



Board Briefs

September 2025 Meeting



prevailing love

September 4, 2025

Director of Student Services Dr. Christina Lowe shared an update with the Board of Education about ways schools in the district will show support and solidarity for Apalachee High School on September 4, 2025. It will be a day of reflection, giving back, and positivity as students write cards to first responders, counselors, and community members who continue to help our school system. Students and staff are also encouraged to wear blue and gold to show their Chee Pride. [Our website offers more information and mental health resources.](#)

Project AWARE Mental Health Clinician Update

Dr. Lowe also provided an update on the Project AWARE Mental Health Clinician team and their efforts to help support students. Those efforts include implementing mental health-related promotion, awareness, prevention, intervention, and resilience activities to ensure students have access to appropriate and effective behavioral health services. The Project AWARE program is in its first two years of a five-year grant.

[Watch the Presentation](#)

Academics & Student Success



BOLD Spotlight: Winder Elementary School

The BOLD Spotlight featured Winder Elementary School and its Bullpup Buddies program. Principal Dr. Andrea Neher shared that the in-house mentoring program ensures that students have a caring adult at the school who knows them, believes in them, and holds them accountable to be their very best.

[Watch the Presentation](#)

Other Academics & Student Success Items:

- Approval of Board Policy BAB School Board Governance which includes the Board's core beliefs
- Updates concerning the Georgia Early Literacy and Dyslexia Act and BCSS Advanced Academic programs
- 2024-25 Georgia Milestones Assessment System Results review
- 11th Day Student Count (15,024) and Enrollment Trends update
- Overview of SB351 concerning Digital Citizenship for grades 6-12 using the Parent ProTech lessons

Finances & Infrastructure

Staff Bonus & Compensation/Classification Study

There were two updates concerning salaries.

1. Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Houston thanked the Board for recommending and approving a one-time bonus of \$1,000 for all full-time employees working on Sept. 2.
2. A Compensation and Classification Study will collect information, benchmark positions, analyze market competitors, and make recommendations for competitive and consistent compensation. Finalized recommendations should be completed for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

Other Finance & Infrastructure Items:

- Approval of vendor to purchase band instruments for middle and high schools not to exceed \$117,000
- Approval of updates to the Internet Acceptable Use Policy to meet changes in technology and SB351 requirements

Superintendent's Recognitions



Celebrating our Teachers of the Year

We enjoyed celebrating our 2025-2026 Teachers of the Year at this Board Meeting! Our District Teacher of the Year is Caroline Becky-Beaver from Barrow Arts & Sciences Academy. Thank you to our Teacher of the Year Sponsors for their gifts and classroom grants!

- Akins Ford
- Cable East Inc.
- Charles Black Construction
- Clear Concepts Consulting Group
- Cunningham Forehand Matthews and Moore Architects
- Heyward Allen Cadillac GMC Toyota
- Jackson EMC
- Peach State Federal Credit Union

Meet Our Teachers of the Year



Congratulations, Summer Graduates!

Congratulations to our Summer Graduates! It was a pleasure to recognize you for your success!

- Lia Maney, Apalachee High School
- Nathaniel Arthur, Winder-Barrow High School



Customer Service Praise for Transportation

According to our schools, these bus drivers are shining stars when it comes to customer service. Not only do they ensure every child gets home safely, but they also go above and beyond to show compassion and care each day.

- Amy Wright
- Za'Kia Booker
- Vonterisa Booker



Custodian of the Month Shines

Congratulations to our Custodian of the Month, William Anderson. William is the Head Custodian at Bramlett Elementary School. "William is a proactive problem solver, helping to provide a safe, clean, and welcoming environment. He has become a trusted and familiar face, building strong relationships with his principal, teachers, and students."



Presentation of Colors

Cadets from Winder-Barrow High School JROTC presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance at the meeting.

- Kallie Church
- Analia Garcia
- Tyler Patrick
- Ndadjo Kofie

Barrow County School System – BOLDly Committed to Student Success



The Barrow County [Board of Education](#) (BOE) has nine members. Board members serve a four-year term, with three districts elected at-large and six elected by district. The Board is the official governing body of the Barrow County School System.

The regular business BOE meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Professional Development Center (PDC) at 179 W. Athens St., Winder, GA 30680. BCSS uses eBoard to be transparent in governance and operations. You can find the most recent information concerning the BOE meetings on eBoard.

[Visit eBoard Transparency Portal](#)

Board of Education meetings are live-streamed on our [YouTube Channel](#).

Quick Links:

- [BCSS Website](#)
- [2025-2026 Calendar](#)
- [BCSS District Strategic Plan](#)

Upcoming BOE Meetings:

- Work Session: Sept. 30
- Meeting: Oct. 14
- [2025 Meeting Calendar](#)