

## Communique'

A summary of the August 17, 2015 Board of Education meeting follows. Meeting agendas for each Board Meeting are posted online. For details and attachments from the August 17th Board Meeting, please click [here](#).

The third Public Hearing on the 2015 Millage Rate was held. The Board set the millage rate to remain at 19.85 mills for Maintenance and Operations and the Bond Rate was reduced from 1.5 mills to 1.25 mills.

### Superintendent's Announcements/Spotlight:

#### Counselors of the Year:

The 2014-2015 Elementary, Middle and High School Counselors of the Year were recognized. They are: Tracy Small, HAVEN Academy at Mason Creek Elementary School; Kim Burdett, Fairplay Middle School; Mitzi Blackstone, Alexander High School.

#### TIEGA New Teacher of the Year:

Cortney North, Cosmetology Teacher at Lithia Springs High School, was recognized as the Trade and Industrial Educators of Georgia (TIEGA) New Teacher of the Year.

Attendance Awareness Month Proclamation: September has been designated as Attendance Awareness Month. Regular attendance is important to student achievement and steps to graduation. If a student misses learning days, they will also miss essential lessons they need for success.

Douglas County High School: The school was honored for 2015 recognition in U.S. News and World Report for being one of the best high schools in Georgia and 2014 recognition in the Washington Post for 9<sup>th</sup> most challenging high school in Georgia.

New Business: The Local School Board Governance Annual Training Report was approved. FY2016 Local School Board Training and Quality School Board Recognition was discussed.

Consent Agenda: Approved were: Certified and Classified personnel; Bus Purchase; Bulk Oil Bid; and School Food Service Surplus.

Approved Action Agenda Items: Personnel: Dr. Pritz's contract was extended through June 1, 2017.

Discussion Agenda: The following was presented for discussion: **Student Achievement & Leadership:** Brighten Academy Charter Renewal; STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) Consultant Agreement; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Premium Maintenance and Support Services Renewal 2015-2016; K-Signs, Inc. Sign Language Consultant Agreement; **Operations:** Grease Trap Cleaning and Maintenance; Reciprocal Agreement for Use of Facilities With Douglas County Parks and Recreation; **Student Services:** Consultant Agreements for: School of Americas, Dr. Barry Bogan; Dr. Jill Drake; Dr. Rozlyn Linder; Dr. Maurice Wilson; and Dr. Jim Wright.

Information Only: The following items were presented for information only: 2015-2016 Board of Education Calendar and Over Night Out of State Field Trips.

Present were Board Members D.T. Jackson, District II, Chair; Michelle Simmons, District IV, Vice-Chair; Carol Lindstrom, District I; Tracy Rookard, District III; and Jeff Morris, District V. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Gordon Pritz; Chief Academic Officer Pam Nail; Assistant Superintendent of District Operations Dr. Tim Scott; Chief Financial Officer Greg Denney; Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Policy Dr. Michelle Ruble; Assistant Superintendent of Student Services E. Renee Davis; Community Relations Director Karen Stroud; and Secretary to the Superintendent Melanie Nicholson.

**Upcoming Meetings of the Douglas County Board of Education:**

- Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
- Public Engagement Meeting: Saturday, September 12, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – Noon, Douglas County High School Auditorium, hosted by Ms. Michelle Simmons, Vice Chair, Board of Education, District 4.