



# HCS BOARD OF EDUCATION MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Vol. 2, No. 2 - February 11, 2019

## Better together.

### Board Members

Josh Hinton (Chair)

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Holly Cobb (Vice Chair)

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Mary Elizabeth Davis

Superintendent

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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



## We Love February

The month of February marks Black History Month, and we kicked off our board meeting with a recognition and celebration. There was artwork on display from 13 schools. Students all across the district are participating in various lessons and celebrations at their respective schools to mark the important history and contributions of African-Americans throughout our country's history.

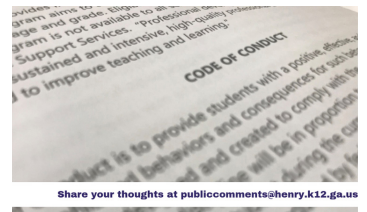


Another celebration featured during this month's board meetings honors our counselors. National School Counseling Week was held during the first full week of February 2019. Our school counselors do a remarkable job supporting our students and staff members across the district and we're proud to celebrate their importance.



## Code of Conduct Up for Review

The Henry County Schools Code of Conduct is undergoing a comprehensive review prior to the start of the 2019-20 school year. This review allows for students, staff and community stakeholders to examine the current school year's code of conduct and make suggestions for any changes. This year's review is different from previous years because it will only be a review of the Code of Conduct, and not the handbook. As has been supported through state law and district policy, the focus of review centers on the code of conduct portion of the handbook only. Items listed in the handbook entail policies, procedures and general information items for consumption by students and their parents.



The current code of conduct can be found by clicking here.

Those individuals wishing to provide feedback should submit their comments to [publiccomments@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:publiccomments@henry.k12.ga.us) with "Code of Conduct" in the subject line. You have until March 8, 2019, to provide your comments to the board of education.

## Community Conversation - FY20 Budget

An engaged crowd of community stakeholders were on hand for the Community Conversation budget discussion in preparation for the 2019-20 school year. Last year's event provided the executive leadership and board of education for Henry County Schools with some clear examples and ideas of what was important to prioritize in the upcoming budget. (continued)



## Community Conversation - FY20 Budget

(continued)

This year's event looks to have the same impact in preparing the budget for success in the coming school year. Chief Financial Officer Christy Willis gave the audience an overview that included several details about current financial projections and the process by which the board makes decisions before ultimately voting on a budget.

The presentation can be viewed through our On Demand video of the meeting ([Click here](#)).



## Strengthening the Core Business of Learning - Instructional Resource Review

Chief Learning and Performance Officer Melissa Morse presented the board of education with updates pertaining to the recent instructional resource audit for the district. With the continued priority on what our teachers teach and what students learn, the district has really started to transition to the focus of how teachers teach and how students learn. Teachers have indicated a need for more comprehensive and more tightly-aligned resources, the foundational building blocks to support their work of meeting the Henry Teaching and Learning Standards.

Part of the review by an outside agency looked at such things as the past five years of instructional resource acquisitions, resource usage and preferences, instructional resource delivery strategies, and they conducted interviews with over 900 district educators regarding resource usage and preferences.

The three main findings of the review are as follows:

1. Significant variation exists on what instructional resources are used from school to school and classroom to classroom.
2. Supplemental instructional resources are being used as a substitute for core instructional resources.
3. Instructional resource spending is at or near the high-end of the US average per student, per year

The main recommendations from the review were as follows:

1. Update district board of education policy on acquiring resources
2. Acquire core instructional resources including a combination of print and digital
3. Establish ongoing systems to monitor the effectiveness of instructional resources used in schools
4. Articulate and document a long-range plan for the delivery and sustainability of print and digital instructional resources for students

## Business Items

In addition to the approval of the Right of Way Easement for the Henry County PAC in Fairview, the board also approved the acquisition of K-5 Guided Reading Text Sets and K-5 classroom libraries for all elementary classrooms in the district. The text sets are aimed at making our students the strongest of readers and strengthening other literacy competencies for our elementary learners. The classroom libraries consist of 300 different book titles - 100 fiction, 100 nonfiction, and 100 classics - for students and teachers to use. There are also K-5 Guided Reading Book Rooms that will consist of over 6,000 books per school to support student literacy progress. The partnership with Scholastic entails an online digital management tool for resource tracking purposes as well as professional learning for teachers and administrators. This new resource for our elementary schools ensures consistency across the district for the materials that are being used to educate students in kindergarten through 5th grade.



**Awards and Recognition for Students and Staff**



**HCS Spelling Bee Champion**



**HCS Literacy Day winners**



**HCS Literacy Day winners**



**HCS Literacy Day winners**



**HCS Literacy Day winners**



**HCS Literacy Day winner**

# Board Member Remarks



**Dr. Pam Nutt**  
District 1

- Dr. Nutt was not present for the February meetings.



**Josh Hinton**  
Board Chair  
District 2

- Mr. Hinton recognized the Luella HS girls basketball team for their 3rd place finish in the region.
- Mr. Hinton also highlighted the Hampton Elementary Charter School students who were able to attend the Super Bowl Experience leading up to the big game.
- He noted that the Dutchtown MS 8th grade girls and 7th grade boys, and the Luella 8th grade boys basketball teams all won their respective division's district championship.
- Hampton Middle School was featured for winning the traditional and duals wrestling championships.



**Holly Cobb**  
Board Vice Chair  
District 3

- Mrs. Cobb complimented the counselors in the district for their work supporting students and staff on the heels of their week of national recognition.
- Mrs. Cobb noted the exceptional performance of Ola HS in their Ola Over Broadway production.
- Eagle's Landing HS was congratulated for their boys and girls basketball teams winning their respective region titles.



**Sophe Pope**  
District 4

- Mrs. Pope took time to feature the Eagle's Landing MS Math Team for their 3rd place finish at the Griffin RESA Math Competition.
- Mrs. Pope also congratulated the Eagle's Landing HS boys and girls basketball teams for winning their region titles.
- Cotton Indian Elementary was praised for their successful hosting of the Leader In Me Symposium.
- Woodland Elementary was highlighted for their upcoming Inaugural Black History program.



**Annette Edwards**  
District 5

- Mrs. Edwards highlighted Stockbridge MS for their Conflict Resolution Conference and their students of the month.
- She also congratulated all winners of the Henry County Science and Engineering Fair.



**Mary Elizabeth Davis**  
Superintendent

- Superintendent Davis expressed her appreciation for everyone who was able to attend the Community Conversation earlier in the evening.
- Superintendent Davis also thanked the counselors in the district for their work as last week was National School Counseling Week.
- She remarked at the incredible work of teachers across all schools to highlight Black History Month, and she noted that some of the artwork from students was in the administrative offices.
- She concluded her comments by telling the audience about her interaction with Anthony Tiller, a member of the HCS grounds crew whose dedication to the job, in spite of a medical setback, was really inspiring to her.