Barrow County School System

Boldly Committed to Student Success
Barrow County School System

- 27th Largest School System in Georgia
- Currently the 4th largest Charter System in Georgia
- 14 schools, 2 Supporting Programs
- 1,680+ faculty and staff (Largest Barrow Co. Employer)
- 13,600+ students
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economically Disadvantaged</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifted</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learners</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Demographic Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Racial</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Barrow County School System

## Budget Breakdown

27th Largest System out of 180

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue by Percentage</th>
<th>67.1%</th>
<th>27.7%</th>
<th>5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Breakdown of all Expenditures by Category

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Administration</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Services</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Services</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administration</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

### Stewardship 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Student</th>
<th>Revenue Per Student</th>
<th>Expenditures Per Student</th>
<th>Central Admin. Per Student Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
<td>$9,237.52</td>
<td>$9,013.36</td>
<td>$397.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrow</td>
<td>$8,619.33</td>
<td>$8,447.49</td>
<td>$285.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking in State</th>
<th>#146 out of 180</th>
<th>#141 out of 180</th>
<th>#147 out of 180</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source of Revenue by Percentage</td>
<td>67.1%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakdown of all Expenditures by Category</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Source of Revenue by Percentage

- **State**: 67.1%
- **Local**: 27.7%
- **Federal**: 5%
We are Barrow BOLD! Are You?

Building Our Learning Differently

Building Our Learners Dynamically

Building Our Leaders Deliberately
We now offer 4 opportunities for middle school students to earn high school credit: Honors Algebra 1, Honors Physical Science, Spanish 1, and Foundations of Engineering.

We have seen an increase in our Students With Disabilities graduation rate from 37.9% in 2014 to 64.0% in 2016.

Both high schools again named AP STEM Schools and AP STEM Achievement Schools by the State DOE.

We saw a significant increase in graduation rate last year,outpacing the state average. This places the system solidly in the mid 80’s for the first time.

Our Drop-out Rate was 2.8%, lower than the Georgia rate of 3.5%
• BCSS High School graduation rate continues to be higher than the state average for the 4th year in a row.
• 8 students from AHS and 13 from WBHS were accepted to UGA during the early-action process. This was out of 14,000+ applications and out of only approximately 7,500 that were accepted during the early admission process.

• We have students completing apprenticeships with Chateau Elan, DHX (electric motors), and Progress Containers & Display, BCSS ITS and Transportation Departments, just to name a few.

• Our 1st AP Computer Science course is currently being taught at Sims this year.

• We began implementing Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT) this year at AES and YES and Parents Academically Communicating with Parents (PACT) at KES resulting in very large increases in parental involvement at these schools.
• The College Board approved AHS as a site for the Advanced Placement Capstone program composed of the AP Seminar and AP Research courses. Currently only 20 high schools in Georgia offer this unique program.

• Our overall College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) Score increased to 76.7 compared to the Georgia average of 73.6. This puts BCSS in the upper 3rd of all GA school systems with our score being the 54th highest out of 197 systems that receive the score.
Community Pride

- The 9 member Barrow Board of Education earned Exemplary School Board Status for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year in a row.
- The WBHS FFA Chapter was recognized nationally as a 3 Star Program and as Hall of States National Champions.
- Barrow County 8th grade student selected to serve on the State Superintendent’s Student Advisory committee—Sadie McWhorter, BCMS (her 2\textsuperscript{nd} year being selected!).
- Our School Cafeteria Managers prepared and fed a “Soup Lunch” to our community on Election day at both high schools. Proceeds were donated to Food to Kids.
Community Pride

- Barrow County School Nutrition has garden projects started in over half of our schools and we were again awarded the “Golden Radish Award” from the Governor for increased Farm to School activities.
- Barrow County School Nutrition also received 2 National “Best Practice” awards from the USDA.
- WBHS Girls Basketball Team runner up in the state & Olivia Nelson-Ododa selected for the USA Jr. Olympics!
- Sims Academy students were semi-finalists in the Quaker State “Best in Class Challenge.”
- RMS FCCLA students received National honors and wins in San Diego last summer.
Attract & Retain the Best People

• We are extremely proud to have the very first state of GA Pre-K Teacher of the Year, Connie Ellington! Connie teaches at BES.

• We received 3 Silver awards for video production from the Georgia School Public Relations Association.

• BCSS kicked off our first Teacher Preparation Academy to help ensure that our new non-traditional teachers who are professionals hired from industry are assigned mentors and are immersed in a program of study that includes classroom management, lesson planning, professional conduct, and other areas that traditional teachers get from their educational programs.
Launched an Educational Technology (EdTech) Innovation Challenge site to provide certified staff with additional opportunities for instructional technology professional learning through a game-like environment.

- Instead of face-to-face offerings, certified staff are given a one-stop shop where they can choose from over 40 self-directed challenges they can complete to earn a digital badge and XP points. Those who earn at least five badges qualify for prize drawings and those who earn the most badges and XP points will be awarded prizes at the end of the school year.

- The site has been live since early September 2016 and as of early January over 1000 badges have been awarded to almost 400 teachers.
Our 2nd Cohort of our Barrow "Teacher Leaders" is going well. These Teacher Leaders serve as model classroom teachers and provide assistance to teachers including planning, development and delivery of professional learning in order to promote and integrate their outstanding best practices throughout the system.

Our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is up and running – This is a voluntary, confidential program that helps employees (including management) work through various life challenges that may adversely affect job performance, health, and personal well-being to optimize an organization's success.
7 BCMS Teachers were selected for a collaborative teaching experience with teachers from Costa Rica last July in conjunction with The University of Georgia’s Center for Latino Achievement and Success in Education (CLASE) department. The project allowed BCMS teachers an opportunity to travel to Costa Rica and visit six teachers in order to utilize the CLASE teaching method. The week in Costa Rica proved to be the most dynamic and substantial teaching experience that any teacher would dream about. The hospitality exhibited by Costa Rican teachers, each school’s staff, and officials of the Ministry of Education was incredible.
Partnerships

- We have partnered with Barrow County 4H to teach career exploration lessons in each of our middle schools.
- AHS is working with our local Chick-Fil-A in a Leadership Academy for 30 student leaders that meets monthly.
- BCSS and Barrow Food2Kids continue to partner with the Food Bank of NEGA to feed 215 students per week (a $275 donation sponsors one child per school year).
- WMS has partnered with UGA to host forums on STEAM integration and collaboratively participate in research and other initiatives with UGA.
Partnerships

• We have begun an exciting project with our 10-year partners at ArtsNow to create a Center for Innovative Teaching (CIT) at the old RMS facility to support and improve teacher quality, build teacher leaders, provide professional learning communities, advance best practices in teaching and learning, and bring innovative instruction to students.

• Phase 1 of the project will develop a Laboratory School and Professional Development Hub for the system that will become a destination for both teachers and students to experience teaching and learning in a definitively Barrow BOLD setting, incorporating ArtsNow hands-on teaching techniques that have proven highly successful.
Partnerships

- Phase 1 will also enhance our ability to provide educational technology training for our teachers and staff by helping us to centralize professional development relevant to current STEAM technologies.
- A possible Phase 2 is envisioned to develop a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Academy Magnet Program for Grades 4-8 that will be dedicated to students who are ready for advanced critical and creative thinking curricula designed and delivered to move students beyond traditional content mastery and into real-world practical application of higher-order thinking skills.
Partnerships

- We have also been communicating with SCAD (The Savannah College of Art and Design) regarding very exciting possibilities for the renovation of the old RMS facility and some other possible future projects together with BCSS and ArtsNow.
- Our Sims Academy has partnered with Ford Next Generation Learning Lanier Tech, and many members of our local business community to create a comprehensive Master Plan for Sims that serves our community's needs and fits within the BCSS 5-year Strategic Navigational Plan.
- Foothills Charter High School has now graduated 36 of our former students so far and the Barrow Campus continues to have the largest number of students of the 5 campuses.
Partnerships

• Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen Scholarship (REACH) –
  • Our 2nd Cohort of middle school students were chosen for receipt of the scholarship opportunity. Again, all will be the first in their families to go to college.
  • REACH provides Georgia’s academically promising students with the academic, social, and financial support needed to graduate from high school, access college, and achieve post-secondary success.
  • The scholarship fund is a private-public partnership, and 100% of donations support REACH scholarships.
Partnerships

- Partnering Georgia colleges are pledging to double, and in some cases, triple, the REACH scholarship when students attend their institutions, greatly increasing the Scholars’ post-secondary options.
- When a student is chosen as a REACH scholar, he/she is provided with comprehensive support, additional college related activities, and the promise of a financial scholarship upon successful program completion.
Partnerships

- Barrow County Amphitheatre Project is under construction behind Sims Academy. This is a joint project of the BCSS and Barrow County to provide a venue for the community and for the schools featuring:
  - 800 to 1,300 capacity depending upon setup / use
  - Synthetic turf at tiered seating
  - Concession / restroom building
  - Covered stage and green room
Partnerships

- **Partners In Education In BCSS:**
  - The PIE program is a collaborative partnership between individual schools and businesses, churches and other organizations in the community.
  - 146 Partners In Education with 37 of these Partners working with 2 or more schools in the district.
  - 4 STAR Plan with each Partner: Promotes Student Achievement; Teacher & Staff Appreciation; Community Involvement; Partner In Education Recognition & Appreciation
  - We currently have 3 System-wide Partners In Education that have a partnership with every school in our system: Akins Ford, Chick-fil-A, and Community First Agency LLC
Partnerships

- Early Literacy in Barrow County:
  - The Barrow Book Partnership is an early literacy program for children birth to age 5 where multiple community partners join together to create an early literacy program for Barrow children newborn to age 5 in target populations by giving free books to keep at home and also signing families up for PINES public library cards. Target populations include WIC families the Health Department; BCSS Students in Child Find Program; BCSS Pre-K Lottery Students; and Barrow Foster children in this age range.
Partnerships

- Community Partners include: BCSS, All Barrow libraries, Piedmont Regional Library System, Barrow County Health Department; Barrow County Community Foundation Inc., Barrow County Cooperative Benevolence Ministry’s Book Room at the Clothes Closet, Adult Literacy Barrow, Lanier Tech-Barrow campus

- Peach State Federal Credit Union plans to sponsor & promote the importance of reading during BCSS Kindergarten Registration. They will give 1 new book to each Kindergarten registrant.

- Additionally, the Barrow Public Libraries will be attending our Kindergarten Registration days and signing new families up for library cards.

- Reading truly is the key to success!
Technology

- We have signed agreements for Adobe and Autodesk program suites, enabling us to provide students and staff with the same software that A/V, engineers, designers, etc. use in their workplace to better prepare our students for the jobs of today and tomorrow.
- We have signed an agreement with Microsoft, allowing the district to upgrade all computers to the most recent versions of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office, and providing access to a heavily discounted copy of Office for our employees’ home use. This will allow us to have all computers in the district on a common platform for the first time.
- We are currently midway through upgrading all district computers based on the above agreement to Windows 10 and Office 2016 and project major completion by the end of this academic year.
We have upgraded phone systems to modern Voice Over IP (VOIP) technology at the board office and new Russell Middle School, with plans to deploy VOIP district-wide over the next 18-24 months.

We are continuing our ongoing effort to upgrade and expand network infrastructure, both wired and wireless, to keep ahead of growing demands for bandwidth and Internet access. Currently we are utilizing an average of about 50% of our capacity, but have seen occasional spikes in usage to 75% or more. We constantly monitor our usage to make sure we stay ahead of bandwidth needs.
Growth, Funding & Resources

- Property taxes account for approximately 28% of the District’s revenues. The District kept the millage rate at 18.5 mills which it has been since 2007. This should bring in about $31 million.
Growth, Funding & Resources

- ESPLOST revenues are up only 1.7% in calendar year 2016 compared to calendar year 2015 but are up 5.7% from calendar year 2014.
- Quality Basic Education (QBE) receipts increased by 4.41% (same increase as last year).
- BCSS hired added approximately 35 new staff positions for the 2016-17 school year.
- BCSS’ unassigned fund balance is at $11.2 million at the end of FY 2016 which is up 17% from FY 2015.
- The System’s FY 2015 audit was completed and received a unmodified/clean opinion and no findings.
- Moody’s continues to rate the school system at an Aa2 (Rated as high quality and very low credit risk)
Growth, Funding & Resources

- Completed the new Russell Middle School facility.
  - 145,000 square feet
  - all LED lighting interior / exterior
  - Stage in cafeteria
  - Hardwood gym floor

- The new Winder Elementary School is nearing completion on the same campus as the new RMS facility. Opening this coming August.
  - 111,000 square feet
  - all LED lighting interior / exterior
  - Stage in cafeteria
  - Hardwood gym floor
A BOLD Future Focus

BCSS Vision & Mission Focused on Student Achievement & Success

- All Schools at 4+ Climate Rating on CCRPI
- All CCRPI Achievement Gaps smaller than the state average
- All Schools at 85+ on the CCRPI or above state average
- 100% of schools Meeting or Beating the Odds for charter systems
- All students reading on or above grade level by end of 3rd grade
- Dropout Rate less than 3%
- 90%+ students graduating on time or earlier

CCRPI = College and Career Readiness Performance Index
Beating the Odds = A school or system “beats the odds” when it does as well as or better than all the schools in Georgia that are similar to that school or system.
If you live, work, or play in Barrow County then this is **YOUR** School System!

Let everyone you interact with know about all the outstanding things that are going on in the system!

BCSS and the community can only grow and improve **TOGETHER**. One or the other does not move too far independently from the other.