Welcome to this month’s Fulton County School Board Newsletter. This newsletter will be sent out on a monthly basis and will have pertinent information regarding the seven districts serviced by our School Board Members. As always, we encourage you to attend one of the monthly community meetings held by our board members to keep abreast of current topics being discussed. We hope you find this newsletter topical and timely.

**New Meeting Locations**

The Administrative offices of Fulton County Schools are moving. The Administrative Center will be located at 6201 Powers Ferry Road, Sandy Springs, Georgia. Also, beginning in April of this year, the North Learning Center, located at 450 Northridge Parkway, Sandy Springs will be the new permanent home of the monthly School Board Workshops that are held the second Tuesday of each month. These meetings are currently held at the Administrative Center located at 786 Cleveland Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. The School Board Meetings that are currently held at Dunwoody Springs Elementary School on the third Thursday of each month will move to Hamilton E. Holmes ES beginning in April for the remainder of this school year. At the beginning of school year 2015-2016, the Board Meetings will move to Mt. Olive Elementary School.

**School Board Presents at National School Board Association Annual Conference**

Our School Board members will be attending the National School Board Association’s 75th Annual Conference in Nashville, TN from March 21-23, 2015. Fulton County Schools is proud to announce that our board will offer two presentations to many NSBA members from around the country. Building School Autonomy Through School Governance Councils and Strategic Plan Development & Monitoring for Large Urban Districts are the innovative and informational topics of discussion.

**Legislative Update**

The General Assembly is in session until early April. The Georgia School Boards Association’s website (www.gsba.com) is a good source to monitor legislation and receive daily updates.

Here are a few bills we are monitoring. The content of bills can change daily.

**HB587** - Change the charter of the City of Atlanta to annex property. Representative Gardner (D) has filed a bill on behalf of the City of Atlanta to annex property in unincorporated Fulton County into the City of Atlanta. The area includes several Fulton County Schools – A. Philip Randolph Elementary, Sandtown Middle, and Westlake High. The Board has expressed no opinion regarding the annexation, but is concerned about the disposition of these schools. Therefore, the Board passed a resolution objecting to the transfer of these school buildings to the City of Atlanta and/or Atlanta Public Schools in connection with the proposed annexation. Taxpayers in the Fulton County School District have supported rebuilding Westlake and renovations at the other schools through the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). Transferring the buildings would displace students remaining in the school district, and create a financial burden to provide additional educational facilities for these students.
HB170 – Change the state’s transportation funding method. Last month, we shared our concern with this bill that could have resulted in a 5 year loss of over $45 million for our district. Our representatives listened, and we’re pleased that the revised bill (as passed by the House) will not impact our funding. The bill is currently being considered in the Senate.

March Highlights

Schools receive Best Practice Awards for school nutrition
Seaborn Lee Elementary School received the 2014 USDA Southeast Region Best Practice Award and 2014 Georgia Best Practice Award for Implementation of the New Meal Pattern and Increasing Fruit and Vegetable Consumption. In addition, Tri-Cities High School received the 2014 Georgia Best Practice Award for Increasing Participation in School Breakfast.

Johns Creek High School student receives Prudential Spirit of Community Award
Johns Creek High School junior Evan Barnard has been named one of the state’s top two youth volunteers in the 20th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Webb Bridge Middle School teacher named GaASTA String Teacher of the Year
Dr. James Barket, a teacher at Webb Bridge Middle School, has been recognized with the Georgia Chapter of the American String Teachers Association highest award, "GaASTA String Teacher of the Year."

A Look Ahead

| Board Meeting | March 19, 2015 | Dunwoody Springs Elementary School |

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