



HCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Vol. 1, No. 9 - September 10, 2018

Nat'l Suicide Prevention Month/Week

Better together.

Board Members

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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



One issue that is a focus for many of our HCS counselors and mental health experts nationwide this month is that of suicide prevention. The month of September and the week of September 9-15 are recognized nationally as National Suicide Prevention month and week, respectively.



It is a tough topic to broach for many, but our Student Services department does a remarkable job providing resources and training for our administrators, counselors, and social workers to help recognize warning signs for all individuals to help stop an avoidable tragedy. Jessica Stormer, HCS Student Services Director, and Amy Kuhns, Director of the Henry County Counseling Center, were able to provide a glimpse into the services and support provided to students and families in our school district. Their approach for support includes intentionally building opportunities for students and families to connect with their school community and one another. If you know of someone battling these types of thoughts, get them in touch with the National Suicide Hotline at 800-273-TALK (8255), Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GACL) 800-715-4225, or text NAMI to 741-741.

Another new resource for all Henry County Schools employees is the Employee Assistance Program or EAP. This program can assist employees with a large base of support contacts to discuss important issues free of charge to the employee. It is one added bonus to help show that "Henry Helps" by caring for the overall wellbeing of each and every individual in the district.

Board Policy and Administrative Regulations Review Plan

One of the defining roles of any board of education is that of setting policy for the school district it governs. As a part of this role, there is a need for periodic reviews to ensure that all policies adhere to state and federal guidelines while also providing clear guidance for governance of the school district. Henry County Schools district administrators and Board Members are beginning an extensive policy review to help identify areas that need strengthening, consolidating, or eliminating due to possible redundancy or irrelevancy.

This endeavor comes at an important time in the development and establishment of the Board-Superintendent Governance Team



Policy Review Plan (continued)

and the board's focus on a governance model and strategic planning process for the upcoming year. There will be policies provided for the board to review each month before sharing any ideas around modifications with the public for their consideration.

The first presentation of such a proposal started this month with the introduction of HCBOE Policy BD – Policy Development. This singular policy will be a replacement policy, consolidating five previous policies into one. It also establishes definitions to guide the work moving forward. Now policies will be further clarified with administrative regulations to support the policy's defined parameters by which the Superintendent and staff carry out their duties.

[Click here to view the current policy up for review.](#)

Strengthening the Core Business of Student Learning in Exceptional Student Education

All students in Henry County Schools and their success and achievements are important to the overall performance of the system. Chief Officer April Madden had the opportunity to share with the board and community the focus and responsibility her division has in meeting those needs. It starts with a partnership consisting of parents, students, administrators, teachers, specialists, and more working to ensure that our students served through the Exceptional Student Education department have all the resources needed to realize high achievement levels.

Just like their regular education peers, our students with exceptionalities have access to the Henry Teaching and Learning Standards (HTLS) and grade-level content. As it was shared, any student's academic performance should not be pre-determined by who they are and any disabilities they might have. In order to close the achievement gap that currently exists between students with exceptionalities and their general education peers, relationships must continue to be fostered between families and student support services. The Henry County Board of Education has established four core beliefs and accompanying commitments, which includes the first belief and commitment that all students can learn at or above grade level and will have equal opportunities to do so. The board made a key move with the recent passage of the FY19 budget which allowed for greater, more direct support of our schools and students by placing the Student Support Facilitators in the schools they serve. This move, coupled with consistent reviews of the content delivery and support, will empower teachers and paraprofessionals by strengthening instructional practices, and subsequently increase the learning expectations and outcomes for ALL students.

September Inspiration



Wesley Bird - Ola Middle School



Awards and Recognition for Teachers and Staff

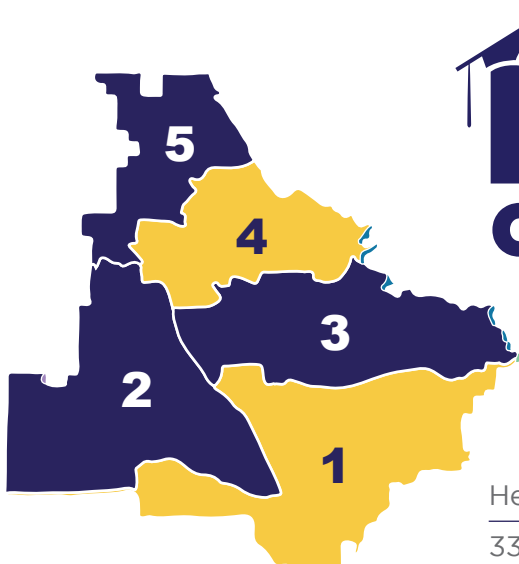
Cheri Schreibman - The LifeChanger of the Year award recognizes and rewards the very best K-12 educators and school district employees across the United States who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership, according to award officials.

Ms. Schreibman was recognized as a LifeChanger in her community for being a “phenomenal” presence in the lives of her students. She is the chair of the music department. She was nominated by a parent of one of her students for this special recognition. She now has the potential to earn up to \$10,000 for her school.



Leadership Appointments

Name	Former Position/Location	New Position/Location
Kelly Glover	<u>Assistant Director - Position Mgmt.</u> Atlanta Public Schools	<u>Accounting Coordinator</u> Financial Services
Yolanda Oatts	<u>Teacher</u> Dutchtown Middle	<u>Assistant Principal</u> Dutchtown Middle



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HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBER REMARKS



Dr. Pam Nutt
District 1

- Dr. Nutt congratulated Luella HS and their football team for their win Friday, September 7 over McIntosh HS. Stockbridge HS was also congratulated for their football win over Locust Grove HS.
- Locust Grove HS students were a big part of Dr. Nutt's comments. She noted that Khi Watson, a senior, recently represented the school during a trip to Washington for a science conference. Additionally, there were 125 students who were recognized for matching their passion to the core content. Through this school-based process, they will defend their level of mastery in the spring before teachers and students.
- Michael Sears, the Georgia Association of Educators representative for Henry County, was recognized for his continued presence and support of our school system.



Josh Hinton
Board Chair
District 2

- Mr. Hinton also took the opportunity to congratulate Luella HS on their 23-point comeback in their football game.
- Pate's Creek Elementary was featured for their partnership with Global Impact Ministries to supply books to students in kindergarten through 2nd grade.
- Brothers of Virtue, a male mentoring program, was also featured for being started at Pate's Creek Elementary.
- E'Mya Munford from Hampton High School was also highlighted for being named the Henry County Athlete of the Week by the Henry Herald.



Holly Cobb
Board Vice Chair
District 3

- Mrs. Cobb congratulated Alyssa Sterling from Ola HS for being a top 16 cheerleader in the state.
- Ms. Cheri Schreibman was congratulated again on her LifeChanger of the Year Award.
- Ms. Cobb's last feature included the Raise Me Up Foundation. This non-profit was highlighted for their work on the Adopt-a-Teacher program which benefits Henry County Schools teachers.



Dr. Donna McBride
District 5

- Dr. McBride took the opportunity to ask the board to look at possibly changing the policy regarding transfer student grade calculations.
- She also recognized Eagle's Landing HS for being nominated for a fourth time as an AP Honors School of the Year. Her kudos were extended to Mr. Cerie, the staff, and students of the school.



Annette Edwards
District 5

- Mrs. Edwards commended all staff members in the district for a great start to the school year.



Mary Elizabeth Davis
Superintendent

- Superintendent Davis thanked everyone for being at the meeting or watching it on demand.
- She took a moment to recognize our support staff who have stood in to help our schools/communities heal in the wake of student and staff passings. Their support in times of crisis and grief have really helped our students and staff make it through difficult times.
- She noted the importance of Patriot Day and reflected on the service of her family in the military, as well as the important role that our first responders/SROs play in supporting and protecting our schools on a daily basis.
- Grandparents Day was also highlighted. Superintendent Davis noted that it's important to honor our many grandparents and all they provide as a key influence for our students and partnership to help our schools.
- Fall break was the last point mentioned. She noted its welcomed time in the school year and the fact that it is next week. She finally wished everyone a relaxing and refreshing break.