

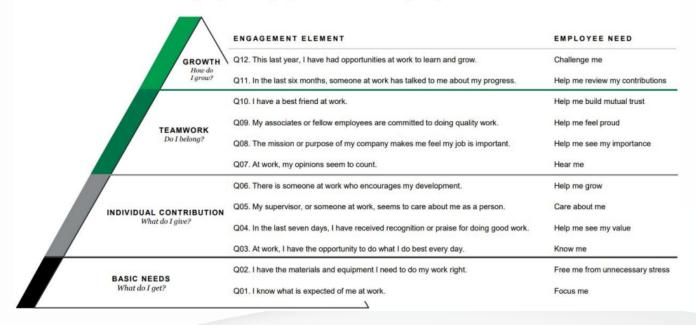
District Operations Report January 2024

Dr. Tekshia Ward-Smith Interim Chief of Human Resources

GALLUP Q-12 Employee Engagement Surveys were sent on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, to all DeKalb County School District employees. Each employee is asked to rate their feelings on 12 work-related statements. Participation in the survey is important and will assist the district in gaining valuable insights regarding employee engagement and satisfaction.

All data collected is stored by Gallup and kept strictly confidential; therefore, individual responses remain anonymous and will be combined into an overall group-level report. This is year 3 of a 3-year contract with Gallup. Principals use survey results to develop action plans for addressing engagement levels of their staff. Survey results will be provided to the BOE before June 2024.

The Four Levels of Employee Engagement — Gallup's Q128



Governor's Retention Bonus

On Monday, January 8, 2024, Dr. Horton recommended to the Board of Education to provide a retention bonus for eligible DCSD employees. While bonuses provided by the Governor only covered state-funded employees, the Superintendent recommended extending the bonus to



ALL eligible DeKalb County School District employees regardless of funding source. The district used local funds to ensure no eligible employee was left out.

The following frequently asked questions were provided for employees:

Who is eligible to receive the incentive? All eligible full-time employees will receive \$1,000. All eligible part-time employees will receive \$500. All eligible subs who have worked at least 250 hours will receive \$500.

When will eligible employees receive the incentive? Distribution will take place on or before January 17, 2024.

Are there any other eligibility criteria for the length of time an employee must work for DCSD to be eligible for the bonus? All eligible employees who are in active pay status as of January 5, 2024, will receive the bonus. Employees terminated before this date or employed after this date will not receive the bonus. Additionally, you must be an active DCSD employee on the date of the payout. If you separate from the District prior to January 17, 2024, you will not be eligible for the incentive.

Is the bonus subject to Teacher's Retirement System withholdings? No, the bonus is not considered earnable compensation per TRS. Is the bonus subject to taxation? Yes, all applicable taxes and deductions will be withheld from the bonus.

Who do I contact if I do not receive a bonus? After checking all bank accounts that you may have your payroll check deposited, please email the Division of Human Resources on January 18, 2024, or later.

Angelica Collins (Director of Employment Services)

On Friday, January 12, DCSD Recruitment Team attended the Title I parent Meeting to share employment opportunities with parents. This was a great opportunity for DCSD's HR department to get in front of parents to share employment opportunities.

On Thursday, January 18, 2024, we conducted an Interview Day and interviewed 38 Face Advocates candidates (invited 40) and hired 32.

DCSD's College and University Recruitment Events:

1/17/2024	Winthrop University
1/25/2024	Kennesaw State University
1/26/2024	Newberry College
1/26/2024	Georgia College and State University



1/26/2024 Georgia State University 1/30/2024 University of North Georgia 1/31/2024 Middle Georgia College

In collaboration with our Family, Community and Engagement Department, we are implementing several training programs: Custodian Tech Training Program-GED- First Choice Program. The First Choice Program enables adult GED students to receive priority consideration for open DeKalb County School District positions.

What is IET? The IET is a volunteer training program designed to help adult students: Who lack basic skills, relevant occupational skills, or essential workplace skills. Attain the competencies and credentials needed for in demand careers Prepare for a career transition to improve their work-life. With an Integrated Education and Training (IET) program, you can earn your credential in weeks not years. Receive support to improve your English Language Skills. Earn Your GED and join the workforce on an accelerated pathway through the First-Choice program. IET classes offer short-term training opportunities that lead to a stackable credential that is part of a defined career pathway.

Karen Beadles (Director of Total Rewards)

The Total Rewards team is responsible for the functional areas of compensation, benefits, leave administration, retirement, and verification.

Retirement – Teachers Retirement System of Ga (TRS) Workshops & Counseling Sessions

Teacher Retirement System of Georgia (TRS) administers the fund from which teachers in the state's public schools, many employees of the University System of Georgia, and certain other designated employees in educational-related work environments receive retirement benefits.

DCSD conducts periodic continuing education webinars and counseling sessions to support our employees who are new, mid-year, or close to retirement. The following sessions were offered to employees:

- New member virtual livestream event offered on Jan 2 & 3, 2024
- In-Person Individual Pre-Retirement Counseling Sessions offered on Jan 23, 24, 25, 2024





Wellness Program - T.H.R.I.V.E

Employee well-being is vitally important to maintaining a good work-life balance. It is a retention booster and attracts talent. We want employees to feel happy and be happy to work.

January 2024 Events

- Mobile mammogram event on Jan 30th and 31st
- Basic Tax Tips Webinar on Jan 24th
- DCSD & Healthy Wage Weight Loss Challenge begins Jan 26th
 - A team of 5 could win up to \$10k
- Thriving Thursdays Lunch and Learn Events
- Wellness Center in operation M-F, 4p-6p

Marissa Key

(Executive Director of Employee Relations)

On January 30, 2024, Employee Relations in collaboration with the Leadership Development team, will host another Legal Symposium. This event will be held for Central Office supervisory personnel. During the Symposium, Central Office Leaders will be trained on matters handled by Employee Relations including, but not limited to: Title IX, ADA, Employee Misconduct, Evaluations, Grievances/Complaints and Open Records. Leadership Development received excellent feedback regarding the first Legal Symposium held in October. Employee Relations and



Leadership Development plan to continue the momentum by offering Legal Symposiums in the fall and spring of each school year.

(N/A) (Director of Ignite Dekalb Teacher Residency)

The first IGNITE Teacher Residency cohort attended and was recognized during the January 2024 Board of Education Meeting. Fifty residents were selected from 600 applicants to participate in our transformative no-cost district-sponsored teacher residency, preparing high-quality teachers for DCSD classrooms.



Mr. Erick Hofstetter Chief Operating Officer

The Operations Division has been extremely dedicated to providing excellent service to our schools, district, and the community. Undoubtedly, the activities shared in the following departments are but just a sample of the daily work our team members are engaged in. In addition to the following, Operations has played a key role in the MUNIS implementation through process support, has built out and re-staffed the Business Services Department, and is currently improving our communication footprint with both internal and external stakeholders.



We are excited to have received a United States EPA Grant that will allow the district to begin its journey on the implementation of electric school buses as well as developing a new sustainability department within the Division that will play a key role in strengthening our physical and operational resilience for future generations. The Division looks forward to continuing improving our quality service for the success of the school district.

Antwyn Brown Deputy Chief Operations Officer

As part of my ongoing responsibilities within the Division of Operations and contributions to the DeKalb County School District, I have assisted in coordinating recent management-level staff transition within the Department of Transportation. I am also supporting the Division of Operations' effort to improve departmental succession planning through engagement of recent retirees, maintenance of key legacy reporting practices and identification of emerging professionals through contingency workflows. I have also assisted in assessment of need and available solutions of the DCSD real property inventory through meetings and site visits with the DT Spade Real Estate Advisory firm. I have worked to establish an open line of communication and collaboration toward the strategic planning of construction projects with the DeKalb County PATH Foundation. I have advised meetings of internal and external stakeholders seeking to establish community-based schoolyard parks within the DeKalb County School District. HR-Employee Relations, Professional Learning and I are coordinating a legal symposium and training session for fifty (50) Operations Division Directors and Managers to learn more on Title IX, FMLA, the Employee Grievance process and various other personnel management issues encountered by managers.

I have facilitated ongoing meetings with the DeKalb County Manager's office and the Department of Fire and Rescue regarding future construction site proposals and the inventory of surplus property. I have engaged the Public Safety Department with support and partnership on identifying enhancements to the EVOLV Weapons detection system. I have met and cooperated with the external ESSER Audit Review Team. I have also engaged the DeKalb Municipal Association and all local municipalities to comprehensively address facilities use requests for inclusion within the forthcoming IGA. I am coordinating with Facilities Maintenance and School Nutrition staff to streamline the workflow of local school kitchen equipment inventory, repair and replacement. I am assisting with the management oversight of invoicing workflows to and through the Department of Business Services. I have observed and participated in employee engagement and morale enhancement meetings within the Department of Fleet Management.

Dr. Connie Walker Executive Director of School Nutrition Services

On January 12, 2023, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service Southeast Region announced that Georgia is one of the 14 states that have been selected to participate in the expansion of Medicaid eligibility data to directly certify students from low-income households. Medicaid is a medical assistance program that helps individuals who cannot afford medical care.

Magnificent milestones in Medicaid continue to positively impact the students of DCSD, qualifying more scholars for free or reduced meals. In a comparison of state approved data from January 2023 and 2024,



DCSD experienced a 71% increase. According to directly certified state approved students, there were 39,506 students (about twice the seating capacity of Madison Square Garden) in January 2023 compared to 55,669 in January 2024. The significant increase in students qualifying for Medicaid means more free and reduced meals for many DeKalb County households.

Visit http://medicaidgeorgia.gov for details and eligibility information.

Bernando Brown Director of Student Transportation

New Driver Training Program: Safety and Training has hired 92 school bus drivers and completed training for 67 drivers, with 10 still undergoing training. We will continue to have weekly training classes throughout the school year.

New Driver Training Program 2023-24 SY						
					Did Not	
	Scheduled	Attended		Still	Complete	Completion
Class Name	for Class	Class	Completed	Training	Training	%
July	7	7	5	0	2	71%
August	18	18	17	0	1	94%
September	20	20	18	0	2	90%
October	21	21	19	0	2	90%
November	13	13	5	4	4	38%
December	7	7	3	2	2	43%
January	6	6	0	4	2	0%
February						#DIV/0!
March						#DIV/0!
April						#DIV/0!
May						#DIV/0!
June						#DIV/0!
Totals	92	92	67	10	15	73%

Annual Driving Proficiency Evaluation Safety and Training is in the process of completing the annual evaluation of all (600+) School Bus Drivers. These evaluations are conducted on a closed course at Wade Walker Park where our school bus drivers are evaluated on eight key driving maneuvers.

The Director of Fleet Services, the team from Grants & Partnership, and I collaborated on our application for funding assistance for the "DeKalb School Districts' Clean School Bus Initiative" project under the EPA Region 4 portion of the 2023 Clean School Bus grant program. Our application was successfully chosen for full funding of \$20,139,250.

Cedric Burse Director of Fleet & Fleet Maintenance

Fleet Vacancies

- (1) Fleet Operation Supervisors (Critical position)
- (5) Lead Mechanic (Critical positions)
- (16) Bus Mechanics (Critical positions)
- (4) Mechanic Helpers (Critical positions)
- o (2) Body Repair Technician (Critical position)



Item	Totals	Available	Out of Service	Availability Rates	Average Turn-Around Time (Days)	Mechanic to Auto/Bus Ratio
Regular Education Bus	688	543	145	79%	29.0	23/29.6:1
Special Education Bus	306	242	64	79%	25.5	12/22.5:1
Support Fleet	433	411	22	96%	52.4	3/143.3:1

The Fleet Department must maintain a minimum of $\underline{90\%}$ school bus availability to not impact routes. When availability falls below 90%, Fleet outsources work and utilizes overtime to repair and service buses.

AC/RETROFIT PROJECT STATS				
Total #	300			
# Complete	53			
# Remaining	247			
% Completed	17.67%			
In progress	9			

Richard Boyd Director of Design and Construction



In our November update, we discussed the vast range of projects from our flagship project, a new middle and high school at the Sequoyah property, to smaller projects such as the desperately needed renovation of Lab B101 at Champion Theme Middle School. Similar to Lab B101, the students at Lithonia Middle School have desperately needed a canopy at their bus drop off area at the rear of the school. During inclement weather, students were getting drenched as they walked up the hill from their bus to the upper-level entry into the Gym. However, until recently, the Operations Division's budget did not have a mechanism to fund smaller

capital improvement projects that were not on an E-SPLOST project list. Due to the Board's approval of a fiscal budget that included funds to address immediate needs at schools, the Operations Division was able to provide a new canopy at the rear of the school to allow students to exit their bus and walk under cover to the Gym. Additional canopy sections will be installed over the next couple of months that will extend further down the sidewalk and allow students to go from their bus to the Cafeteria, in addition to the Gym, while under the protective awning.





Another series of projects currently underway are roof replacement projects. As part of E-SPLOST V and ESSER reimbursed projects, Operations has replaced the roof at 13 facilities and has another 15 facilities that are either currently underway in construction or will soon be. Facilities that have received, or are receiving, new roofs include Ashford Park ES, Brockett ES, East Campus I /DeKalb Alternative, Oak Grove ES, Wynbrooke ES, Avondale ES, Bethune MS, Columbia MS, Coralwood Center, International Student Center, Lithonia MS, Redan ES, Sam A. Moss Service Center, Chapel Hill MS, Columbia ES, DESA at Avondale MS,

Druid Hills MS, Freedom MS, Stephenson MS, Fairington ES, Hawthorne ES, Henderson Mill ES, Laurel Ridge ES, Woodridge ES, Redan MS, Salem MS, Stoneview ES, and Hatton Drive Warehouse. (Image from Freedom MS)

Bobby Moncrief Director of Facilities Services

During the month of January, Facilities created 1123 new work orders and closed out 1198.

The team upgraded MLK, Jr. Gym, weight room, and wrestling room to LED lighting. Also, they upgraded Stone Mountain Middle School gym lighting to LED.

The staff will continue to buildout offices and cubicles at old Smokerise Elementary School. Facilities and Maintenance Services completed securing the Green Forest site and 20 Academic Center classrooms at various middle and elementary schools.

Keith Singleton Director of Business Services

The transition with the warehouse workers from Nutrition has been completed. Nutrition will transfer monies to Business Services for the salaries of the workers. Roshaunda Autry transferred to the Procurement Technician position on January 8, 2024.

Jackie Woodfin led the effort to publish the division newsletter on December 23. The new Supply Chain Manager, Kelvin Thornton, and Business Operations Manager I, Deborah Reynolds, have started in their new positions.



Business Services are currently at 60% of the 23/24 Budget. Clara Barton and Deborah Reynolds will complete the 2024-2025 budget due on January 5, 2024 by 11 January 2024.

Payroll is still working on Munis so that vacation and sick leave time can be seen by employees.

The warehouse staff is making deliveries of air filters to all schools starting at the South end and working toward the North.

Storefront online will be introduced in April 2024 and introduced to the school board in March of 2024. Most products will be purchased on Storefront except custodial supplies for now. The goal is to always have 98% of parts available to make it easier for jobs to get completed.

Hans Williams Director of Planning & E-SPLOST/CIP Programming

Portable Classroom Recommendations

Staff are working on recommendations for adding or removing portable classrooms over Summer 2024. These recommendations are based on the recently completed enrollment forecast for Fall 2024, include analysis of each impacted school's non-general programming (ESOL, Special-Ed, etc.), take into account how available space differs from school to school, and includes surveys and even site-visits to confirm how each school administration uses their available space. Recommendations will be communicated to District and school leadership before being confirmed. Work to add or remove portable classrooms will begin in May and continue until school begins in August. Note: These recommendations are only for portable classrooms needed for instructional capacity. Portables for other uses (e.g. construction, storage, etc.) are not included in these recommendations.

Kahua Project Management Software

Staff have been trained on the use of the Kahua project management and have begun using the software for project management. There is still much work to be done, but the software is now being used for basic project management functions and will continue to grow in effectiveness as project managers verify all their current projects and become increasingly familiar and comfortable with the software. Kahua will allow project managers working on DCSD capital projects to have a single platform for management of project schedules, materials, approvals, finances (with link to MUNIS), documentation, reporting, etc. Phase 2 of implementation will be integration of Kahua with MUNIS and refinement of District construction management processes to best utilize the Kahua software. Phase 2 is expected to be complete by July 2024.

Mr. Byron Schueneman Chief Financial Officer



- Staffing Update Lauren Scott, Deputy Chief Financial Officer began January 16th. She comes to us from Shelby County Schools in Memphis Tennessee, a school system slightly larger than DCSD, where she was serving as their Deputy Chief Financial Officer.
- Miracles Update
 - The General Fund KPI Dashboard is up and running and will be referenced and used during the monthly financial statement presentation. These metrics are simple, yet powerful insights to the financial health of our organization.
 - ERP we will go live with the time and attendance feature for 12 month staff in the second half of December. Employee absences, accrual balances, and extra pay will all be submitted using the new tool that feeds information directly into Munis. We are also on track to successfully run and distribute W-2's out of Munis for those employees who received compensation from Munis. This is a monumental win.
 - Standard Operating Procedures We contracted with Dr. Libby Whitaker to help us formally document a variety of finance processes. She's completed the purchasing SOP for operations and is now on payroll vendor processing documentation.

Lauren Scott
Deputy Chief Financial Officer

Lance McConkey
Comptroller

ERP - School Activity Module (SAM)

The Local School Accounting (LSA) team continues to work on the MUNIS school activity module. All Bookkeepers have received phase 1 training, with phase 2 training developed & ready for kick-off soon. All outstanding items requiring support from other District Divisions and outside vendors have been resolved. Unforeseen circumstances related to the personal circumstances of the Tyler MUNIS consultant have affected the phase 2 training dates and final go-live.

ERP – Time & Attendance Training

The Local School Accounting (LSA) team was tasked with providing Payroll Time & Attendance training to 250+ District employees who process payroll. Phase 1 trainings were held the first two weeks of January. Phase 2 trainings are scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday this week.

ERP - Human Resources/Payroll

The Accounting team continues to focus on proper reporting to all retirement and investment vendors. Since the implementation of utilizing MUNIS payroll for 12-month employees, Accounting has worked collaboratively with Technology and various vendors to adjust reports as



needed. Also, the team is ensuring proper reporting during the transition, which involves combination of reports from both systems and manually creating reports in some instances.

ESSER II Survey

GDOE's Financial Review Division requires all District to complete a yearly survey. The Year 4 ESSER II survey has been completed & submitted prior to the Wednesday, 1.24.2024 deadline.

W-2 from MUNIS for 12-Month Employees

The Accounting team is assisting the Tyler MUNIS consultant with generating W-2s for all 12-month employees from MUNIS. The Accumulator Gross Verify reports were generated, reviewed, and corrections were made to properly report earnings for 12-month employees.

FY 2023 Financial Statements and Audit

Mauldin & Jenkins (M&J) provided draft financial statements for submission prior to GDOE's 12.31 deadline. Finance's Business Services Department continues to work with the M&J team to provide requested information.

Glinton Darien, Jr. Director of Risk Management

On January 4, 2024, Risk Management received a request from the Georgia Board of Workers' Compensation requesting submission of the District's self-insured annual payroll report. Risk Management is working with HR to obtain the necessary data to complete this report.

On January 12, 2024, Risk Management participated in the Device Governance & Accountability Advisory Board meeting scheduled by IT. The goal of the Board is to assist with creating policy for use of District equipment by students and staff. The Board addressed how recovery for lost or stolen items, such as laptops and cell telephones, will be handled by the District.

In collaboration with the Operations Department, Risk Management is working on ways to reduce the District's three-million-dollar property insurance premium as well as reduce the risk of injury to employees and students. One way is to upgrade every fire alarm system at a District facility to have remote monitoring capability. There are currently fifty-one (51) District facilities earmarked for updating the fire alarm system to ensure that the alarms can be remotely monitored. This will provide a quicker response to alarm triggers.

In addition, we are looking at which District facilities do not have fire sprinklers or are partially sprinkled. There are twenty (20) District facilities which have a capital project which will provide fire sprinklers in the next three (3) years. Also, there are twenty-two (22) District facilities that do not have fire sprinklers which have been updated to appropriate fire code requirements in the last ten (10) years due to a major HVAC renovation. This update includes projects under construction.



Milton Hall

Director of Allotments

In collaboration with the Department of Human Resources, we have actively been preparing for the FY25 Allotment Meetings scheduled for February 5-9, 2024. All meetings will take place in the Board Room of the Administrative Instructional Complex (AIC).

Additionally, due to the declining trend in student enrollment across all Georgia schools, the Allotment Team has very aggressively looked at means to increase district funding through FTE. Just recently on January 17, 2024, we visited Hall County to examined how their district is utilizing Georgia's approved EIP delivery models, the support given to schools as well as how delivery models (including the Innovative Delivery Model) are coded in Infinite Campus. We also have scheduled visits/meetings with neighboring Metro-Atlanta area school districts to do the same. The goal is to eliminate the Millions of dollars left on the table as well as to provide structured support to Principals and scheduling API's to maximize FTE funding through effective scheduling and coding.

The RAMP using the Allocate tool in Allovue is still a work in progress. We are working very closely with Allovue to ensure that as we transition from the current RAMP to the RAMP using the Allocate tool, that we are comparing apple to apples and oranges to oranges in an effort to ensure that principal training is a smooth transition that offers a wealth of valuable information at a glance.

Carla Smith ED of Vendor Services

Finance Academy, Wednesday Refreshers were held to discuss tops that support bookkeepers and administrative assistants with being Super Stars! There were approximately 125 people in attendance, and the discussion was led by Beonka Anthony, Human Resource Manager, and her team. The topic of discussion was Substitute Management. The Office of Federal Programs also hosted a session to discuss issues in their area.

Procurement training was held for new bookkeepers and bookkeepers who require additional assistance. Twenty-two bookkeepers attended this highly informative session.

Vendor Services is looking forward to expanding our eProcurement platform. This allows bookkeepers to punch out directly to the vendor's website to shop for school/department supplies from the Munis requisition module. They will build a cart and transfer it into the requisition, saving time in their hectic workday. The requisitions are released into the approval workflow and converted into purchase orders for processing.

The Accounts Payable is on schedule for processing 1099's for 2023. They will be mailed on or before Friday, January 26, 2024.



Interim Chief Larry Wright Executive Director of Public Safety

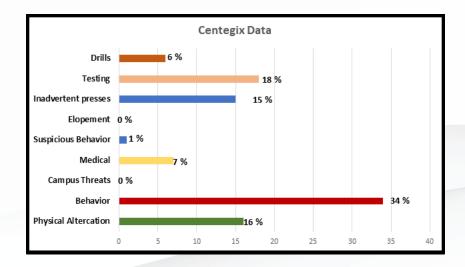
Operational Plan Workshop #5

DCSD Public Safety's mission is to provide safe and secure learning environment free from violence, drugs, and weapons for all students, faculty, staff members, visitors, and community stakeholders. Therefore, Public Safety has continued to push the four program initiatives Centegix, Evolv Weapon Detection, Charter Schools Compliance, and Legacy to achieve this mission.

Centegix

Sergeant Terrence Smith
Sector 3 Supervisor
Terminal Agency Coordinator
Property & Evidence Manager

Centegix also known as Crisis Alert has continue to be used effective to increase emergency response. Additional training slides has been uploaded to the Centegix SharePoint site. Now, all site administrators have the capability to update their master directory (District Employees) by adding and deleting individuals as needed. Gateway equipment has been installed and is operational in all stadiums. This priority is near to completion and entering the close out phase. Below is the data from the last days: Physical Altercation, Behavior, Campus Threats Medical, Suspicious Behavior, Elopement, Inadvertent presses, Testing, and Drills.





Evolv Weapon Detection System
Sergeant Terrence Smith
Sector 3 Supervisor
Terminal Agency Coordinator
Property & Evidence Manager

Evolv systems are still operating sufficiently in all middle and high schools. Student flow is smooth and waiting periods are still being decreased. As of 08/07/2023 to 01/20/2024 there has been 6,727,013 visitors to walk through the Evolv Systems. There have been 1,228,964 alerts with an average clear rate of 82% and threat rate of 18%. Most alerts (threats) have been categorized as Benign (99,6811), laptops, umbrella, eyeglass cases, and mobile devices, other.



See data below:

Charter School Safety Compliance Mr. Kenneth Gilstrap Safe School Coordinator

All charter schools are compliance with House Bill 147 (Safe School Act) and have submitted their safe school plans to DEMA (Dekalb County Emergency Management Agency) for approval. DCSD Public Safety Safe School Unit has visited with Charter



Schools administration to implement the following before their second phase of Safe School Audits, which consist of an Intruder Alert/Level 3 Lockdown Drill:

- The Safe Schools Unit visited charter schools to review audit procedures and protocols, including a Level 3 Lockdown (Intruder Alert).
- The charter school director and administration were informed of Intruder Alert/Level 3 Lockdown procedures.
- A week will be designated and provided to administrations when the Safe School Unit will conduct audits.
- Recommendation has been made to practice lockdown procedures with faculty, staff, and students before conducting an audit. In addition, parents should be informed of the lockdown procedure to ensure preparedness via email, newsletters, and meetings.

Legacy

Sergeant Zandra Jackson
Sector 1 Supervisor
Community Outreach Coordinator

The Legacy program organizers has chosen the location for the summer program for June 2024 to be held at Dr. Ronald E. McNair High School. Legacy directors and operators have met with assigned School Resource Officers, the school, food & nutrition, and transportation departments to discuss and determine the needs for the summer program. In doing so, this will ensure that there is a collaborate effort and the program is still progress.