

Communiqué

A summary of the February 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Douglas County Board of Education meeting follows. Meeting agendas for each board meeting are posted online. For an agenda from the February 6 board meeting, please click [here](#). To see supporting documents, click on agenda items.

Proclamations

Career and Technical Education Month – read by Mr. Richard Parham, CTAE teacher at Alexander High School

National PTA Founders Day, February 17, 2017 – read by Superintendent Dr. Gordon Pritz

National School Counseling Week, February 6-10, 2017 – read by Mrs. Mandy Johnson, Director of College and Career

Black History Month -- Dr. Pritz recognized February as Black History Month and directed the board members and the audience to take note of the many creative ways all schools are celebrating. A news article on the main page of the district website lists the activities at each school.

Superintendent's Spotlight

Arbor Station Elementary School

Teacher of the Year – Mrs. Lisa Alexander was recognized as Teacher of the Year.

Black History Month – Fifth graders Perla Castanon-Contreras and Emmanuel Ogbamichael are two cast members in the play “Night at the Black History Museum” which will be presented later in February. Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Tarjatta Rose is in charge of the event.

Ford's Theater Oratory Group -- Fourth graders Michael Hastie and Shayla Williams-Love were recognized as members of the club whose members study the life of Abraham Lincoln and memorize his speeches.

Spelling Bee – Samana Jan, 5th grade, was recognized as the winner of the Arbor Station Spelling Bee.

Road Runners – The Road Runner program recently received the gift of a brand new trailer from the Douglas County Rogue Runners. The trailer will be used when students participate in local road races. Aaron Wynn, 5th grade, was recognized as one of the captains of the Road Runners. Coach Butch Soles is the coach and PE teacher at Arbor Station.

Science and Engineering Club – Alexa Garcia, 5th grade, was recognized for her participation in the Science and Engineering Club. Members are in the process of building miniature robots, hidden alarms, electric game boxes and dance machines.

Bright Star Elementary School

Boys 2 Men Club – Detrick Traylor, Jr., 4th grade, was recognized as a member of the club which teaches and reinforces skills on how to be a gentleman. Mr. Joseph Bogozan, math lab teacher, and Mr. Matthew Clark, art teacher, are club sponsors.

Chess Club – Ally Tello, 5th grade, was recognized as a member of the newly formed Chess Club. Fifteen 4th and 5th grade students regularly meet to work on strategies and tactics in this challenging game. Mr. Joseph Bogozan and Mr. Matthew Clark serve as team sponsors.

Spelling Bee – Mia Morris, 5th grade, was recognized as winner of the Bright Star Spelling Bee.

Dorsett Shoals Elementary School

Panther News Crew – Fifth grade students Travis Dolson, Cadence House, Peter Martinez, Hansel Smith and Brooke Wilson were recognized as leaders of the crew that works daily to present the school's morning announcements. Mrs. Tracy Scaglione, media specialist, serves as sponsor.

Spelling Bee – Alicia Griswold was recognized as winner of the Dorsett Shoals Spelling Bee. Anthony D'Amico was runner-up. Both students are in 4th grade.

Teacher of the Year – Ms. Quita Cole was recognized as Teacher of the Year.

Yeager Middle School

Teacher of the Year – Mrs. Stephanie Cox was recognized as Teacher of the Year.

Outstanding Staff Member – Mrs. Lisa Spence, attendance clerk, was recognized for her compassion and kindness in her office position at Yeager.

Spelling Bee -- Ethan Sayles, 6th grade, was recognized as winner of the Yeager Spelling Bee.

Tome Society Reading Team – Seventh grade students Deanna Washington and Allison Kelly were recognized as members of the reading team. Yeager hopes to make it to the state competition in March. Mrs. Mona Spruill, media specialist, serves as team sponsor.

Science Fair – Reagan Hughes, 7th grade, was 3rd place winner at Yeager and 3rd place winner in the Douglas County Science Fair. Alexa Robles, 8th grade, placed 2nd at Yeager and 1st in the county fair. Roxy Bridges, 8th grade, placed 1st at Yeager and 2nd at the county fair. Alexa and Roxy will advance to the West Georgia Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

Performance Learning Center (PLC) and Douglas County Virtual Academy

The following December, 2016, graduates were recognized: Eliut Martinez, Outstanding Female PLC Student; Christopher Hansen, Outstanding Male PLC Student, Outstanding Overall Career Capstone Project, Eagle Scout; Kiana Lovelace, Outstanding Career Capstone Presentation; Haveto McClesky, PLC Transformation Award; Malique Thomas, Outstanding Virtual Academy Male Student; and Brianna Bogner, Outstanding Virtual Academy Female Student.

Unfinished Business

The Superintendent Search Announcement and Timeline prepared by the Georgia School Boards Association were approved.

Consent Agenda

- Minutes of the January, 9, 2017 meetings and the January 25, 2017 meeting were approved.
- Certified and classified personnel were approved, including the retirement of Fairplay Middle School Principal Yvonne Kidney effective May 31, 2017, and Zach Spencer, Safety Coordinator, effective June 30, 2017.

Discussion Agenda

Student Achievement and Leadership

Recommendation was made to approve at the March 6, 2017, meeting receiving of grant funds for Yeager Middle School to purchase equipment and services to build a Yeager Mustang News Network. The grant is provided by Education Sports Entertainment Network.

Finance

The budget adoption timeline for 2017-2018 was presented.

Operations

The following items were recommended for approval at the March 6, 2017, meeting:

- Purchase of approximately 2,500 desktops, 6,600 laptops, security/charging carts for laptops and additional required materials and services from Dell
- Annual renewal of the Cisco Smartnet support contract
- Annual renewal of the Blackboard ParentLink automated messaging system

Student Services

Recommendation was made to approve at the March 6, 2017, meeting the EPIC After School Program and Summer Camps funded by Title I. After school tutoring and a summer program will take place at Turner Middle, and a summer program will take place at Stewart Middle.

Action Agenda

Finance

The October, November, and December, 2016, financial reports were approved.

Operations

Board approved an easement agreement for Central Office Board of Education property for a business seeking access to centralized sewer network.

Information Only

- Exhibit IFBG-E(3) is being updated to allow parents/ guardians to specify the outlets where student images, voice, and/or work may appear.
- Overnight and out of state field trips and after school camps were presented for review.

Present were Board Members Tracy Rookard, District III, Chair; Michelle Simmons, District IV, Vice Chair; Devetrian Caldwell, District I; D.T. Jackson, District II; 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; Director of Community Relations Karen Stroud; Community Relations Specialist Nell Boggs; and Secretary to the Superintendent Melanie Nicholson.

Upcoming meetings of the Douglas County Board of Education

March 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

March 20, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Special Called Board Meeting

March 20, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting