Barrow County School System

- 27th Largest School System in Georgia
- Currently the 3rd Largest Charter System in Georgia
- 14 schools, 2 Supporting Programs
- 1,650+ Faculty and Staff
- 13,000+ Students
Q: What is the State of the Barrow County School System?

A: Busy Being BOLD!!
Building Our Learning Differently
Building Our Learners Dynamically
Building Our Leaders Deliberately
Academics & Student Success

- We will have our first students earning high school credit in middle school for Algebra I and Spanish I this year. Plans are in the works for adding Physical Science and Foundations of Engineering and Technology next year.

- Increase in our Students With Disabilities graduation rate from 37.9% - 58.6%.

- Increased number of graduates attending Ivy League schools.

- Significant increase in graduation rate last year - particularly at Winder-Barrow High School.

- Both high schools named AP STEM Schools and AP STEM Achievement Schools for the past two years running.
BCSS High School graduation rate continues to be higher than the state average for the 3rd year in a row.

Graduation Rate Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Barrow Old Rate</th>
<th>Georgia Old Rate</th>
<th>Barrow Cohort</th>
<th>Georgia Cohort</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>66.0%</td>
<td>70.8%</td>
<td>68.0%</td>
<td>69.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
<td>71.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
<td>75.1%</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
<td>78.9%</td>
<td>75.6%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
<td>79.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
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</table>
15 students from WBHS were accepted to UGA during the early-action process. This was out of 14,516 applications and out of 7,500 that were accepted during the early admission process.

Our Business & Computer Science Programs and Healthcare Science Programs at both high schools will receive their Industry Certification this school year – Our goal is to have every program that is certifiable to be certified in the next three years.

17 BCSS students earned their Certified Nursing Assistant certification through dual enrollment with Lanier Technical College.
The 9 member Barrow Board of Education earned Exemplary School Board Status.

Ongoing improvement in our sports and extracurricular activities.

We are in the process of adding several middle school sports opportunities.

We have seen a large increase in parent involvement in our schools this school year at all levels.

Barrow County 7th grade student selected to serve on the State Superintendent’s Student Advisory committee—Sadie McWhorter, BCMS.
Community Pride

- Earned State of Georgia High Progress Reward designation for 4 schools – Yargo, Statham, Holsenbeck, and Russell Middle.

- Barrow County was awarded the “Golden Radish Award” from the Governor for increased Farm to School activities.

- Recently touted by the GA Dept. of Education for our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) initiatives.
We just completed an extensive system wide salary and compensation study, resulting in a newly designed total compensation structure that increases Barrow County School System’s positioning in the competitive workplace market for all positions.

Multiple awards (4: 1 – Gold, 2 – Silver, and 1 Bronze) from Georgia School Public Relations Association.
Barrow "Teacher Leaders" Recognized - Innovative program in Barrow County started with seven highly qualified educators selected for the inaugural cohort of Teacher Leaders for 2015-2016. The Teacher Leader program recognizes the talents of this elite group of master educators, and enables them to serve as model classroom teachers with live-streaming and archived videos of classroom instruction and lessons for their colleagues.
Partnerships

- Move On When Ready program enrollment continues to increase in our partnership with Lanier Tech.

- Our Elementary Robotics Program and International Partnership with the UGA College of Education and Roborobo, Inc. has expanded this year beyond 5th grade to include 4th grade as well. A second cohort of teachers representing all eight elementary schools completed robotics building and programming training in December and will be integrating robotics-based activities in their classrooms this spring.

- Barrow Food2Kids partnership with the Food Bank of NEGA to feed 240 students per week.
We have expanded our partnerships with sports car and racecar manufacturer Panoz LLC, in Braselton. Some of our elementary students studying Henry Ford and the Industrial Revolution have taken live streaming virtual fieldtrips through the Panoz assembly line lead by their head engineer.

Foothills Charter High School has graduated 11 of our former students so far in this first year and the Barrow Campus continues to have the largest number of students of the 5 campuses by far with 240 students.
Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen Scholarship (REACH) –

• Five students, now 8th graders, were chosen for our first class of scholars. 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.
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.
Early Literacy in Barrow County:

Barrow Book Partnership is an early literacy program for children birth to age 5 in Barrow County initially designed to serve 4 target populations (BCSS Pre-K lottery registrants, Women, Infant & Children (WIC) families at the health dept., BCSS Child Find children, DFACS children in foster care), who could benefit from additional materials and opportunities to promote school readiness skills.
In the final stages of completing a 5-year Strategic Navigation Plan (2016-2021) for the System that defines our goals and clearly focuses us on our Vision & Mission that is based on Student Achievement & Success.

School Nutrition has served 675,408 breakfasts from August 1, 2015 – December 18, 2015. This is up 250,000 from the same dates 2014.

School Nutrition has served 825,573 lunches from August 1, 2015 – December 18, 2015. This is up by 17,000 from the same dates in 2014. Surrounding systems participation rates (# of students eating) are down by as much as 30%. Barrow County has risen each month.
ESPLOST revenues are up 2.68% in calendar year 2015 compared to calendar year 2014 even with gas rates down substantially from the prior year.

Quality Basic Education (QBE) receipts increased by 4.41%.

BCSS hired approximately 150 new staff members for the 2015-16 school year.

Moody’s just rated the school district at an Aa2 (Rated as high quality and very low credit risk).
Growth, Funding & Resources

- Completed renovation of Kennedy Elementary
- Performed major energy audit and began energy efficiency upgrades project across the system
- The new Russell Middle School facility is nearing completion & will open for school year 2016-17.
- We broke ground on our first new elementary school since Yargo Elementary in 1999 on the same campus as the new Russell facility, projected to open for school year 2017-18.
Technology

- Created and rolled out the Barrow BOLD app for Apple and Android devices.
- Over the past year, we've almost quadrupled the Internet connection speed serving the school district (from 400 Mbps to 1500 Mbps), roughly doubled the wireless coverage in the schools to essentially 100% coverage, and are in the middle of a 10-fold increase in speed/capacity of the wired network in our schools. Combined, these upgrades provide high-speed, "bottleneck-free" network and Internet access to our students and faculty, and help future-proof our network for the next 3-5 years.
We've also seen a significant investment in mobile device technology such as Chromebooks and iPads. We are now approaching 4000 such devices owned by the district, complementing the roughly 5500 or so “traditional” desktops we have.

We've seen our wireless network go from an average of several hundred unique devices connected per 24 hour period a year ago, to almost 10,000 unique devices connecting per 24 hour period currently.

Between school and district investments, and embracing Bring Your Own Technology, students and teachers have a dramatically higher level of access to technology in Barrow County Schools than ever before.
We have embraced Google's educational cloud infrastructure, allowing our students and faculty to expand the classroom environment outside of the brick walls. Students can do homework, study materials, collaborate with their fellow students while in different locations, and submit projects to their teachers anytime, anywhere they have access to a computing device and the Internet.
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.