



HCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Vol. 1, No. 12 - December 10, 2018

Public Service Recognized

The leadership and service of board member Dr. Donna McBride was recognized at the December business session. Dr. McBride served as the board member for District 4 from 2014-2018. Since her time on the Board, Dr. McBride has been a staunch advocate for her district and all of its schools and students. Additionally, there has been progress made toward technology enhancements and facility additions and updates. In recognition of her public service to District 4 and the citizens of Henry County, Superintendent Davis presented her with a commemorative clock. Thank you, Dr. McBride, for your service to Henry County Schools!



Retiring After 25 Years in HCS

Tony Pickett, longtime member of the Henry County Schools leadership team, is calling it a career after 25 years of employment with the district. Mr. Pickett has served in the CTAE department and as a member of the district leadership team, most recently as the Strategic Planning Assistant to the Superintendent. He has served under four different superintendents in his current role. Superintendent Davis and the Board commended Mr. Pickett for his service and wished him well in his retirement.



Security Updates

Chief Operations Officer Dr. Raymond Bryant got the chance to share with the board and community members the journey the district has been on the past year to enhance the safety and security of our school district. A deep dive into the uncomfortable but important subject started with a roundtable discussion in the spring of 2018 when over 100 participants, consisting of students, teachers, administrators, parents, and local law enforcement, joined together to discuss things that they felt were working well for the district and the things they hoped might change to provide even greater protection for students and staff.

Better together.

Board Members

Josh Hinton (Chair)

District 2

joshua.hinton@henry.k12.ga.us

Holly Cobb (Vice Chair)

District 3

holly.cobb@henry.k12.ga.us

Dr. Pam Nutt

District 1

pam.nutt@henry.k12.ga.us

Dr. Donna McBride

District 4

donna.mcbride@henry.k12.ga.us

Annette Edwards

District 5

annette.edwards@henry.k12.ga.us

Mary Elizabeth Davis

Superintendent

maryelizabeth.davis@

henry.k12.ga.us

Our Mission

Ensuring Success for EACH Student

Our Vision

Building a Culture of Personalized Learning

Our Belief

All Learners will Excel in an Environment Centered on RIGOR, RELEVANCE and RELATIONSHIPS





Security Updates (continued)

A few short days later, the community came together when hundreds of interested community members heard from a diverse panel of education officials, parents, and law enforcement about some of the things that are taking place in Henry County Schools to ensure safety and how we can all play a part.

Ideas generated by those in attendance have led to many improvements to the security of schools. Some projects were cost neutral while others required funding. Of note, many people will notice that upon visiting a school, each person is required to sign in with proper identification. This is one small step but a huge opportunity to ensure safety of our schools. The board also recently approved funding for the new single-point entry doors for our high schools. This will mirror the single-point entries for our elementary and middle schools. And visitors to middle and high schools will definitely notice that each school now has their own School Resource Officer thanks to a partnership between the Henry County Sheriff’s Office, Board of Commissioners, and Board of Education. The entities agreed to jointly fund the costs associated with providing the additional officers for a 1:1 ratio at the secondary schools. We are working on even more projects to ensure everyone’s safety and we will be hosting additional community forums in the future.

Better Together

No-Cost Commitments

- All exterior doors will remain locked at all times during business hours (except one front door)
- All interior doors will remain locked at all schools during business hours (i.e. classroom doors)
- Review of Emergency Ready Reference Manual w/ all principals and asst. principals
- Intruder training (lockdown) conducted 2x per year in all schools
- All school and district office personnel will prominently display their ID badges at the school and district office buildings
- All school and staff personnel will address any visitor who does not display a Henry County Schools’ ID badge or visitor’s badge

No-Cost Enhancements

- All schools will practice standardized check-in procedures (CheckMate System)
- Update to functionality of CheckMate System to include:
 1. Ability to take a photograph of visitors and add a photo to the adhesive badge
 2. Ability to scan the back of the visitor’s driver’s license to automatically populate the personal information fields
- Implementation of Social Emotional Learning and Wraparound practices within the school buildings.

Investments

- Pilot a Campus Emergency Response System
- Pilot a Buzzer/Key Card System at the newly constructed McDonough High School and McDonough Middle School
- Five additional School Resource Officers (SRO); providing a 1:1 ratio in middle and high schools
- High school single-point entry doors like the middle and elementary schools



Early Literacy Update

Henry County Schools has been working hard through identified needs found in the strategic priorities to place greater emphasis on early learning and literacy across the district, and the efforts are showing great returns. Part of strengthening our core business of student learning meant we had to clarify what/how we teach, and what/how students learn. There is also the need to clarify which district resources would be used for teachers and student. Mrs. Melissa Morse, Chief Learning & Performance Officer, presented updates to the board regarding the district’s work and the success earned so far. She specifically pointed to the efforts of the district that align with two of the board’s beliefs – a belief that each student can learn at or above grade level and will have an equal opportunity to do so, and a belief that effective teachers and leaders produce excellent results. A list of completed and in-process activities include the Henry Teaching and Learning Standards, K-2 Literacy Summit, kindergarten phonics resource acquisition for all schools, and a model for kindergarten literacy instruction at 14 schools. Mrs. Morse was also able to provide information on the district’s next steps in their systematic approach to literacy instruction. One of those steps includes the acquisition of additional literacy resources for 1st and 2nd grade teachers. The board did approve the purchase of the resources, and they will be implemented in classrooms starting in January of 2019 and completed in time for the start of the next school year.





Awards and Recognition for Students and Staff



Henry Co. Library Board Recognition



Cheerleader of the Year



Eagle's Landing MS Jr. BETA Club



Eagle's Landing MS Jr. BETA Club



Eagle's Landing MS Jr. BETA Club



Eagle's Landing MS Jr. BETA Club



Eagle's Landing MS Jr. BETA Club

Leadership on the Move

Name	New Position/Location	Former Position/Location
Dr. Carl Knowlton	Chief of Staff Superintendent's Office	Executive Director Human Resource Services

Board Member Remarks



Dr. Pam Nutt
District 1

- Dr. Nutt gave a special recognition to the Stockbridge HS football team for their semifinal finish in this year's playoffs.
- Dr. Nutt also congratulated Vivian Thomas on her recent election to the Board of Commissioners, and she rounded out her comments by wishing Dr. McBride all the best in the future.



Josh Hinton
Board Chair
District 2

- Mr. Hinton shared his congratulations to Norma Santiago-Bell for being recognized as a HERO Award winner.
- Luella Middle School was featured for three of their students performing well at the district literacy days competition, as well as the fast track status for their CTAE classes.
- Hampton Middle School's Jr. Beta Club was also featured for being a National Club of Distinction for three years in a row.
- Well wishes were given to Dr. McBride and thanks to Mr. Pickett before Mr. Hinton's comments were concluded with congratulations to the Atlanta United soccer team.



Holly Cobb
Board Vice Chair
District 3

- Mrs. Cobb started by highlighting Marlon Miller from Union Grove Middle School for his SPARK Award that he received after starting a non-profit.
- The HCS Nutrition Department and Union Grove High School cafeteria were recognized for their recent health inspection ratings, including UGHS receiving a perfect 100.
- Ola High School's wrestling team received recognition by Mrs. Cobb after they captured the South Metro Wrestling championship.
- Her remarks concluded with the thanking of Dr. McBride for her service and well wishes for the future.



Dr. Donna McBride
District 5

- Dr. McBride thanked everyone who has shared his or her congratulations, thanks, and well wishes with her. She noted that her focus has always been about advocacy for children and excellence in their education. She shared her appreciation for working on the board with all members regardless of their differences.
- She highlighted Smith-Barnes Elementary for their recent Jr. Beta Club National Club of Distinction award.
- Praise was given to Eagle's Landing Middle School for their Jr. Beta Club and Academic Bowl team, as well as their media specialist, Betsy Sierra, for her customer service.



Annette Edwards
District 5

- Mrs. Edwards congratulated Stockbridge and Dutchtown high schools' football teams for their accomplishments this season after both made it to the playoffs.
- Praise was also given to Stockbridge High School for receiving the Bright Idea Grant and their student's achievements on the ACT.
- Dutchtown High School student Kennedy Freeman was recognized for being her school's recipient of the Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship.
- The Dutchtown MS - 7th grade football team was congratulated for being the 7th Grade Middle School district champions.
- She concluded her remarks by thanking Dr. McBride for her service and expressing her gratitude for the work and friendship they have shared.



Mary Elizabeth Davis
Superintendent

- Superintendent Davis started by noting her thanks for Dr. McBride and her family in the capacity they served in by being a member of the Board of Education.
- Tony Pickett, Strategic Planning Assistant to the Superintendent, was also recognized, as this meeting was the last for him since he is set to retire at the end of December. He was thanked for his service of 25 years to Henry County Schools.
- Recognition was given to Leslie Wantland (Stockbridge HS media specialist) for being appointed to the Henry County Library Board and Dr. Carl Knowlton (Executive Director for Human Resources) on his appointment as Chief of Staff.
- Her highlights were rounded out by thanking Connecting Henry, Turning Point Church, and Tabernacle of Praise for their generous support of our staff, students and families.