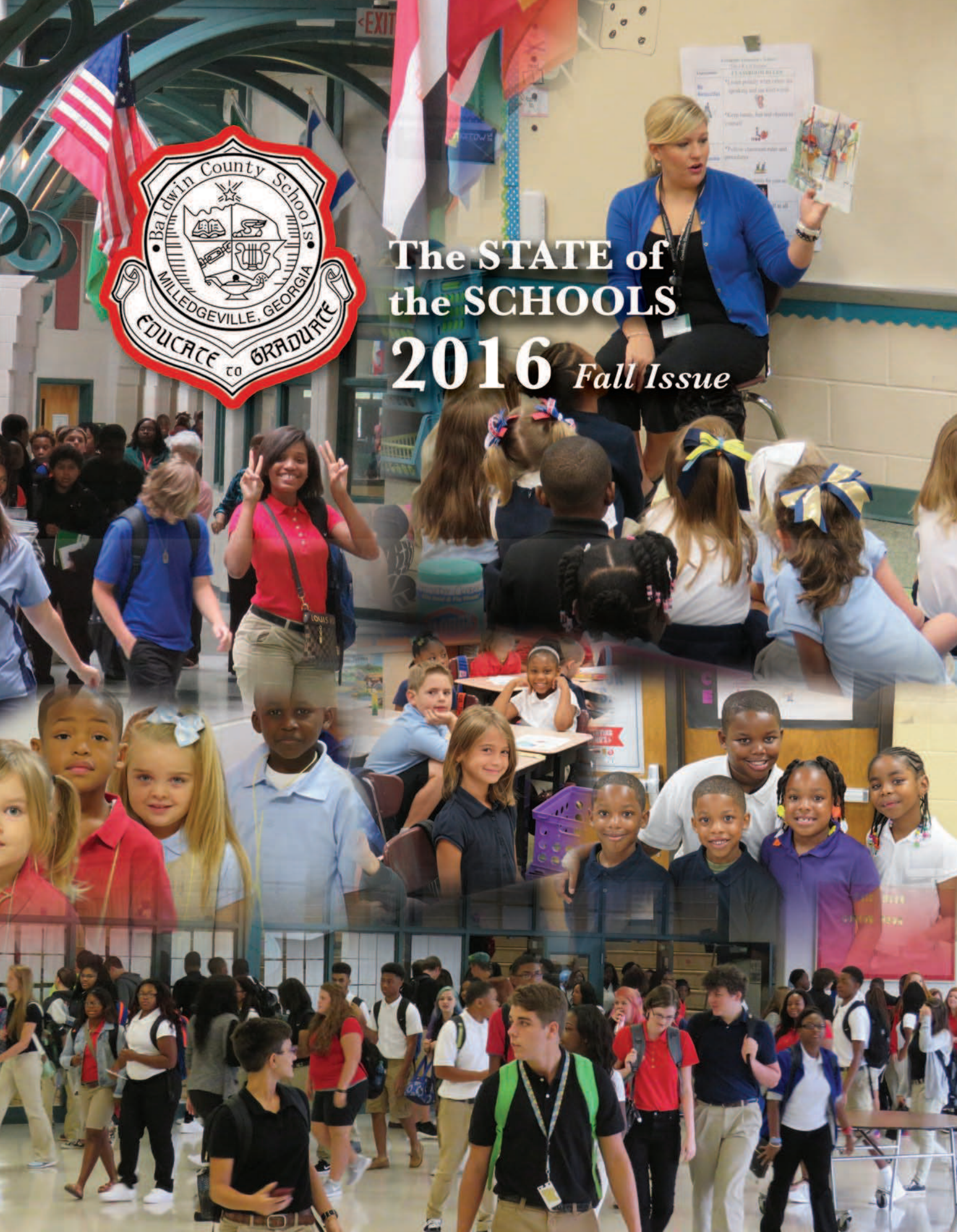




The STATE of the SCHOOLS 2016 *Fall Issue*



Milledgeville-Baldwin County
CHAMBER

HOLIDAY
SOCIAL

Join Us!

Thursday, December 15

Magnolia Ballroom

5:30 P.M.-8:00 P.M.

\$10 Members \$20 Future Members

Hosted By:



Exchange Bank



From the Superintendent

As superintendent, it's my honor to welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year. I am excited about where we are going as a school district. This school year, we will begin to operate as a Charter School System. The charter will provide us with the flexibility to implement innovative programs to meet the needs of our diverse student population. It will also allow us to continue the work of challenging our students to reach new levels of achievement. Our teachers and staff are ready and eager to work in collaboration with our stakeholders to lead Baldwin County Schools to new heights.

Over the past two years, we've seen many improvements in our school district. I am very proud of the increase in our graduation rate from 66.6 percent in 2014 to 86 percent in 2016 and the number of college credits, over 1100, earned by our students. While we still have work to do, we are making progress.

While we strive for excellence for all of our students, we must continue to keep a focus on our mission that all of our students graduate from high school, have college and career options, and become contributing members to our community and global society. It is my honor and privilege to serve the children, staff, families and citizens of Baldwin County as its superintendent. Thank you for your continued support and for your willingness to work with us toward our goal of becoming a world-class school system.



Dr. Noris Price, Superintendent

From the Publisher

The 2016-2017 school is underway for all of the local schools. A school year full of promise lies ahead. Through the collaborative efforts of local students, educators and parents, the possibilities for success are endless.

The Baldwin County Public Schools serve thousands of local students annually, providing a strong foundation for life beyond the classroom.

This annual publication aims to celebrate the school system's successes and inform the community about

what's on the horizon for local students and schools.

We want to expound on many of the Baldwin school district's successes and provide parents with a glimpse into some of the new programs in store for their children focused on enhancing their learning experience.

We certainly hope you take a few moments to read and share the valuable information included on these pages and never forget that as our schools succeed, so too, does our community.

Much success during the 2016-2017 school year.



Keith Barlow, Publisher



BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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baldwin.schooldesk.net



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John Jackson – District 4
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Wes Cummings – District 5
wes.cummings@baldwin.k12.ga.us





Whoooo
Knew?

MISSION

The mission of the Baldwin County School District is to educate students who will graduate from high school with the knowledge, skills, and values to be college and/or career ready in order to be contributing members of a global society.

VISION

Our vision is to empower students through a positive, culturally responsive and stimulating environment where students will recognize and achieve their fullest potential.

BELIEFS

In Baldwin County Schools:

1. We believe all students can learn
2. We believe all individuals are inherently unique and valuable and those unique differences enhance learning
3. We believe effective and engaging teachers have a positive impact on learning
4. We believe learning is a continuous, lifelong process
5. We believe learning is a shared responsibility: school, home, and community - for which we are all responsible
6. We believe collaboration creates accomplishments greater than the sum of individual efforts
7. We believe data analysis leads to informed decisions
8. We believe technology will continue to transform the educational landscape
9. We believe our efforts should be focused, aligned, and responsive to the social and economic wellbeing of our community
10. We believe a positive culture, community, and learning environment are crucial to the success of all stakeholders

Baldwin County Board of Education: *What We Do & Why We Do It*



Pictured left to right: Dr. Noris Price, Superintendent, John Jackson – District 4, Harold B. Simmons – Vice Chair, Dr. Gloria Wicker – District 1, Lyn Chandler – Chair, Wes Cummings – District 5

School board members are elected by citizens to be the governing bodies of local school systems, and therefore, must make decisions with students, parents, taxpayers and school employees in mind. In Baldwin County, there are five districts each with their own representative. The five board members are elected by district to serve four-year terms. The superintendent serves as an ex-officio member of the board and acts as secretary-treasurer. Board members elect a president and a vice president for a one-year term. As constitutional officers of Georgia, the primary duty of the board of education is to enact policy. The superintendent and staff enforce the policies and ensure that each student has an equal opportunity for a quality education. The board is also responsible for:

- Evaluating the educational program;
- Adopting courses of study;
- Approving personnel recommendations;
- Approving the budget, financial reports, audits and major expenditures;
- Providing funds for the operation and support of the school system;
- Setting minimum standards for efficient operation and improvement of the system;
- Approving school attendance boundaries; and
- Acting as a tribunal at certain employee and student hearings.

As community leaders, our school board members serve as advocates for the children in our schools and must study, evaluate and decide what actions are in the best interest of those students. The Baldwin County board members willingly accept the challenges of their office

without expecting to be praised. They serve as a representative and a champion for public education in our district.

The Baldwin County School Board has been recognized as a 2015 Distinguished Board. To be considered for this recognition, school boards must meet and/or exceed the criteria set forth by GSBA based on the state board of education's standards for effective governance. The recognition program was designed to showcase best practices in school governance and leadership. GSBA recognizes good school board governance to foster educational community cultures in order to advance student learning and achievement. Congratulations to the Baldwin County School Board for receiving this honor.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE 2016-2017 (5:30 p.m. start for all meetings):

September 13 th	December 13 th	March 14 th
October 11 th	January 10 th	April 11 th
November 8 th	February 14 th	May 9 th

CONTACTING THE BOARD

School board members are elected officials and are not actually employees of the school system. They do not have individual offices at the school system's Administrative Center. However, information received at the board office is sent to the school board members weekly.

Correspondence may be mailed to:

Baldwin County Board of Education
110 N. ABC Street | Milledgeville, Ga 31061



Lyn Chandler, Chair
Harold B. Simmons, Vice Chair
Dr. Gloria Wicker
John Jackson
Wes Cummings

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 District 2 – haroldbsimmons2286@gmail.com
 District 1 – gloria.wicker@baldwin.k12.ga.us
 District 4 – john.jackson@baldwin.k12.ga.us
 District 5 – wescummings@spfs.net

Strategic Improvement Planning Executive Summary

The Board of Education voted to use a process developed by the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) and Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement (GLISI) to create a strategic plan for the school district. This comprehensive process engaged the community and all stakeholder groups to create universal ownership and support for district and school improvement. Highlights of the process include:

- A comprehensive community engagement component to allow stakeholders to have a voice in the strategic improvement planning process
- A diverse planning team that represented stakeholder groups to develop the plan
- A facilitated planning process that assisted the planning and action teams in analyzing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the school district and developing/defining the mission, vision, beliefs, goal areas and elements of the strategic improvement plan
- A facilitated process to work with experts within the district and community on developing initiatives and action steps to implement the plan



The strategic planning process follows a continuous improvement cycle designed around the five questions listed in the visual above. This process begins with a community engagement session and survey of stakeholders.

One of the most important aspects of the Strategic Improvement Planning Process is the ability of the school district to use GSBA's eBOARD Strategic Plan Software to assist with the execution, monitoring, and reporting of the plan. GSBA's eBOARD Strategic Plan Module makes the process easy for district staff and the school board. Plan items can be easily updated by staff allowing users to filter the plan by staff, department, status, priority, date, etc. As the plan is updated, results are reported on through the Strategic Dashboard, Balanced Scorecard and Goal Alignment report. eBOARD helps to keep everyone informed and provides real-time status updates of the plan in a transparent fashion.



Whoooo
Knew?

► Baldwin County began operating as a Charter System on July 1, 2016.

► School Nutrition Department received Best Practices award from the United States Department of Agriculture and the state of Georgia

► Blandy Hills Elementary received a \$1,000 New Teacher Assistance grant from the Georgia Power Foundation

► Baldwin County Wins One of 18 Innovation Fund Grants from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement

► Creekside Elementary is the recipient of the WMAZ Top Teacher Award

► October 2016
Both Cross Country teams made Baldwin history at the GHSA Region 3-AAAA Cross Country Meet! The boys became region champs and the girls were region runner-ups. Both teams qualify for the State Meet in Carrollton. This is the first boys region championship in any sport at Baldwin in over 10 years.

Georgia Milestones Assessment System

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through 12 that replaces the CRCT. Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take an End-Of-Grade (EOG) assessment in grade specific content areas, while high school students will take an End-Of-Course (EOC) assessment for each of the eight courses designated by the State Board of Education.

Features of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System include:

- Open-ended (constructed-response) items in language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses.)
- A writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the language arts assessment
- Norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses, to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison.

Students in grades 5 and 8 will take an EOG assessment in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. While students in grades 3, 4, 6 & 7 will only take EOG assessments in the content area of language arts and math. Baldwin County will administer the EOG assessments starting April 17th through April 28th. Starting with the 2016-17 school year ALL grade levels 3-8 will take their required EOG assessments online.

Baldwin County High School is on a block schedule so all students will be administered EOC assessments twice a year, December 5th through December 15th, for the first semester and May 1st through May 11th for second semester. All EOC assessments at the high school level are administered online. Students at the high school level will take an end-of-course assessment in the following 8 courses:

- 9th Grade Literature and Composition
- American Literature and Composition
- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Physical Science
- Biology
- United States History
- Economics/Business/Free Enterprise

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state-adopted content standards in the core content areas of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Importantly, Georgia Milestones is designed to provide students with critical information about their own achievement and their readiness for their next level of learning. Georgia Milestones serves as a key component of the state's accountability system - the College and Career Ready Performance Index.

If parents have any questions about the Georgia Milestone Assessments they can contact their child's school or Baldwin County Office of Assessment and Accountability.

School Nutrition

As head of the BCSD's school nutrition program, Susan Nelson supervises the preparation and delivery of breakfast and lunch for thousands of our students on a daily basis.

And it's not just when school is in session that she's busy. Ms. Nelson and her team have served over 47,000 meals to students and children across Baldwin County in June and July. That's an increase of 12,000 meals compared to last summer.

"Our summer meals program has been an incredible success and it helps ensure that the children who need access to quality food can still get it in the summer months when away from school," said Nelson.

"We have two buses that drive to each of the 22 sites in the district to deliver meals throughout the summer.

Some of the sites include local public libraries who are taking part in their reading programs and even to local athletic camps and churches."

This is all part of the United States Department of Agriculture's "Seamless Summer" campaign to make sure our children here in the Baldwin community don't experience a disruption when away from school on break."

The BCSD, via co-op partnership, has hired a certified chef who comes once every five weeks to work with and train our kitchen staff on things like food preparation and presentation for our students.

All of this incredible work has not gone unnoticed. The BCSD has recently received an award from the U.S.D.A. for best practices for how well we have organized and implemented our meal plans across the district.

Strategic Goal Areas and Performance Objectives

Goal Area I – To Increase Student Achievement

Performance Objectives:

- To ensure mastery of curriculum
- To ensure all students are college and career ready upon graduation
- To identify, implement, and support intervention and acceleration programs

Goal Area II – To Increase Student and Stakeholder Involvement

Performance Objectives:

- To increase parent and family involvement
- To improve student engagement
- To increase community involvement

Goal Area III – To Recruit and Maintain High-performing Staff

Performance Objectives:

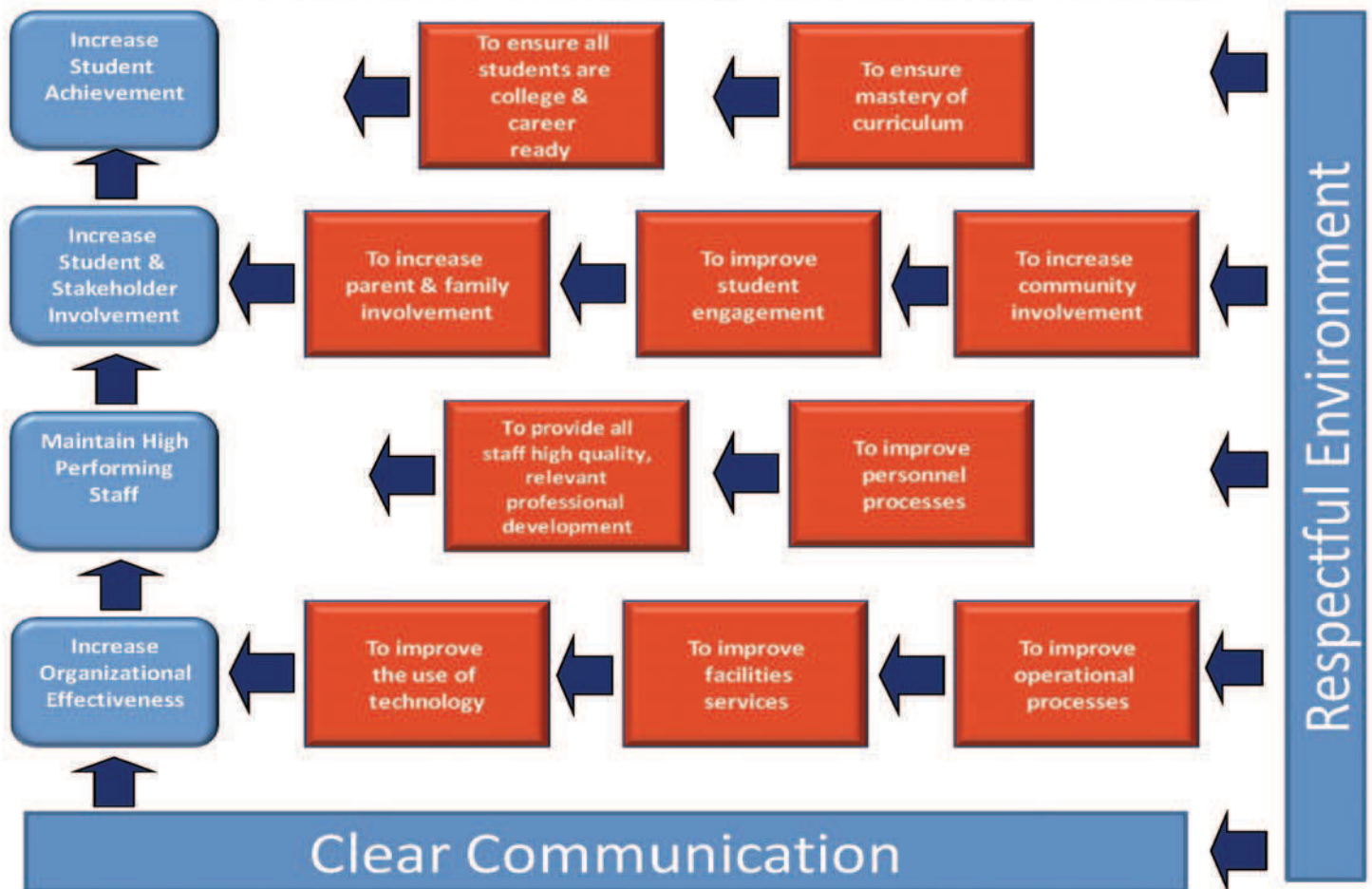
- To provide high quality, relevant professional development for all staff
- To improve district processes to attract and retain highly qualified, highly effective staff

Goal Area IV – To Increase Organizational Effectiveness

Performance Objectives:

- To improve the use of technology
- To improve operational processes
- To improve facilities services

Baldwin County Strategy Map



Baldwin County Schools Cause and Effect Strategy Statement

If we increase the effectiveness of organizational processes, and provide rigorous, relevant, and reliable instruction, and effectively engage all stakeholders, then our students will master standards-based curriculum and graduate college and career ready.



Whoooo
Knew?

► Creekside Elementary School achieves 2016 National Beta School of Merit status

► Coach Anderson Bentley named the "Most Positive Coach in Middle Georgia" by positive Athlete Georgia.

► Sound of Silver 2016
Marching Competition

-Superior Ratings in all Captions (Color Guard, Drum Major, Percussion, Band)

-3rd in class AAAA band

-2nd in class AAAA percussion

-2nd in class AAAA color guard

-3rd place overall band

(out of 20 groups)

-2nd place overall color guard

(out of 20 groups)

► Baldwin County had 57 First place winners, 60 second place winners, 53 third place winners in the 2016 Regional Science Fair.

► Oak Hill Middle School wins 2016 Kaolin Football Championship.

Fine Arts



The Baldwin County School District's fine arts program is one of the very best you will find in all of Georgia and even offers a nationally recognized music community. The fine arts play an integral part in how students develop both in the classroom and later on as productive members of society.

"I couldn't be more proud of what we've been able to accomplish here," said Anna Brock, Fine Arts director for the BCSD. Brock is actually a graduate of Baldwin High School and also a product of our very own Fine Arts Program.

"I'm most excited about the upcoming school year. Thanks to our school board we finally have the resources to introduce art and music programs for every student in this district and it's going to be a huge payoff for us. All of our programs have excelled and been award winning for years and years and years. We're able to develop indescribably talented students and because of what we offer here, we're able to take that talent and help develop it into something exceptional," said Ms. Brock.

The National Association of Music Merchants named the Baldwin County School District as one of the the best communities in the nation for music education in 2016. BCSD was one of approximately 475 across the country to earn the very presti-



gious award, and only one of six school districts in Georgia. Of the 13,515 school districts in the entire nation, Baldwin County is in the top 3 percent for music education.

The recognition shows that Baldwin County, a small and rural district, is competing directly with the largest school districts in the state like Gwinnett and Cobb counties by delivering the same kind of high quality education in the fine arts.

The fine arts compliment the overall education we are able provide our students. The fine arts help spark student creativity and increases the cultural richness that our students can experience while attending our schools.

Athletics

The Baldwin County School District knows that athletics plays an important role in the educational process. They contribute to the overall climate and culture of the school, provide options for our students to exercise and remain healthy, build a sense of community and teach invaluable skills like hard work and how to be part of a team. Also, because of the many great coaches leading our athletics programs, athletics can provide great role models as well.

The BCSD has a very rich and successful history in our sports programs and offer the kinds of facilities and coaching to ensure our students have the opportunity to develop and mature physically as well as mentally.

BCSD offers 23 different athletic programs for our students and their families to participate in with 12 of those programs offered for both boys and girls.

BHS Braves softball



BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL:

- Football
- Basketball (Boys & Girls)
- Baseball
- Softball
- Soccer (Boys & Girls)
- Golf (Boys & Girls)
- NJROTC Riflery (Boys & Girls)
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Track (Boys & Girls)
- Cross Country (Boys & Girls)
- Cheerleading
- Literary (Boys & Girls)
- Tennis (Boys & Girls)

OAK HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL:

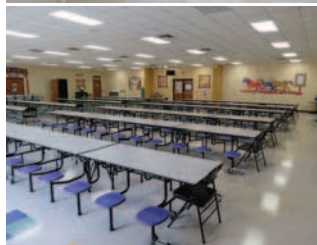
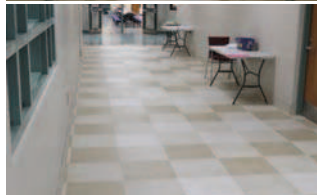
- Cross Country (Boys & Girls)
- Football
- Softball
- Basketball (Boys & Girls)
- Baseball
- Golf
- Soccer (Boys & Girls)
- Track (Boys & Girls)
- Cheerleading



BHS Braves football



ESPLOST



*Whoooo
Knew?*

► The Baldwin County School District was named one of 476 school districts across the United States being recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as among the Best Communities for Music Education (BCME), out of the nation's 13,515 school districts. Only six school districts in the state of Georgia were selected to receive this honor: Clarke County, Atlanta Public Schools, Fulton County Schools, Cobb County, Baldwin County, and Gwinnett County.

► Three students were selected for the 2016 River of Words poetry competition. Only 20 state winning entries from grades K-12 across Georgia were chosen. The ROW Journal, a full-color printed booklet, is published to showcase Georgia honorees. The winning works are also reproduced to become part of a traveling exhibit hosted by the Georgia Center for the Book which travels to schools, nature centers, and libraries across the state. This is the third consecutive year that Midway has had state winners published in the ROW poetry contest.

The Baldwin County School District has been able to make dramatic improvements to our school system thanks to the funding from ESPLOST. These funds have brought with them upgrades to every single facility in the school district. Improvements and renovations in Phase I include having entire schools repainted, new flooring installed, gymnasiums renovated, security upgrades, technology infrastructure upgrades, new technology for students and teachers, and new school buses. The security

upgrades being installed at each school will consist of new secure vestibules where visitors will be directed to check in with staff in the main office before gaining access to the rest of the school.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the citizens of Baldwin County for voting to extend ESPLOST for another five years. The passage of this ESPLOST is a strong demonstration of your continued support of our schools.

Foothills Charter School

Foothills Charter High School, housed in the Baldwin College and Career Academy, begins its second year this month. Foothills is a charter high school that offers an opportunity to earn a Georgia high school diploma in a non-traditional setting. Computer-based, online classes, allow students to work at their own pace in the evenings. Tuition is free to students ages 14 to 20 who wish to enroll at Foothills. Students must have at least attempted the ninth grade. Students over 20 years old who need five or fewer credits to graduate can also enroll with Baldwin Foothills. For those students, there is a \$150 per course fee. Students attend classes Monday through Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Foothills opened at the Baldwin College and Career Academy in August 2015 with an enrollment of 70 total

students. As of June 30, 2016, we had three students graduate.

One barrier Foothills students have encountered in its first year is not having a means of transportation. The staff at is currently working to try and remove that obstacle for potential students. Foothills is seeking community members to become actively involved in our school. Interested parties please contact Baldwin Foothills, 155 Hwy 49 West, Milledgeville, GA 31061 at (478) 453-6429, ext. 310.

Foothills Charter High School operates from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Those with questions about the school or interested in donating to the scholarship fund can call Dr. Verlinda Samuels or Jeff Holloway at (478) 456-3429 ext. 310.

REACH Scholarship Program



In February 2012, Gov. Nathan Deal announced the launch of the state's new needs-based college scholarship program, the REACH Scholarship (Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen).

"The REACH Scholarship continues our state's ongoing commitment to providing access to higher education for all Georgians, regardless of their income," said Deal. "This scholarship will reward students for self-accountability, promote parent involvement and provide motivation and support; all factors that we know are critical in student educational achievement."

REACH Scholars are selected in middle school and sign a contract to maintain a certain grade average, remain crime, drug and behavior issue free and meet with a volunteer mentor until they graduate from high school. Their parents or guardians signed a contract to support their student in their education. Students who complete program requirements will receive a \$10,000 scholarship to be used at any HOPE eligible institution. This amount will cover the average gap between other needs based scholarships, such as Pell, and the full cost of attendance.



We are very fortunate to have community members and organizations such as Cece and David Sinclair, Milledgeville Rotary Club, Century Bank and Trust, Kiwanis Club and Dr. Ivan Allen, president of Central Georgia Technical College, supporting the 2015 REACH Scholarship Program. We appreciate the investment that these donors have made in our students and in the Baldwin County School System.

In September, students for the second cohort were selected by a committee. The committee of community members met and reviewed the applications and recommendations, interview each student and then, using a rubric, selected the next cohort of REACH Scholars.

In October 2016, a very special signing ceremony took place at Oak Hill Middle School. Parents and community members joined us for



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BCCA offers students *career path options*

Baldwin College and Career Academy (BCCA) offers a wide selection of career paths for every student.

Housed on the Baldwin High School campus, BCCA is organized into 12 clusters with 15 career pathways for students to choose from. These clusters range from agriculture to marketing, with something for almost every student. With each cluster, there are career paths that follow.

Students can experiment throughout their career at Baldwin High School and dip their feet into various clusters, but they must have three credits in one cluster in order to complete a pathway.

The pathways allow students to see real life situations and learn valuable life skills by pairing up with student organizations at the school. The career clusters are partnered with co-curricular student organizations that provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills and become team players.

“Through those student organizations, it helps them to build leadership skills, teamwork skills, application for what they’ve learned in the classroom, and students go to region, state and national competitions,” said Director Teresa Phillips. “This gives opportunities for students that may have never left the area of Milledgeville to go to regional and statewide competitions.”

Along with all of the other benefits, several clusters offer dual enrollment programs. Currently, there are two



dual enrollment opportunities: nursing and welding. This year, criminal justice and computer programming will be added to the list of dual enrollment programs. Through dual enrollment students get high school credit while they earn college credit as well.

“Every student should take the opportunity,” Phillips said. All of the classes incorporate employability skills, interview skills and resume building, college searches and exposure to the careers. The Baldwin College and Career Academy helps to build a foundation for whatever career they may choose.”



*Whoooo
Knew?*

▶ BHS Theater 1st Runner-Up at region 3-AAAA one-act competition, also received Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress and Best Ensemble awards

▶ BHS Boys Cross Country win first regional championship in 10 years, Girls runner-ups

▶ Boys and Girls Soccer teams receive 2016 All Region and Honorable Mention Recognition from Georgia High School Association.

▶ Baldwin County had 4 first place winners, 9 second place winners and 8 third place winners in the 2016 Engineering Fair.

▶ Baldwin High School wrestler breaks the all-time wrestling wins record held since 2012.

▶ BHS Football crossed over 300th All-Time Victory mark



PARENT UNIVERSITY

Baldwin County Schools Parent University is a community collaborative to help parents become full partners in their children’s education. We are partnering with community agencies and organizations to offer free courses, family events and activities that will equip families with new or additional skills, knowledge and resources. Parent University offers courses to empower parents to support their children academically as well as their social and emotional needs.

Research has shown that parents can increase a child’s academic success through their involvement in their child’s education. Parental involvement improves student morale,

attitudes, and academic achievement across all subject areas. When parents are involved in the education process, students achieve more, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial background, or the parents education level.

The goal of Parent University is to increase parent involvement in the schools and empower parents to raise children who are successful in school and in life. The term parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including and ensuring that they play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.



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Director: Lori Smith | Email: lori.smith@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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Early Learning Center helping students from day one



“Welcome to the class of 2030!”

Saying that phrase to a 4-year old in 2016 may seem a little early to some, but for the staff of the BCSD’s Early Learning Center it’s something they’re trying to instill in their students from day one.

“We here at the Early Learning Center know that we have to lay the foundation for children to be successful,” says ELC Director Lori Smith.

“We know these early years in a child’s life are so critical to who they’ll be as adults. We know we have to start habits that will last a lifetime.”

Smith has spent a 21-year career in education with every one of those years working with 4-year olds in early learning centers all across Georgia. Her start in childhood education actually started by studying adults.

“In college, I was studying adults with developmental disabilities and what we found was that the overwhelming majority of those adults weren’t born with a disability. Something happened to them at a young age that caused that problem,” Smith says. “It was a really clear moment for me and I realized if I want to truly help people, I have to help children build a good foundation first.”

BCSD’S Early Learning Center does just that. Partnered with Headstart, and one of the few ELC’s in all of Georgia to do so, Smith and her team are able to bring about greater resources to help Baldwin County’s children and families succeed. The partnership with Headstart make things like transportation, medical services, speech, dental and hearing examinations even occupational and physical therapy available to the children enrolled at the Early Learning Center.

Smith says she and her team are most excited for the new students arriving. “Each year we get an entirely new class of students and we love working with them because they’re so honest, curious and eager to learn,” says Smith. “We get to set the expectation that they can achieve any of their academic dreams in the future.”



BHES



BLANDY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Blandy Hills Elementary
Grades K-5

blandy4.baldwin.schooldesk.net/

375 Blandy Road • Milledgeville, Georgia

Phone: 478-457-2495 • Fax: 478-457-2499

Principal: Pamela Shields | Email: pamela.shields@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Nicole Stephens | Email: nicole.stephens@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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credit simultaneously.

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- Daytime, evening, and online classes are available depending on choice of courses.
- Full tuition, fees, and cost of textbooks are covered for the MOWR program!
- College hours will **not** count against the HOPE hours cap.
- 27 degree-level classes are transferable to any college or university in Georgia.**

*Must meet CGTC entrance requirements.
**Transferability is guaranteed by agreements between the Technical College System of Georgia and the University System of Georgia and the Georgia Independent College Association.



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Blandy Hills Elementary School



Pamela Shields, Principal

Nicole Stephens, Assistant Principal

Principal Pamela Shields and Assistant Principal Nicole Stephens bring 46 years of educational experience to Blandy Hill Elementary with 24 of those years at the administrative level. However, it was two very different stories that developed them into educators.

“...I knew from a very early age there was absolutely nothing else I wanted to do in life but be a teacher....”

“I struggled with reading and because of that I actually hated school as a young child,” said Principal Shields.

“Even though I struggled, my grandmother wouldn’t accept it as an excuse. She kept pushing me to do better. I also had a teacher at the same time who saw my struggle and did the same thing. It was because of them

both that I wanted to repay that to children and families who may be going through what I experienced as a child. I want to help give them the same hope that my family and teachers gave me,” she added.

Assistant Principal Stephens had a much different experience.

“My mom was a teacher for 36 years,” she said. “I practically grew up in a classroom. I knew from a very early age there was absolutely nothing else I wanted to do in life but be a teacher.” She has been able to accomplish exactly that having spent her entire career in education here with the BCSD and even having served as a teacher at Blandy Hills.

Climate, culture and relationships are their biggest focus for the coming year. We know we have incredible opportunity to help students develop positive habits at a very early age as well as build positive relationships with our families based on mutual respect and transparency.

Shields and Stephens plan to engage their families through events that will be designed to open lines of communication and ensure that Blandy Hills continues to move forward.

Blandy Hills starts off the 2016-2017 school year with a new secured vestibule and renovations to the media center, office area and classrooms thanks to ESPLOST funding.



CES



**CREEKSIDE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**



Creekside Elementary Grades K-5

[creekside4.baldwin.schooldesk.net/](http://creekside4.baldwin schooldesk.net/)

372 Blandy Road • Milledgeville, Georgia

Phone: 478-457-3301 • Fax: 478-457-3340

Principal: Tracy H. Clark | Email: tracy.clark@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Vickie W. Lee | Email: vickie.lee@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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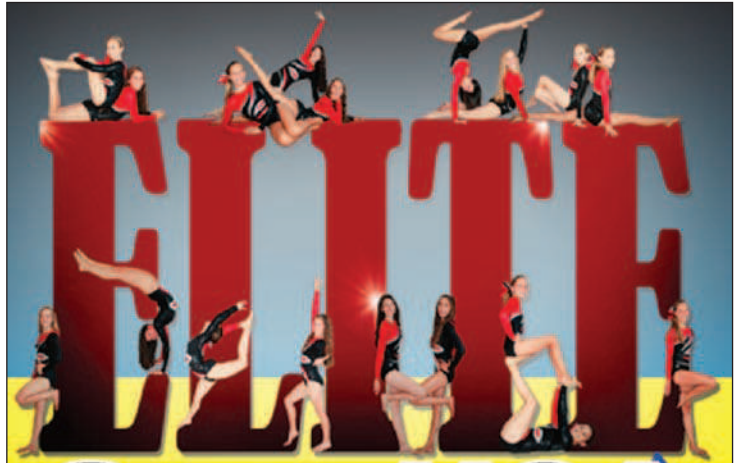


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Creekside Elementary School



Tracy Clark, Principal

Vickie Lee, Assistant Principal

Principal Tracy Clark and Assistant Principal Vickie Lee collectively bring almost 50 years of educational experience between them. However, education wasn't a first calling for either of them to BCSD classrooms. Both later discovered their passion for learning and the acquisition of knowledge.

Principal Clark started her journey in education as a paraprofessional.

"When I was young, I wasn't sure if being a teacher was something I wanted to do," said Clark. "However, once I got involved and got a feel for the work I felt fulfilled. As a result of my experience working with children, I immediately enrolled in college and earned my bachelor's degree in early childhood."

"Later, I earned my master's degree in middle grades and my specialist degree in leadership to further my career. What I love about education is that it is constantly changing.

The changes we see at the school, district and state levels keep us from getting complacent and ensures the focus is on making the necessary improvements which ultimately improves student learning and positively impacts our community."

Assistant Principal Lee also discovered her passion for education through a different journey as well.

"After receiving a bachelor's degree in business administration I worked in the savings and loan industry for seven years. Education has always been important to me. I was actively involved in the various school activities that our children participated in. Then I decided to learn along with them. I

obtained a T-4 certificate in early childhood and business education. I was so fascinated with learning that I went on to earn my master's and specialist degrees in leadership supervision."

Lee says that her seven-year work experience at Central Georgia Technical College was phenomenal in her growth toward administrative tasks. She also served on the Baldwin County School Board for one term. With over the 25 years in education, Assistant Principal Lee is content to continuing her fascination with learning at Creekside Elementary.

"What keeps me coming back each year are the students and the people that we work with," she said. "Staff members come to work for the children. They pay attention to the detail and help in anyway they can."

The 2016-2017 school year brings a lot of excitement for Creekside Elementary.

"The mission in this building for 2016 is 'Building relationships that count.' We want to focus on building relationships with our children and their families socially, emotionally and academically," said Principal Clark.

Creekside Elementary was recognized by the state for their parent engagement video it created along with student achievements in technology and science fairs including Destination Imagination.

Creekside is also receiving many new upgrades via ESPLOST funding including eight classrooms being tiled, painting and various security upgrades to serve the student better.



ERES



EAGLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Eagle Ridge Elementary Grades K-5

eagle4.baldwin.schooldesk.net/

220 ABC Drive • Milledgeville, Georgia

Phone: 478-457-2967

Principal: Shaun Wells | Email: shaun.wells@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Heather Chancellor | Email: heather.chancellor@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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Eagle Ridge Elementary School



Shaun Wells,
Principal

Heather Chancellor,
Assistant Principal

Principal Shaun Wells and Assistant Principal Heather Chancellor bring a combined 36 years of educational experience to the leadership team of Eagle Ridge Elementary. For the 2016-2017 school year, they plan to take that leadership experience and continue the improvements Eagle Ridge has seen in school climate and culture and academics.

Principal Wells' formal experience in education is considerable, but his informal experience spans almost a lifetime.

"My family always called me the professor," he joked. "Even as a small child, I was always helping and teaching others how to do things."

That mindset he developed early as a child was a huge part in determining his professional course in life. While he's always been interested in helping his students succeed, his work as an administrator takes his interest beyond just the children of Eagle Ridge Elementary.

"Now, as a principal I get to help both students and teachers to make our school and, in turn, our community a better place."

For Assistant Principal Chancellor, it's a lot of the same.

"I'm most proud of the relationships that we've been able to build with our teachers, our students and their families," Chancellor said. "Those rela-

tionships have been the foundation for the improvement that we've seen in our culture, climate and academic success."

Chancellor knows a thing or two about building relationships here. She has spent all 17 years of her educational career here with the Baldwin County Schools and even has all three of her degrees from Georgia College.

"I became interested in teaching in middle school," Chancellor said. "I had so many incredible teachers who were making me and other students feel special and I thought I want to do that, too. Then, after I graduated I had the opportunity to go to another county as a teacher but because of the relationships with so many great people here as a student teacher, I chose to stay."

This new school year comes with a lot to look forward to for Eagle Ridge Elementary.

"I believe I'm most excited about working with our educational partners," said Wells. "It's one thing to tell our students what they can be someday. It's another to actually have those same business people, entrepreneurs and other professionals come in to speak to them in real-life. Giving them something tangible to experience."



MES



MIDWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Midway Elementary Grades K-5

midway5.baldwin.schooldesk.net/

101 Carl Vinson Road • Milledgeville, Georgia

Phone: 478-457-2440 • Fax: 478-453-2680

Principal: Antonio Ingram | Email: antonio.ingram@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Cynthia Leal | Email: cynthia.leal@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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Midway Elementary School



Antonio Ingram,
Principal

Cynthia Leal,
Assistant Principal

Principal Antonio Ingram and Assistant Principal Cynthia Leal are the ones heading up the leadership team for Midway Elementary for 2016-2017 school year and are bringing with them 43 years of educational experience with 18 of that in administrative roles.

Principal Ingram's route to becoming an educator was more of a discovery.

"In college, my initial major was computer science and I hated it," he said. "However, at the same time I was taking a history class that I absolutely loved. Shortly thereafter, I changed my major. As I was going through the history program, a mentor told me that there were two things I could do with that degree: preach or teach."

"I don't think I would've been a very good preacher," he joked.

For Assistant Principal Leal, it was never a question about what she wanted to do with her professional life.

"I'm pretty sure I always wanted to be a teacher. I can remember even as a little girl playing school with my sister. It's something that has always called to me and I think I'm one of the lucky ones that really gets to live out their passion."

When it comes to how they approach their jobs, Ingram and Leal feel they have two main tasks as administrators.

"Our first priority is to provide a safe environment and positive school

culture for our students. The second is to instill in every student, parent, teacher and staffer that comes in our doors that everybody has the ability to learn and succeed," said Ingram.

"I don't think I would've been a very good preacher,"...

In terms of environment, Midway Elementary is getting its fair share of renovations as part of the ESPLOST funding with many new renovations including newly painted halls, offices and classrooms and new flooring in the foyer, cafeteria, offices and kindergarten classes. There are also several security upgrades being installed that should be completed in December as part of the ESPLOST funding, as well.

The Midway administration is very excited about the improvements to the facility and the curriculum changes they are implementing to focus on literacy. They are really excited about the upcoming school year.



OHMS



OAK HILL
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



Oak Hill Middle Grades 6-8

oak4.baldwin.schooldesk.net/

356 Blandy Road NW • Milledgeville, Georgia

Phone: 478-457-3370 • Fax: 478-457-2422

Principal: Daymond Ray | Email: daymond.ray@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal (8th grade): Becky Norton | Email: becky.norton@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal (7th grade): Jeffrey Holloway | Email: jeffrey.holloway@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal (6th grade): Verlinda Samuels | Email: verlinda.samuels@baldwin.k12.ga.us



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Oak Hill Middle School



Daymond Ray,
Principal

Becky Norton,
Assistant Principal-8th grade

Jeffrey Holloway,
Assistant Principal-7th grade

Verlinda Samuel,
Assistant Principal-6th grade

While the leadership team for Oak Hill Middle School may be new to the school they are not, however, new to education. Principal Daymond Ray and his Assistant Principals Dr. Verlinda Samuels, Jeffrey Holloway and Becky Norton bring an incredible 67 years of educational experience to the school.

The 2016-2017 school year brings with it a lot of changes that have these new administrators very excited about what's next.

"We have two main goals for this coming year. The first, is to work hard to improve the school climate and culture," said Principal Ray. "That will be the foundation for our second goal which is instilling a sense of excellence. We're going to have higher expectations for our students, teachers and ourselves."

"If we expect our students to learn at a high level we need to be leading at a high level, as well," Ray added.

To reach that high level of leadership, Principal Ray has a very strong supporting cast. Dr. Verlinda Samuels, one of Oak Hill's assistant principals, has wanted to be a teacher since being a little girl.

"There was never a time in my life where I didn't want to be a teacher.

Even as a child, I would be playing teacher" with my toys and dolls," said Dr. Samuels. Teaching is so much her passion that she even volunteers her skills outside of the classroom as a private tutor, as well.

For Assistant Principals Jeffrey Holloway and Becky Norton, it's all about the kids.

"What I love so much about working with the kids in this age group is that you get to play a role in teaching them while they're just at the beginning of figuring out what they want to do in life. We have the opportunity to spark something special in them," said Norton.

"I came from a great family, who taught me to work hard but there wasn't much emphasis on academics," said Assistant Principal Holloway. "As long as I passed my classes my parents were happy. However, I had teachers at the time that didn't just want me to breeze by. They pushed me to do better and showed me that I could. I want to help to do that for our students as well."

The staff aren't the only additions to Oak Hill Middle changing the climate and culture, however. The school has also received ESPLOST funding that will be directed toward needed renovations and security measures to help ensure that we have 21st Century learning environments.



BHS



**BALDWIN
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Baldwin High School | Grades 9-12 | bhs4.baldwin.schooldesk.net/

155 Highway 49 West • Milledgeville, Georgia • 478-453-6429

Principal: Dr. Cloise Williams | Email: cloise.williams@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Dr. Henry Hankerson | Email: henry.hankerson@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Markeeta Clayton | Email: markeeta.clayton@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Director of Baldwin College & Career Academy: Teresa Phillips | Email: teresa.phillips@baldwin.k12.ga.us

Assistant Principal: Jarvis Price | Email: jarvis.price@baldwin.k12.ga.us

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Baldwin High School



Dr. Henry Hankerson,
Assistant Principal

Markeeta Clayton,
Assistant Principal

Dr. Cloise Williams,
Principal

Teresa Phillips,
Director of Baldwin
College & Career
Academy

Jarvis Price,
Assistant Principal

The 2016-2017 school year will mark the beginning of the second year as principal for Dr. Cloise Williams of Baldwin High School. However, his 17-year career working with school systems spanned all across Georgia means he's far from a newcomer to public education. Williams is supported by four assistant principals: Markeeta Clayton, Dr. Henry Hankerson, Teresa Phillips and Jarvis Price. Combined, the leadership team at Baldwin High School account for more than 60 years of academic experience.

Originally from Sylvester, Ga., Williams was a high school football stand-out who later went on to play college football for Georgia Southern.

"As a freshman in high school, I had a teacher and a principal who could tell I had what it took to go to college athletically but they wanted to show me I can do it academically as well," he said.

"They pushed me to achieve on the field and in the classroom all throughout high school. That had a big impact on me," said Williams. "As a principal, I look around our school and see myself in a lot of our students in the school. Those teachers gave me hope when I didn't see it for myself, I want to give that back to our students today."

Williams and his team also understand the impact that education has on both the individual and the community at-large.

"We know that if we do our jobs right on our end as educators, then things like unemployment, poverty, crime, etc. will be reduced for the community," said Williams.

The thing most exciting for Williams in the 2016-2017 school year is continuing the momentum that Baldwin High School has been experiencing. Over the past two years, Baldwin High School has seen its graduation rates jump from 66 percent to 79.8 percent with more gains expected to come.

"I'm very excited to see how well we can increase our dual enrollment numbers to get more and more students graduating not just with a high school diploma but an associate's degree as well," he said. "It's a truly incredible program because we're able to prepare our students better than ever

before and doing so saving those students and their families thousands of dollars in college tuition costs," said Assistant Principal Price.

Assistant Principal Clayton is excited about building on the very strong personal relationship she has with the district.

"I'm a graduate of Baldwin High, so to be able to have an impact in a student's life in the same way my teachers in this very school had on me is something special," she said.

Clayton is coming to Baldwin High School from our very Oak Hill Middle School and looks to continue the relationships that are already in place.

"As the ninth grade principal, being able to work again with the same students I worked with at Oak Hill last year is going to be really exciting," she added.

BCSD's transition to becoming a charter system is another reason that students of Baldwin High will graduate ready to tackle real-world challenges in both the workforce or higher education as the flexibility to further innovative means programs like dual enrollment will have greater success.

The successful dual enrollment program at Baldwin High has been directed by Assistant Principal Teresa Phillips, who has almost 27 years of experience in education.

You can find out more about Assistant Principal Phillips in the College and Career Academy section of this magazine where we detail how Baldwin High School students are taking the opportunity to graduate with both a diploma and an associate's degree.

Dr. Hankerson splits his time as one of the assistant principals for Baldwin High but also serves as the school's athletic director, overseeing the school's 14 different sports programs. He has an extensive experience over his 19-year career as both an educator and a coach.

"I'm most excited about the opportunity to build on the tremendous work that has already been accomplished here both in the classroom and on the field."



Whoooo
Knew?

► Georgia College Early College celebrates its 10-year anniversary. The Class of 2016 was the largest class to graduate from GCEC with 26 students. Seven 2016 GCEC graduates chose to attend Georgia College. 18 GCEC graduates are currently attending Georgia College.



Georgia College Early College Grades: 7-12

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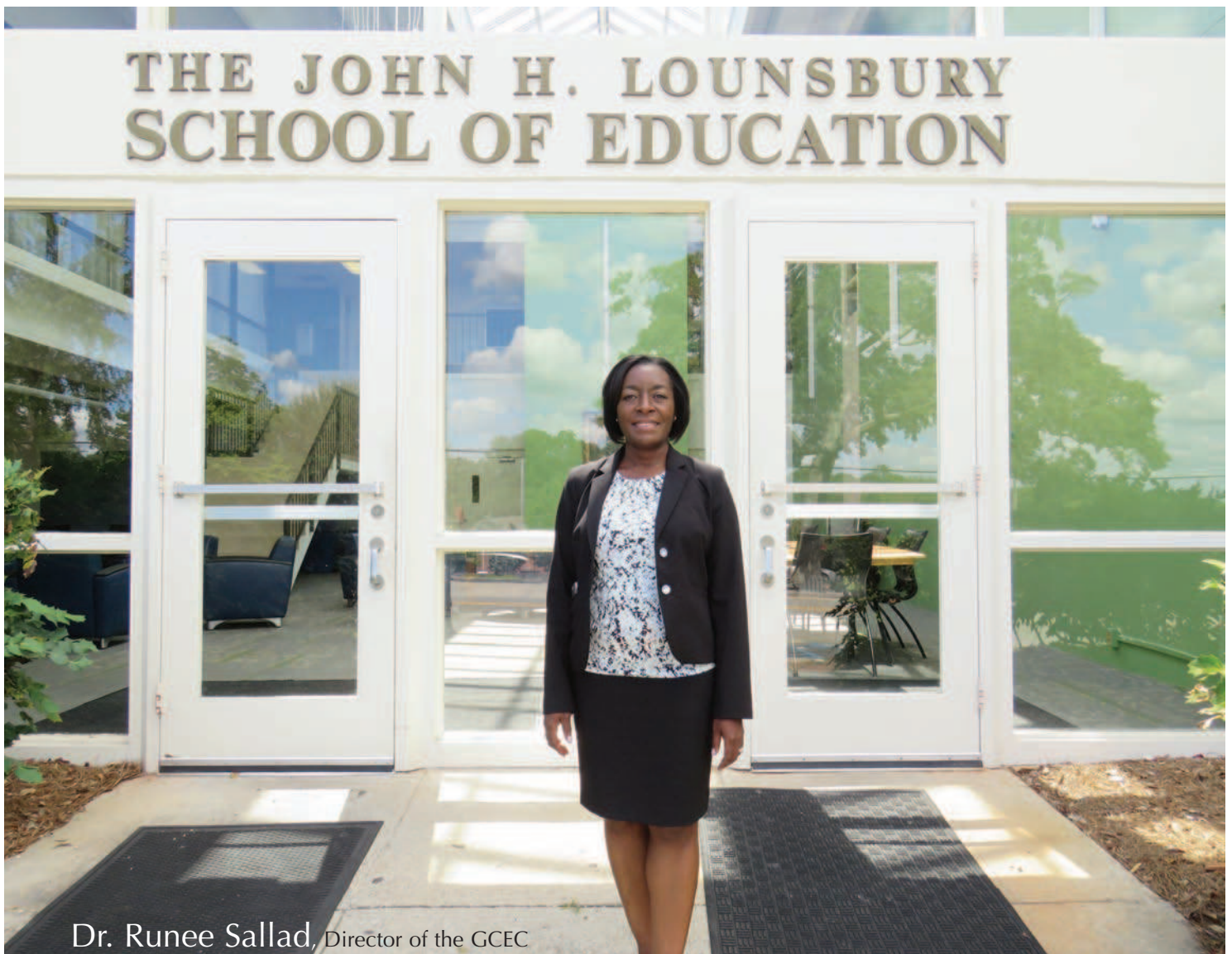


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Early College



Dr. Runee Sallad, Director of the GCEC

Dr. Runee Sallad, director of the Georgia College Early College (GCEC) Program, gets a very unique educational experience when it comes to the students she works with.

Sallad is a 23-year educator who has served as an administrator for 20 years. Twenty-two of her 23 years have been served here, in Baldwin County. She has been the director of GCEC for five years.

The Georgia College Early College Program works with students in seventh grade through 12th grade from Baldwin and Putnam counties, who originally may not have had the opportunity to attend college. Students in this program begin preparing for college in seventh grade with the hopes of beginning their college courses in ninth grade. Currently, GCEC serves 250 students, which includes 107 middle school students and 143 high school students. Ninety percent of their high school students are enrolled in college.

Since its inception, the program has seen some incredible success. Just last year, out of 135 high school students taking part in the Early College Program in the spring, 105 were enrolled in local post-secondary institutions. All the students who graduated from GCEC's in 2016 were accepted to attend the college or university of their choice.

"I don't just get to work with students for a year or a couple years; I have the opportunity to work with them from the begin of seventh grade all the

way up until they graduate from high school," Dr. Sallad said. "I enjoy getting to watch them grow and mature academically and see for themselves they can take on new challenges."

Georgia College Early College is the only early college program in the state of Georgia actually located on a college campus.

"Our students aren't just taking college classes; they are learning how to communicate, collaborate, and actively engage on a college campus and in a professional world. They participate in their college courses both online and in actual college classrooms with college professors, and they are provided college support by their high school teachers."

Georgia College Early College has become very successful in its mission, but Dr. Sallad feels that the future is even more optimistic.

"We've seen our students talk about how they approach their college level courses differently and more seriously because of their preparation and experiences in our program," she said.

"Fifty-three of our students were enrolled in one or more college courses this summer. They could be doing anything else with their time but they chose to further their education. It has been really wonderful to see them persevering to meet their personal goals."

Georgia College Early College has become an incredible educational program in which the Baldwin County School District is capitalizing to help build a world-class educational system right here in Central Georgia.

Partners In Education

Creating a world class school system doesn't come easy. It requires the vision of our leadership, the dedication and enthusiasm from our teachers and support staff, concentration and focus from our students, and the support of our parents. But that is only what happens in our classrooms.

Building a world class school system requires the help from the community, as well. Just as education can help fix many of the problems facing our community, our school system also relies heavily on the support we receive from the community. The BCSD's Partners in Education and Friends of Education through their generous donations and volunteering, help provide our district with the kinds of tools and resources we need to provide the highest quality of education for our students.

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Academic Calendar 2016-2017

JULY 29- AUGUST 3

Friday-Wednesday Professional Learning Days

AUGUST

04 Thursday First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

05 Monday LABOR DAY Holiday

OCTOBER

06 Thursday Professional Learning Day
No School for Students

07-10 Friday-Monday Fall Break

NOVEMBER

21-25 Monday-Friday Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

16 Friday Last Day before Winter Break

JANUARY

02-03 Monday-Tuesday

Professional Learning Day

04 Wednesday Students Return

16 Monday M.L.K. Holiday

FEBRUARY

17-20 Friday-Monday Winter Break

MARCH

10 Friday Professional Learning Day

No School for Students

APRIL

03-07 Monday-Friday Spring Break

MAY

24 Wednesday Last day for Students

25-26 Thursday-Friday

Professional Learning Days



FIVE STAR
MILLEDGEVILLE **TOYOTA**

**SUPPORTS AND APPRECIATES
BALDWIN COUNTY EDUCATORS!**



*Thank you for
all you do!*

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