

THE BCS REPORT

Ramsay High School



CONGRATS BCS CLASS OF 2022

G. W. Carver High School



P. D. Jackson-Olin High School



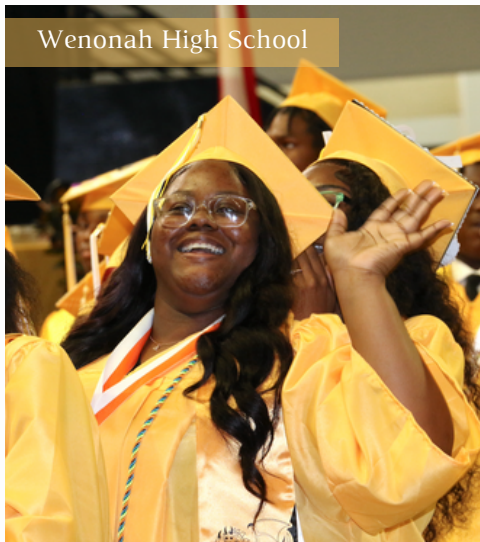
Huffman High School



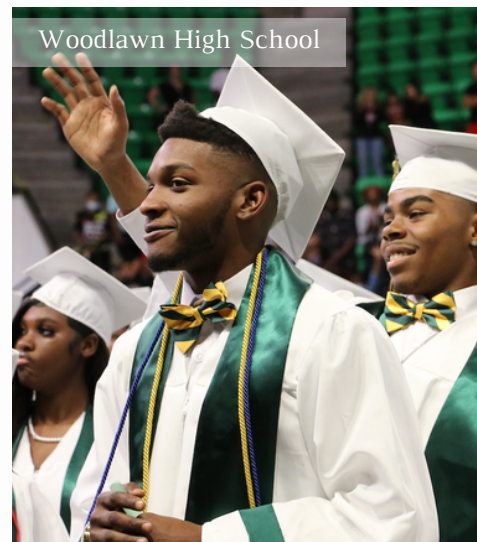
A. H. Parker High School



Wenonah High School



Woodlawn High School



THE SUPERINTENDENT SPEAKS

There were times in the first week of June when the Bill Harris Arena sounded like the final seconds of a championship basketball game. People were on their feet cheering. On the floor, students held up their phones and snapped selfies as they turned their tassels.

I've watched similar scenes every year in Birmingham City Schools, but for the Class of 2022, this year in many ways has resembled a hard-fought battle on the court. In 2020, these new graduates were sophomores when their in-person learning came to a screeching halt. They transitioned through remote and virtual learning in their junior year. The final year brought an opportunity for growth with in-person learning, punctuated with extracurricular activities such as senior week, homecoming, sports and their senior proms.

This class persevered and these graduates should be congratulated and celebrated for their many accomplishments. They are BCS Strong, and they represent the best!

Our grads did not make it alone. The people in the stands cheering represent a supporting cast that gives our students the edge for success in Birmingham City Schools. Our parents and community partners truly are our strength, because they undergird the work of our educators and support staff to build a comprehensive team.

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak at the kickoff for the United Way of Central Alabama's Pacesetter Campaign. Leading representatives from companies throughout our area make up this pacesetter group with a goal of raising millions in advance of the full United Way Campaign. They are key partners for Birmingham City Schools.

Our district, like all urban school districts throughout the country, has faced challenges over the past two years because of the pandemic. With the support of United Way, we've been able to navigate some of those challenges -- especially through our high dosage tutorial program.

United Way assisted in managing the program that placed tutors in all of our schools to give students additional assistance in reaching their academic goals. Early reports show that this approach has had a significant impact on learning for many of our scholars.

We still have lots of work to do this summer through our Sensational Summer Learning Program. And, before you know it, August will be here and it will time to resume our regular school year.

Let's celebrate the success of 2021-22 and look forward to what's ahead in 2022-23.

- *Dr. Mark Sullivan*



JUNE 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

District Dates

- **Juneteenth:** June 19
- **BBOE Work Session:** June 28 @5:30 p.m.
- **Last Day of Summer School:** July 8
- **Last Day of Summer Meals:** July 22
- **Independence Day:** July 4, Offices closed
- **BBOE Meeting:** July 12 @5:30 p.m.
- **Summer Graduation Rehearsal:** July 28
- **Summer Graduation:** July 29
- **Teachers Return:** August 1
- **Staff Institute Day:** August 5
- **First Day of School:** August 8

2022 STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Birmingham celebrated Alabama Teacher of the Year Reggie White with a parade and car presentation on Friday, May 20 at Booker T. Washington K-8 School. White, a 5th-grade math and science teacher was presented the keys to a new car by ALFA Insurance.

White will not be at Washington K-8 School teaching next year. Instead, he'll be traveling across the state as an ambassador for education.

BCS is very proud of Reggie White, who is the second BCS teacher to be named Alabama Teacher of the Year.



Left: The Booker T. Washington cheer squad kicked off the parade with glittering green pom poms, celebrating their teacher, Reggie White, and leading the way for the rest of the students.

Below: Reggie White expresses his deepest gratitude to his fellow teachers, scholars, and many others who supported him throughout his career.





Registration, Career Academies Open

**2022-23
REGISTRATION
OPENS APRIL 4!**

**BHAMCITYSCHOOLS.ORG/
REGISTRATION**

2022

 **REGISTRATION PORTAL**

 **PARENT PORTAL**

2023



**Now Accepting
Applications**

**Admissions open
for 2022-2023**

Students applying for acceptance in an Academy outside their zoned school district must apply for a transfer.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Participation in career academies of Birmingham allow students to engage in areas of career interest.

Instruction provides knowledge and hands-on experiences in real-world settings affording the opportunity to connect education and practical application within the work force.

Students are prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully enter the workforce and or college.

Virtual School Still Accepting Applications

The Birmingham City Schools Virtual School utilizes a flexible learning model where students can take all the coursework that is required using an online platform. Students accepted into the program will be provided with a BCS-owned electronic device along with instructions on how to navigate an online learning environment.

High School students will have the ability to choose from a variety of elective classes, including foreign languages.

Students will be required to take standardized tests in person at a designated BCS building. The application for the Virtual School is supplemental and must be completed for those interested in participating in the virtual program. The application for the Virtual School is supplemental and must be completed for

**The Virtual
Academy of
Learning**



those interested in participating in the virtual program.

For more information, scan the QR code or [click here](#) or contact Interim Virtual Program Coordinator, Jessica Wedgeworth at 205-231-9500 or 205-231-7000 or email: jwedgeworth@bhm.k12.al.us or Jerelle Hendon 205-231-2280 or jhendon@bhm.k12.al.us

HUFFMAN TINY HOUSE PROJECT



A family in North Carolina has a new home thanks to the students in the Academy of Architecture and Construction at Huffman High School. Students designed and built the entire 300-square-foot home. It includes a bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, living area and loft. It also includes solar panels.

[Click here to read more.](#)

CARVER STUDENTS RECEIVE SEAL OF BILITERACY

Congratulations to our 13 seniors who graduated with the English and Spanish Literacy Seal in June. Our Carver Rams earned this distinction through national exams in English and Spanish. This is the second year that BCS has participated.



On Friday, May 27, 2022, Carver educators awarded and honored 13 scholars who displayed their newly bestowed seals of biliteracy. The seal signifies to colleges and employers that students are bilingual and biliterate in English and another language.



MAY/JUNE 2022 RECOGNITIONS



Tippet Graduates from Samford

Congratulations to Dr. Tammarra Tippet who graduated this spring from Samford University. Dr. Tippet serves as the Program Coordinator for the Teacher of the Year Program, New Teacher Orientation, Teacher Engagement and Mentoring Program, Alabama Teacher Mentor Pilot Program in collaboration with the New Teacher Center, BCS National Board Candidate Support Program, and other BCS professional learning initiatives.

James Chosen for Summer Institute Program

Dorine James, a teacher at Princeton Alternative Elementary, will spend three weeks this summer exploring the state's civil rights impact on America. "Stony the Road We Trod: Exploring Alabama's Civil Rights Legacy" is a teaching institute presented by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Alabama Humanities Alliance. The program, which will run July 10-30, selects no more than 30 educators from across the nation for this opportunity each year. James has taught in the Birmingham City Schools system for six years. She currently teaches 5th-grade English Language Arts and Social Studies. She also serves as the school's social justice fair coordinator.



Bowens Receives Master's Degree from UA

Shelton B. Bowens, 8th-grade science teacher at Ossie Ware Mitchell Middle School, recently received a master's degree in Higher Education Administration from The University of Alabama. He plans to start a nonprofit that focuses on mentoring and community engagement that ensures African-American males have a smooth transition from high school into college.



Curry Named Einstein Fellow

Putnam Middle School's Candyce Curry is among 15 K-12 STEM teachers from across the U.S. named a 2022-2023 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow.

The fellows will spend 11 months serving in a federal agency or U.S. Congressional office in Washington, D.C., engaged in the national STEM education arena. The program provides an opportunity for accomplished K-12 STEM educators to apply their extensive classroom knowledge and experiences to their host offices to inform federal STEM education efforts.



Grays Receives Counseling Degree

Congratulations to Mr. Reginald Grays, who recently received an Educational Specialists Degree in Professional School Counseling from the University of West Alabama. He currently serves as the counselor at P. D. Jackson-Olin High School.



Nurse Coordinator LaVonna Arrington
Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award



Facilities Department's Willie Scott
Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award



Student Accolades



Alan Flores

BCS senior Alan Flores recently completed his training with the Academy of Craft Training gaining hands-on experience to prepare for work. Alan is now employed at Brasfield & Gorrie.

Roderick Mitchell

BCS senior Roderick Mitchell also completed his training with the Academy of Craft Training. With newly gained experience, Roderick is now employed at Dunn Construction.



Lefarich Foy, III



Wenonah High senior Lefarich Foy, III, affectionately known as "Tre," was recently invited by Lady Woo and the Inheritors of God's Promise to perform a saxophone solo on V94.9 radio station.

Tre was highly sought during the pandemic for his "jazz on the lawn serenades" for birthday celebrations, parades, and more. He's currently the hired saxophonist at two area churches and shares his talents via his YouTube channel "Tre WesLee Sax" where he can be viewed playing multiple instruments in a variety of musical genres. He has been offered scholarships to several colleges and plans to pursue a Music Education degree at Alabama State University in the fall.

Antonia Henderson

Ramsay I. B. High School's Antonia Henderson, a member of the Lady Rams softball team, was recently selected for Class 5A All-State Honorable Mention for the 2022 Softball season.



BCS, Verizon Expand Innovative Learning Program

Birmingham City Schools is expanding its participation in Verizon Innovative Learning (VILS), an education initiative which addresses barriers to digital inclusion.

A.H. Parker High School, Booker T. Washington K-8 School, Huffman Middle School, L.M. Smith Middle School, W.E. Putnam Middle School, William J. Christian K-8 School, and Woodlawn High School are among the 50 new schools joining Verizon Innovative Learning, bringing the program to more than 560 middle and high schools nationwide.

These schools join two other Birmingham schools already participating in Verizon Innovative Learning.

In partnership with Digital Promise, Verizon Innovative Learning equips every student and teacher at select middle and high schools across America with a device and up to a four-year data plan, while others receive mobile hotspots with monthly data plans for students without reliable home internet access. In addition to free technology and access, schools receive teacher training and support, along with the opportunity to engage in powerful teaching and learning that leverages technology in and out of the classroom.

In addition to free ipads/Chromebooks and accompanying 30GB 4G LTE Verizon data plans for every student and teacher as part of the program's 1:1 device model, W.E. Putnam Middle School and Woodlawn High School will be assigned a full-time coach to train teachers in effectively integrating technology into their lessons.

Also, as part of the program's hotspot model, A.H. Parker High School, Booker T. Washington K8, Huffman Middle School, and W.J. Christian



Wilkerson Middle School was among the first schools in BCS to receive devices from Verizon's Innovative Learning program.

K-8 School will receive hotspots with 30GB 4G LTE Verizon data plans for two years, as well as IT implementation support and a stipend to support an instructional liaison who will support teachers in effectively integrating technology into their lessons.

"Initiatives such as VILS help to level the technological playing field for our scholars while providing the tools that are integral to learning," said Superintendent Dr. Mark Sullivan. "We are appreciative of this opportunity and I have no doubt that our students will use it to further their learning."

Verizon Innovative Learning, Verizon's award-winning education initiative, has been addressing barriers to digital inclusion for students and teachers for 10 years. Since 2012, the program has committed \$1 billion in market value to support digital equity, reaching over 1.5 million students. Verizon Innovative Learning is helping to drive the company's commitment to provide 10 million youths with digital skills training by 2030.

Woodlawn, Ramsay High Schools Lead the State in FAFSA Completion



Two Birmingham high schools are among the top in the state when it comes to completion of the FAFSA for college financial assistance. Woodlawn High School and Ramsay High School were among the schools recognized recently in the Cash for College campaign to encourage FAFSA completion.

In the medium school category, Woodlawn had the largest percentage increase. Ramsay had the largest percent of students completing their FAFSA forms in the medium category. The percentage of Woodlawn students completing the FAFSA increased 195% this year compared to the graduating class of 2021. At Ramsay, 96 percent of 2022 seniors have completed the FAFSA.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the gateway for college grants, scholarships and some campus work opportunities.

For educators, FAFSA completion is a strong indicator of what post-secondary enrollment will look like in the fall of 2022.

Birmingham Superintendent Dr. Mark Sullivan applauded the work of BCS students and their families, as well as the school counselors, teachers, and career coaches along with community partners such as Birmingham Promise and College Prep-U.

“We all want the best opportunities and the best outcomes for our scholars,” Sullivan said. “We achieve that goal by working together.”

Alabama Possible, a statewide nonprofit, leads the Cash for College campaign and encourages graduating high school seniors to complete the FAFSA, because it can be a gateway to continuing their education. Graduating seniors also are required by the state to complete the FAFSA or have parents sign a waiver.

State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey Visits Birmingham City Schools

From flying a drone to checking out the latest beats produced by a digital DJ, Alabama's State School Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey was almost like a kid in the candy store as he absorbed the new learning tools in Ed Farm's Innovation Library at South Hampton K-8 School.

Dr. Mackey visited several Birmingham schools following the Teacher of the Year celebration at Washington K-8 School.

The first stop for the whirlwind tour was the historic A.H. Parker High School. The team, led by Principal Darrell Hudson provided the State Superintendent with an overview of the school, as well as a tour of The Academy of Urban Educators.



Ed Farm CEO Waymond Jackson, left, with Dr. Eric Mackey

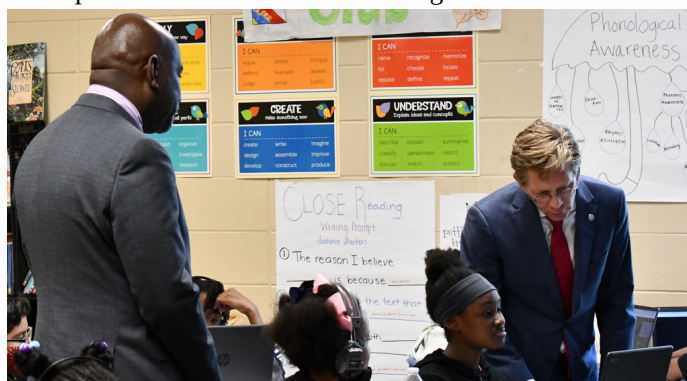
South Hampton K-8 School was the next stop on the tour. There, Principal Alicia Washington, Ed Farm CEO Waymond Jackson, students and Ed Farm team members gave a thorough exhibition of the Innovation Library.

Dr. Mackey said several other school districts in Alabama are interested in the innovation labs. Jackson, a Ramsay High School graduate, said Ed Farm is committed to increasing student exposure to technology to help increase academic achievement.

The tour ended for the Dr. Mackey at Oliver Elementary School where Ms. Jennifer Love-Lott and her team of educators showcased several examples of innovative learning.



Alabama's State School Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey was almost like a kid in the candy store as he absorbed the new learning tools in Ed Farm's Innovation Library at South Hampton K-8 School.



Changing Your Trajectory Series Features Music Stars

Under the leadership of Student Support Services Instructional Superintendent Ms. Constance Burnes, and in partnership with Tony Mercedes Music Group, Principal Jesse Daniel, and the Joe Lockett Show, BCS hosted the inaugural Changing Your Trajectory discussion series.

This dynamic conversation series allowed students to engage in candid, yet heart to heart conversations with influential people throughout our local, national, and international community.

The conversation allowed students to dialogue with:

- Grammy Award winning music publisher Tony Mercedes
- Tionne “T-Boz” Watkins of the world renowned group, TLC
- Local radio personality, Joe Lockett whose show airs daily on 92.5 FM, and
- Motivational speaker, Sean Johnson



The purpose of the conversation series was to allow students to hear the lived experiences of music industry veterans and icons regarding how their life trajectories were impacted by their decisions.

Faculty sponsors that organized the event were BCS Child Psychologist, Ameet Bosnia and Attendance Officer, Jerelle Hendon.



[Click here to read the full story.](#)

Project Search Graduates 10 BCS Scholars

Ten scholars representing five different high schools in Birmingham City Schools were recognized during the Project Search Birmingham Commencement Ceremony on Wednesday, May 25.

The students have received training and support to prepare them for work after high school. Several of the students are employed at UAB Hospital. Other students are employed at Ollie's Bargain Outlet, Avondale Common House and Hilton Birmingham at UAB.

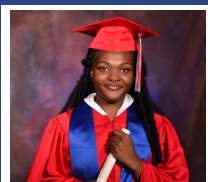
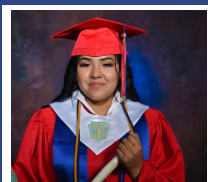
The 2022 Project Search graduates are: Destinee LaShawn Bean, Rachel Hope Storey, Joseph Edward White III and Edgerrin James Worthey, all of Huffman High School; Vondarrius Jahiem Coe, Joshua Deron Jackson, Dashun Jamar Molton, and Rosetta Deon Tellis, all of Woodlawn High School; Benjamin Tyrell Jackson, G.W. Carver High School, and Niquehia Aquilla Morrow of A.H. Parker High School.





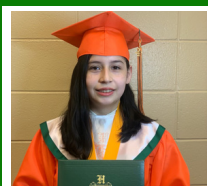
A. H. PARKER HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian
Mya Blue
Salutatorian
Marcus Haddix



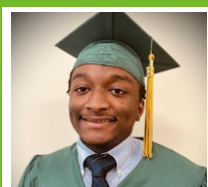
G. W. CARVER HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian Jessica
Garcia-Cruz
Salutatorian
Y'onna Hale



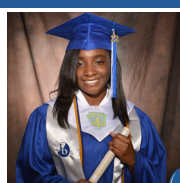
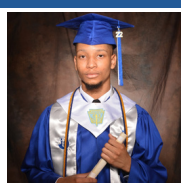
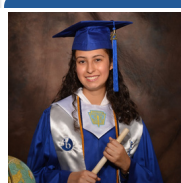
HUFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian
Nicole Zapata
Salutatorian
Mizani King



P. D. JACKSON-OLIN HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian
Darius Foster
Salutatorian
Demetria Winston



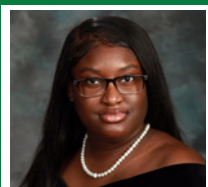
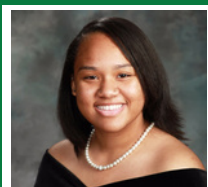
RAMSAY I.B. HIGH SCHOOL

Co-Valedictorian Dulce
Canela-Esquivel
Co-Valedictorian
Kylan Benson
Salutatorian
Kamora Porter



WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian
Ebony Woods
Salutatorian
Cayden Hill



WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL

Valedictorian
Briana Nicole
Rowell
Salutatorian
Kyla Janae Daniels



2022 BIRMINGHAM CITY SCHOOLS VALEDICTORIANS & SALUTATORIANS

Nikki Seaborn
Editor

Rachel Waller
Graphic Designer

Sherrel Wheeler Stewart
Executive Director, Strategy
and Communications

Dr. Mark Sullivan
Superintendent

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