

## Communiqué

A summary of the September 19, 2016, 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 September 19 board meeting, please click [here](#). To see supporting documents, click on agenda items.

### Superintendent's Spotlight

#### Holly Springs Elementary

Dr. Gordon Pritz recognized Holly Springs for achieving Platinum Status from the Georgia Department of Education for greatest gains in standardized testing. Dr. Pritz also recognized the following teachers, students, and parents:

**Sheri Moore**, Teacher of the Year for Holly Springs; **Natasha Cauley**, PTA President; **Austin Cauley**, distinguished learner in social studies; **Miguel Pita-Ruiz**, perfect score on the mathematics portion of last year's Milestones and distinguished learner for two years in all subject areas; **Priscilla Addai**, distinguished status on all four portions of Georgia Milestones; **Kelechukwu Ohia**, outstanding performance on summer reading challenge; **Ella Rusev**, outstanding achievement in kindergarten; and **Roman Barial** and **Michael Rentz**, school leaders in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### Chapel Hill Elementary

Dr. Pritz recognized the following student and teachers:

**Anna Liu**, distinguished learner on all areas of the 2016 Georgia Milestones; **Lynn Makosky**, chair of the Diversity and Celebrations Committee; **Robin Williams**, chair of the Media and Community Relations Committee; **Dina Doty**, chair of the Wellness/Relay for Life Committee; **Brenda Johnson**, chair of the Hospitality Committee; and **Melissa Witcher**, chair of the Data/Testing Committee and CHES Teacher of the Year.

#### Chapel Hill Middle School

Dr. Pritz recognized the following students and teachers:

**Dante Christian**, winner of the agenda book cover art contest; **Lamar Clark**, 2015-2016 winner of the Marguerite Battle Character Education Award; **Jennifer Cochran**, **Tatum Dobrinski**, **Sara Guger**, **Kathy Lam**, and **Thomas Woodcum**, distinguished learner in all four areas of Georgia Milestones in 2015 and 2016 and academic excellence in courses; **Toby Otts**, CHMS Teacher of the Year; **Ambry Earl**, outstanding achievement as first-year head coach of girls track team; **Kendra Robinson**, outstanding service to girls track team as head coach and assistant coach for 10 years; **Wynne Lougher**, outstanding achievement as head coach for boys track team for 17 years.

#### Chapel Hill High School

Dr. Pritz congratulated Chapel Hill High School for being named one of "America's Most Challenging High Schools" by *The Washington Post*. Dr. Pritz also recognized the following students and teachers:

**Ashley Morgan**, 2015-2016 Gatorade Softball Player of the Year for Georgia; **Zac Cooper**, CHHS Teacher of the Year; **Captain Ted McMurtrie** and **Chief Michael Potter**, growth in the Navy JROTC program at CHHS; **Delphina Djeumeni** and **Robert Sewell**, attendees at a one-week seminar at the U.S. Naval

Academy; **Robert Sewell, Delphina Djeumeni, Emely Njiki, Austin Ward, and Avery Ward**, presentation of colors at tonight's Board of Education meeting.

### **New Business**

Pam Nail introduced YouScience, an assessment that helps students expand their vision of opportunities by uncovering their natural abilities and aptitudes and helps them align their educational pursuits with high demand careers that best fit their talents and interests. This assessment meets the career planning component of the Bridge Law. Four companies have stepped forward to pay for YouScience to be administered to DCSS 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students this school year – Caliber 1 Construction, Southern A&E, R.K. Redding Construction (RKR), and GreyStone Power. Representatives from these companies and from YouScience were on hand to present a symbolic check to the school system. The board approved the purchase of YouScience for the current school year.

Board approved a Local Board Training Plan for individual board members. Whole Board Governance Training is scheduled for October 3, 2016, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. in the Central Office.

Board discussed legislative priorities for 2017. Board will meet with members of the legislature on December 8 to discuss the priorities.

### **Consent Agenda**

Certified and classified personnel were approved.

Board approved the agreement with Soliant Health for related support services for special education students as presented.

Board approved changes to Board Policy DJED: Bids and Quotations.

Board approved employee dental and vision benefits.

### **Discussion Agenda**

#### **Student Achievement & Leadership**

Dana Queen, Math School Improvement Specialist, made a presentation on current math standards and updates to the math program including curriculum changes in middle and high school; Engrade, the new learning management and assessment system; and math CDAs.

#### **Student Services**

Recommendation was made to approve at the October 3, 2016, board meeting:

- The consultant agreement with Dr. Rozlyn Linder for professional development courses for Title I schools
- The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant external evaluation services contracts as presented

### **Information Only**

Overnight out of state field trips were presented.

Tim Scott presented an update on summer 2016 construction projects.

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

**Upcoming meetings of the Douglas County Board of Education**

Whole Board Governance Training on Monday, October 3, 2016, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 3, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 17, 2016, 7:00 p.m.