

Communiqué

A summary of the March 20, 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 March 20 board meeting, please click [here](#). To see supporting documents, click on agenda items.

Superintendent's Spotlight – The following students and faculty members were recognized:

Factory Shoals Elementary

- Carmilla Hilton, 2016-2017 FSES and DCSS Elementary Teacher of the Year
- Nia Hodges, 5th grade, 2017 Special Olympics team captain for FSES
- Lisa Broadhead, school counselor and sponsor of No Place for Hate team
- Linda Handyside, art teacher, 10 students' works of art displayed for Youth Art Month
- Debbie Lloyd, PE teacher at FSES and founder of Dance Day, retiring after 30 years at FSES
- Scott Johnson, music teacher, seven students selected for Honor Chorus
- Ashley Lindeman, Traci Keeley, Katie Martin, sponsors for FSES teams in the Douglas County Math Competition

Mt. Carmel Elementary

- Hellen Nganga, 5th grade, 1st in state for 2015-2016 4th Grade Young Georgia Authors
- Christopher Morgan, 3rd grade, 1st place in 2017 Georgia Regional Braille Challenge
- Karnell Weaver, 4th grade, and Michael Craigen, 5th grade, participants in National Youth Leadership Forum at Wake Forest University in summer 2016
- Dr. Laurie MacDonald, MCES 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year
- Esther Brown, MCES 2016-2017 Staff Member of the Year
- Coletta Warren, 2015-2016 Elementary Counselor of the Year for Douglas County
- Chris Watts, retiring after 37 years teaching and coaching at MCES

Factory Shoals Middle School

- Lisa Fell, art teacher. FSMS won National Fair Superior School Art Award for Middle School at the 2016 Georgia National Fair Art Competition in Perry, GA. The following 8th grade students won awards in the competition: Destinee Pearson, Shalasia Lindley, Jordan Gaskins, My'Tia Capps, Aisha Kimbrough, Joh'nya Eddins, Mya Webb, Julia Kraynyuks, Elyse Dumas, Regina Veliz, Haven Brown. The following 7th grade students also won awards: Nathaniel Stewart, Rebecca Scarborough, Mya Woods.
- Rose Genter, 6th grade, winner of "Chopped Junior" on Food Network

School Board

GSBA Legislative Positions must be adopted and a delegate and alternate assigned by April 10, 2017, for the GSBA Conference and Delegate Assembly.

Personnel

Certified and classified personnel were approved, including the retirement of Dr. Teresa Martin, principal of Sweetwater Elementary, effective November 1, 2017.

Student Achievement and Leadership

Board approved 2018-2019 calendar, tentative teacher allotments for FY 2018, and a contract for speech language pathology services for special education students by Good Life Care LLC.

Operations

Board approved purchase of HVAC for Bright Star Elementary.

Board discussed for approval at the April 10, 2017, meeting:

- purchase of safety surface mulch for all elementary playgrounds
- renovation of old gym at Lithia Springs High School
- addition of classrooms and cafeteria renovation at Lithia Springs Elementary
- relocation from Mirror Lake Elementary to CCI and reassembly of a 10 classroom modular building
- painting at Factory Shoals Middle School and Mt. Carmel Elementary

Finance

Board discussed the possibility of implementing a pilot program with a software vendor that will help the system maximize FTE funding.

Policies

Board approved changes to Board Policy GBA: Professional Personnel Compensation and Contracts. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the placement of all certified employees on the salary schedule shall be based on training and experience as well as satisfactory performance as indicated by the annual evaluation. Satisfactory performance based on the Teacher Keys Effectiveness System (TKES) and Leader Keys Effectiveness System (LKES) will be a final rating of "Proficient" or "Exemplary." Satisfactory performance using a job specific evaluation will be a final rating of "Satisfactory."

Information Only

Overnight and out of state field trips 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; Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Renee Davis; 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

April 10, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

May 1, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

May 15, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting