



## **Bibb County School District**

**Department of Communications / Community & School Affairs**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DISTRICT SCHOOLS MEET REQUIREMENTS TO EXIT STATE LIST**

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(MACON, GA) – The Bibb County School District is excited to announce Bruce Elementary School and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School recently exited the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement’s Turnaround Eligible Schools list. Principals for both schools said the supports their schools received were part of an existing effort that yielded positive results.

“We already had a structure in place so we knew that our top priority was to improve teaching practices,” Bruce Elementary School Principal Dr. Angela James said. “We provided teachers with professional learning to increase their knowledge on instructional content and strategies. They are also provided opportunities to observe model classroom teachers. We have a school-wide Accelerated Reader and math fluency focus. We even provide professional learning to our classified staff who directly work with student instruction.”

Turnaround Eligible Schools have a three-year College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) trend score in the bottom five percent of all state schools and are subject to being taken over by the state. Bruce has been noted for demonstrating consistent growth on the CCRPI each year since 2015, a span of five years. The school’s CCRPI score has increased consistently, rising from 48.1 in 2015 to 64.9 in 2019.

At Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, the school’s CCRPI jumped from 51.5 in 2017 to the upper 60s in 2018. The school maintained a CCRPI score in the 60s this year, bringing the school’s three-year trend average out of the bottom five percent in the state. Principal Dr. Suzan Watkins said teacher training was key to recent improvements.

“The work that we do at MLK has been centered around fulfilling the District’s mission of ‘developing a highly trained staff and an engaged community,’” Dr. Watkins said. “We have been operating under the notion that if we invest in teacher quality, then the students will get what they need to be successful. We’ve also leveraged the support of our community through United Way and local churches to support us in improving literacy and attendance.”

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*Vision: Each student will demonstrate strength of character and will be college or career ready.*

*Mission: The Bibb County School District develops a highly trained staff and an engaged community dedicated to educating each student for a 21st century global society.*