

BOARD MEETING BRIEF

District Mission - "Together, we ignite and foster lifelong learning at the highest levels for all"



S. Denise Watts, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Savannah-Chatham Co.
Public School System
208 Bull Street
Savannah, GA 31401
(912) 395-5600

Highlights from the August 9, 2023 Board Meeting

2022-23 SY GMAS Score Report – Impressive Gains in 3rd Grade Reading! More Students Reading on Grade Level

At the informal meeting of the board, Data and Accountability staff presented highlights from the district's most recent Georgia Milestone Assessments. Compared to last year, SCCPSS improved Content Mastery achievement scores in all four content areas for both the elementary and middle grade bands, with the greatest increases occurring in math and science. The district also improved in high school ELA, science, and social studies. However, SCCPSS achievement scores declined in Algebra I. See the full report here: <http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NX96207B4>

School Opening Update

At the Regular Meeting of the Board, a report was presented to Board Members on the opening of schools for the 2023-24 SY. <http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TPY7867AF>

Superintendent Sworn in to Office

New SCCPSS Superintendent Dr. Denise Watts took the Oath of Office in a short ceremony during the Regular Meeting of the Board. The Oath was administered by Chatham County Superior Court Judge Benjamin Karpf.



SCHOOL BOARD

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President

Denise Grabowski
Vice President Pro-Tempore
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Dr. Dionne Hoskins-Brown
District 2

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District 3

Shawn A. Kachmar
District 4

Paul E. Smith
District 5

Dr. David Bringman
Vice President
District 6

Michael Johnson
District 7

Dr. Tonia Howard-Hall
District 8

Exchanging of TOTY and ISPY Plates

Beth Whalen, who served as the 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year, representing Charles Ellis Montessori Academy, along with Mrs. Natalie Sauers, who served as 2022-2023 Instructional Support Person of the Year for Jacob G. Smith Elementary, were on hand at the Regular Meeting to officially welcome the incoming Teacher of the Year, Raegan Dillon of the STEM Academy at Bartlett, and the Instructional Support Person of the Year, Moses McNeil of Hubert Middle, for school year 2023-2024.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHX601569>



Policy First Reads

Policy ABCB – Board Member Qualifications (Four Year Review – No Changes) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE - Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy ABCB. No changes are recommended.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHF600290>

Policy ABCE – Board Member Resignation (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy ABCE and has determined changes are needed to update language and process in Board Policy to align with current District Practices.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHK6006DB>

Policy BBE – School Attorney (Four Year Review – No Changes) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE - Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy BBE. No changes are recommended.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHL60085D>

Policy BE – School Board Records (Four Year Review – No Changes) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE - Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy BE. No changes are recommended.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHN600A37>

Policy CD – Line and Staff Relations (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy CD and has determined changes are needed to align language with appropriate and current District configurations.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NHP600B99>

Policy Adopted

Policy DJEAC – Purchasing or Credit Card Use (Four Year Review – Changes Recommended) Pursuant to Board Policy BDE- Policy Review, District Administration has reviewed Board Policy DJEAC and has determined changes are needed to update language to establish the proper lines of authority for issuing purchasing (credit card) use.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUBPXH66AF25>

Other Board Actions:

New District Copier Fleet and Print Center Management Contract Approved

The Board approved a 5-year lease and labor service costs agreement with Ricoh USA, Inc. for an estimated 5-year cost of \$6,038,787.48 to include leased equipment and annual services.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TX6797437>

Campus Police Purchase of Mobile Command Vehicle Approved

The Board approved the award of RFP 24-01 Mobile Command Center for Campus Police to LDV, Inc. for a total cost of \$462,139.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TXB797AC0>

Islands High Athletic Complex Expansion Design Contract Approved

The Board approved the contract with Cogdell & Mendrala Architects, PC for Design Services Islands Athletic Complex Expansion for a total Design Professional Fee of \$228,200.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TXK7983DB>

The Board also approved a budget transfer in the amount of \$3,000,000 to fund the architectural and construction work on the project.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NBR5F2CBE>

New Handheld Radios Purchase Approved for Transportation

The Board ratified the purchase of (30) APX-N30 Handheld Radios (One-time Purchase) from Motorola Solutions, Inc. at the cost of \$153,010.00. The purchase will be used to replace and upgrade handheld radios in the District. The new radios provide the capability for voice commands and the functionality of utilizing WiFi signals.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TXN798810>

Change Order Approved to Complete Savannah Arts Academy Parking Lot

The Board approved Change Order #59 in the amount of \$80,485 to be funded by the CMR Contingency, to McKnight Construction Company for the construction of the Savannah Arts Academy Addition and Renovation Project. Funds will be used to continue work at the school's west parking lot after adverse weather conditions affected construction.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TXU798E86>

Audio Enhancement Systems Expanding to More Schools

The Board approved a budget amendment for a transfer from the General Fund in the amount of \$2,526,000 to purchase audio enhancement systems for Myers Middle, Oglethorpe Charter, Heard Elementary, Isle of Hope K8, and Haven Elementary.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU3NBR5F2CBE>

HVAC Upgrades at Garrison K8

The Board approved a contract with Georgia Power for HVAC Renovations for Garrison K-8 School for a lump sum pricing of \$5,983,881.00. Georgia Power will provide construction, supervision, inspection, labor, materials, tools, construction equipment and subcontracted items as needed for the execution and completion of the HVAC Renovations for Garrison K-8 School following the Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) per Georgia Department of Education approved drawings and specifications.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TZ679BFA9>

SCELA Design Services Contract Approved

The Board approved a contract with Goodwin Mill Cawood, LLC for Design Services for a Savannah Chatham E-Learning Academy (SCELA) renovation for a total Design Professional Fee of \$1,247,500.00.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TZ779C0AC>

Change Order Approved to Set GMP for Windsor Forest High Replacement

The Board approved a Guaranteed Maximum Price Change Order #2 to JE Dunn Construction Co., Inc. to establish the final GMP contract of \$78,143,324 for the construction of the Windsor Forest High School Replacement School.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ga/sccs/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU9TZC79C709>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

SCCPSS Board Retreat

Thursday, August 17, 2023, and Friday, August 18, 2023 – 9am to 4pm
Oatland Island Wildlife Center, 711 Sandtown Rd., Savannah

Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 24, 2023 – 8am
Whitney Administrative Complex

Board Accountability Meeting – Equity Subcommittee Meeting

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 – 3:30pm
Whitney Administrative Complex

Labor Day Holiday for All

Monday, September 4th, 2023