

BCS News & Notes

A newsletter for parents, students, staff and community

Dec. 16, 2011

Board OKs new school, agenda items

At its Dec. 13 meeting, the Birmingham Board of Education approved the construction of a new K-8 school that will consolidate Councill Elementary School and Bush Middle School.

The new school will be built on the site of Bush and the former Ensley High School, giving it a campus of approximately 13 acres. It will be built to house approximately 700 to 750 students and will include a magnet program for the sixth through eighth grades.

The new school should open in the fall of 2014.

The board tabled three items: paying the YWCA for services for homeless students, purchase of new/replacement band uniforms for Carver High School and purchase of a grand piano for Carver High

An item to provide security for specific district properties failed, and an extension of the contract for Volkert & Associates was pulled from the agenda.

Items that were approved include:

- Purchase of the software-based Waterford Early Learning Curriculum Program for Preschool at a cost of \$59,991
- Serving as the local education agency for several licensed state facilities: Alabama Clinical, Higdon Hill and youth detention/Family Court in the amount of \$1,543,393
- A partnership with the Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority at a cost of \$114,738
- Purchase of a 30-unit laptop cart from Dell for North Birmingham Elementary School at a cost of \$29,116.61
- Paying the International Baccalaureate Organization \$20,000 for the annual candidate fees for Ramsay High School and Phillips Academy
- Renewal of a \$20 million line of credit agreement with Regions Bank
- Extension of the special education transportation agreement with Glenwood Inc. to transport severely disabled students to the Allen Cott Facility at a cost not to exceed \$89,790
- Increasing the construction budget for the Epic Elementary School project from \$1,930,510 to \$2,680,000



Students across the Birmingham City School System have proved their generosity during the holiday season. Students at Carver High School, above, show some of the items donated to a Student Government Association food, clothing and toy drive called Operation Merry Christmas. Below, faculty and members of the Gentlemen of Distinction at Wenonah High School pose before the school Christmas tree. The organization collected gifts and toiletry items, which they delivered to residents of the Fairview Health and Rehabilitation Center and Fairfield Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The students also sang Christmas carols to the residents and staff when they delivered the gifts.



Board, From Page 1

- A contract with Standard Roofing Co. for \$1,590,510 for the reroofing of Epic Elementary School
- A change order for McWhorter and Co. Inc. for Jones Valley K-8 School at a cost of \$205,612
- A change order for Brasfield and Gorrie for Parker High School at a cost of \$174,351
- A change order for Trawick Contractors for Ramsay High School at a cost of \$137,247
- Purchase of track and field equipment for Wenonah High School from BSN Sports at a cost of \$40,347.83
- Purchase of 365 desktop computers and accessories for Jackson-Olin High School from Dell at a cost of \$315,411.11
- Paying Bagby Elevator Co. \$17,992 for emergency elevator repairs at the Administration Building
- Paying Black Box Network Services \$148,897 to provide voice and data cabling for the new Brown Elementary School
- Paying the Jeffco Basketball Official Association \$15,600 to provide officials for middle school basketball games at a cost of \$15,600
- Paying the Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service \$12,600 for emergency medical services for high school and middle school football games
- Paying AGF Inc. \$13,084 to refinish the gym floors at Huffman, Woodlawn, Carver, Wenonah and Jackson-Olin high schools and Center Street Middle School
- Renewal of the agreement with Reliance Communications Inc. for the emergency notification system at a cost of \$48,850.99
- Donation of \$2,000 to Barrett Elementary School from Gen YOUTH Foundation
- Donation of \$4,794.75 to the Birmingham City Schools from State Sen. Linda Coleman
- Donation of \$3,737 to Carver High School from State Rep. Mary Moore
- Donation of \$300 to Daniel Payne Middle School from the Westchester Neighborhood Association
- Donation of \$500 to Daniel Payne Middle School from the Birmingham Audubon Society
- Donation of \$3,346.50 to Wenonah High School from State Sen. Priscilla Dunn
- Donation of \$1,000 to Barrett Elementary School from Councilor Maxine Parker
- Donation of \$300 to the Birmingham City Schools from the Bush Hills Neighborhood Association
- Donation of \$500 to the Birmingham City Schools from the Green Acres Neighborhood Association
- Donation of \$505 to the Birmingham City Schools from the Belview Heights Neighborhood Association
- Donation of \$500 to North Birmingham Elementary School from State Rep. Mary Moore
- Donation of \$1,000 to Norwood Elementary School from Councilor Maxine Parker
- Donation of \$500 to Norwood Elementary School from State Rep. Mary Moore
- Donation of \$500 to Parker Community School from Councilor Johnathan F. Austin
- Donation of \$700 to Parker Community School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$500 to Princeton Elementary School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$3,000 to Smith Middle School from State Rep. Oliver Robinson
- Donation of \$3,000 to South Hampton Elementary School from State Rep. Juandalynn Givan
- Donation of \$200 to various schools from Councilor Lashunda Scales
- Donation of \$100 to Wilkerson Middle School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$500 to Brown Elementary School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$500 to Bush Hills Academy from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$500 to Bush Middle School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$1,000 to Carver High School from Councilor Maxine Parker
- Donation of \$100 to W.J. Christian K-8 School and Smith Middle School from Councilor Lashunda Scales
- Donation of \$500 to Hemphill Elementary School from the Birmingham Audubon Society
- Donation of \$500 to Hudson K-8 School from State Rep. Mary Moore
- Donation of \$1,000 to Inglenook K-8 School from Councilor Maxine Parker
- Donation of \$500 to Lewis Elementary School from State Rep. Mary Moore
- Donation of icemaker machines to the Maintenance Department from Alagasco
- Donation of \$500 to Minor Elementary School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$100 to Wilkerson Middle School from Councilor Steven W. Hoyt
- Donation of \$500 to Wilkerson Middle School from Councilor Johnathan F. Austin
- Donation of \$1,000 to Woodlawn High School from Councilor Maxine Parker
- Donation of \$2,000 to Woodlawn High School from Councilor Maxine Parker

9 teachers earn national certification

Nine teachers in the Birmingham City School System have earned National Board Certification.

National Board Certification is the gold standard for teaching excellence. Candidates undergo a rigorous process to qualify. It is awarded by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

The new NBCTs are:

- Rhonda Beacham, Minor Elementary School
- Charonda Boyd, Washington K-8 School
- Sean Colosimo, Wenonah High School
- Curtrina Jones, Glen Iris Elementary School
- Kimyum Langford, Gibson Elementary School
- Cheryl Michelle Lee, Huffman Academy
- Michelle Morris, Jones Valley K-8 School
- Moriel Purnell, Bush Middle School
- Katie Sefton, Huffman Academy

National Board Certification lasts for 10 years. Two Birmingham teachers received their recertification. They are Stephanie Parker, Department of Language/Reading Arts, and Kathryn Crawford, Huffman Middle School.

ESPN ranks Wenonah boys

The Wenonah High School boys basketball team has achieved a distinction not shared with any other team in the state of Alabama. The Dragons are in the ESPN Powerade Fab 50 regional rankings for week 1. Wenonah is listed as No. 13 in the southeast region.



Carver High School Principal Darrell Hudson, left, has put his wallet on the line to encourage his students to excel on the ACT. He promised that he would give a crisp \$100 bill to every student who scores 25 or higher on the ACT. The first student to reach that mark was Cedric Powell, who is shown collecting his financial reward.

Schools will reopen Jan. 4

Students will return to school Wednesday, Jan. 4, after the holiday break.

The next BCS News & Notes will be available Friday, Jan. 13.

Stories needed for newsletter

If you know of something good happening in the Birmingham City Schools and you want to tell others the news, write a few paragraphs for BCS News & Notes and e-mail the information to Michaelle Chapman, director of communications, at mchapman@bhm.k12.al.us. Digital photos also are needed. Ms. Chapman is editor of "BCS News & Notes."