuesday morning to show appreciation for retired veteran and hometown hero Lieutenant John White. White, 98, served in World War 2 and became the state of Georgia's first black police officer, working for the Savannah Police Department for 37 years.

<https://fox28savannah.com/news/local/elementary-schoolers-parade-down-street-dedicated-to-hometown-hero-john-white#>

National organization partners with SCCPSS to raise opioid awareness

WTGS, November 28

A national organization called RALI CARES is working with the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS) to bring awareness to the dangers of opioid use. RALI is a virtual interactive educational trailer set up like a teenager or young adult's bedroom, but it is filled with hidden warning signs of substance misuse.

<https://fox28savannah.com/news/local/savannah-chatham-county-school-district-drug-abuse-businesses-education-students#>

Jenkins High School Wins Outstanding Project Award

Learning By Design, Fall 2022

The new Herschel V. Jenkins High School was awarded an Outstanding Project designation by Learning By Design magazine. The award is presented to the design team and school construction team whose efforts to build a new learning environment for the community that can serve as an example for others when embarking on a similar journey.

<https://pubs.royle.com/publication/?m=31173&i=762297&p=112&ver=html5>

Savannah Chatham Schools Crossing Guards recognized

WJCL, November 10

Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, showing some love for those keeping students safe. The district hosted its annual Crossing Guard Appreciation Celebration. In addition to lunch, the crossing guards were presented certificates and special gifts of appreciation.

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/savannah-chatham-schools-crossing-guards-recognized/41927600>

Bloomington Elementary School students give it their all at annual spelling bee

WJCL, December 1

Several students got to show off their spelling skills Thursday afternoon during an annual spelling bee contest.

Twelve very smart fourth and fifth graders at Bloomington Elementary School competed against each other. For 30 minutes, they took turns spelling some difficult words in front of their classmates and parents.

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/bloomington-elementary-school-students-give-it-their-all-at-annual-spelling-bee/42128386>

SCCPSS school chorus groups sing some holiday classics for 'Serenade on the Steps'

WTGS, December 5

The Savannah Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS) is bringing back its annual Serenade on the Steps event featuring school chorus groups from around the area. The Islands High School Chorus kicked off the two-week-long event by singing an array of holiday classics.

<https://fox28savannah.com/news/local/savannah-chatham-county-choruses-perform-classics-ahead-of-holiday-season-students-schools#>

Teacher Feature: Najia Barboa at New Hampstead K8

WJCL, December 5

For Najia Barboa, teaching isn't just what she does. "Honestly, I look at this as preparing them for the real world. I look at my job as not a job, as not a career, but I look at it as a ministry," Barboa says. "And every day, I've got to go out and minister to my students to the point that they're ready no matter what comes, no matter what they're faced with, the challenge they're already prepared with because there's nothing that they're not prepared for that they can't handle in this day."

<https://www.wjcl.com/article/a-ministry-mixed-with-a-math-lesson/42142984>

Coastal Empire Montessori fosters curiosity with cultural book fair

WTGS, December 7

The holidays are just around the corner, and Coastal Empire Montessori Charter School is teaching students about holidays from all around the world. On Wednesday, they partnered with E. Shaver Booksellers in Savannah to host a "Holidays around the World" community book fair, featuring projects from students about holidays from different cultures.

<https://fox28savannah.com/news/local/book-fair-12-08-2022#>

Groves High Beta Club prepares bags for homeless

WSAV, December 8

"Let us lead by serving others" — that's the motto of the Groves High School Beta Club. Members spent their afternoon working on blessing bags for those who are homeless, their community service project for the month.

wsav.com/community/groves-high-beta-club-prepares-bags-for-homeless/

Mercer Middle students learn about climate resilience in after-school pilot program

Savannah Morning News, December 2

Savannahians are no strangers to flooding, storms and climate change. But it's the students at Mercer Middle school who are thinking about how to address flooding and more. They are part of a pilot after-school program focusing on community resilience in the face of climate change through mapmaking and design.

<https://www.savannahnow.com/story/news/education/2022/12/02/mercerc-middle-students-pilot-climate-resilience-after-school-program-savannah-georgia/10816391002/>

Personal Responsibility Education Program (Prep) Agreement

The Board approved an agreement with the Georgia Department of Human Resources for the delivery of the Personal Responsibility Education Program (Prep). The program provides free access to evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention Programs and includes certain requirements for program delivery as stipulated in the agreement.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLPRCK6B841C>

Budget Transfer for Custodian Incentives Approved

The Board approved a transfer of funds from the American Recovery Plan Act – CARES III - in the amount of \$1,466,890 to create recruitment and retention incentives for custodial employees. This transfer is necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of core staff and services.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJQ74F7D5>

EPA Clean School Bus Program Rebates Accepted

The Board accepted an EPA Clean School Buses grant awarded to SCCPSS in the amount of \$9,875,000 for the purchase of 25 electric school buses and charging infrastructure. The program is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Zero-emission buses will improve the environment SCCPSS students are transported in daily.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLPSN8720E2D>

Program Management Services (ESPLOST): Contract Approvals

A contract with Elmerson Consulting, LLC in the amount of \$312,000 was approved for Professional Program Management Consulting Services. Due to increased workload, Elmerson Consulting, LLC will be providing Professional Program Management Consulting and support that will focus on the planning and managing of specific projects within the District's ESPLOST program.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJ774F7C4>

The Board approved a contract with VANGUARD to continue to receive professional and expert consulting services related to Construction Management Consulting Services for ESPLOST 3 and ESPLOST 4 projects. VANGUARD will provide the services as an independent contractor at a monthly cost of \$25,500.00 and a yearly cost of \$306,000.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJ874F7C5>

The Board approved a contract with Parsons to continue with PMIS Consulting Services for ESPLOST 3 and ESPLOST 4 projects. PARSONS will provide the services as an independent contractor at a monthly cost of \$12,478.00 and a yearly cost of \$149,736.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLQKQL52F699>

Budget Transfer for ESPLOST IV Safety and Security

The Board approved a budget transfer in the amount of \$6,000,000 from ESPLOST IV (EIV) Safety & Security to Safety & Security project accounts for the purchase of school safety and security equipment and solutions to enhance the safety of the teaching and learning environment.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJP74F7D4>

ESPLOST UPDATES

An update on various ESPLOST projects currently underway was presented to the Board in the Regular Meeting. Those updates included, but was not limited to:

- K-12 Multi-Campus – In Construction - Roofing, Enclosure, Interior Finishes, CTAE Structure and Roofing underway.
- Replacement Windsor Forest High School – In Design – Summer work on Temporary Measures needed for the 2023-2025 School Years is underway.
- Replacement Jacob G. Smith Elementary – In Design – Site Evaluation is underway.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJM74F7D2>

Replacement Bloomingdale Elementary – In Design – Preliminary Design Work is underway.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJM74F7D2>

The Board gave approval for James W. Buckley and Associates to proceed with Design Services for the Bloomingdale Elementary School Replacement project. The fees for services are: \$1,716,000 for Basic Design Services and Construction Administration Services, and \$26,500 for Reimbursables Allowance (Not to Exceed), totaling \$1,742,500 for the Design Professional Fee.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLPSLX71FC1B>

The Board approved the award of RFP C23-05 (ESPLOST) CMR Services for Bloomingdale Elementary School Replacement Project to TQ Constructors, Inc. with an initial Stated Cost Limitation not to exceed \$40,000,000.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLPSME7205EC>

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<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLMTJP74F7D4>

DATES TO REMEMBER

Capital Improvement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 - 9:00 AM

Whitney Administrative Complex

January 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 – 11am Informal; 2pm Formal

Whitney Administrative Complex