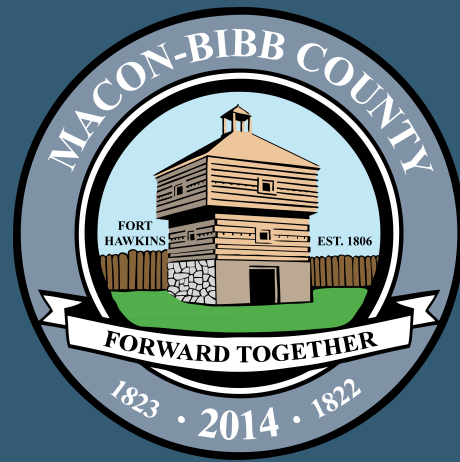


# Board of Commission & Board of Education Joint Meeting

*Middle Georgia State University  
August 26, 2021*



# Judicial In Rem Process



# Judicial In Rem Process

## Current Process

- 565 properties selected from the STS JIR list.
- Most had serious title issues & process cleared titles so new owners can transfer ownership properly.
- 352 properties taken to sale.
- 16 properties paid by current owner & pulled prior to sale.
- 210 properties sold to individuals (4 properties were redeemed after the sale)
- 142 properties went to the Land Bank Authority (1 redeemed)



# Judicial In Rem Process

## Current Process

### *Macon-Bibb County & Board of Education*

- The January to May sales to individuals account for \$1,376,300 of taxes and solid waste revenue collections.

### *Land Bank Authority*

- Acquired 142 properties and putting 60 up for auction in August, September, & October.
- Sold 82 properties, netting the County and Board of Education more than \$500,000.





# Judicial In Rem Process

## New Process

- Increase number of properties taken each month without further impacting properties owner resides in.
- Send levy letters to all interested properties allowing opportunity to be placed on a payment plan that is fair to the taxpayer and the County prior to adding the full levy cost.
- Ensure special consideration is given to any homeowner occupied properties that failed to sign up for Homestead Exemption.



# Judicial In Rem Process

## New Process Expectations

- Continued increase in tax collections.
- No additional hardship on homesteaded property owners.
- Clear properties with title issues to include “heir” property & properties without clear ownership.
- **NO** properties on this list included as a result of unpaid taxes during the pandemic. All properties will have delinquencies prior to the pandemic.



# MACON VIOLENCE PREVENTION

*“This is personal, and it impacts every single one of us. And it will take each one of us giving and doing more to fix the problem.”*

*- Mayor Lester Miller*







- Engaging neighborhoods, departments, community agencies, & people to develop a plan for reducing violent crime.
- Hundreds attended announcement in June.
- Nearly 1,100 people attended 14 public forums.
- More than 700 have completed the online survey.
  - Will be available through Labor Day.
- Plan will be built on neighborhood feedback on issues, needs, and resources. It will be tailored to specific areas based on need.
- Leadership Team Strategic Planning Retreat Sept 28 to review feedback and data, beginning planning Goals & Objectives.



- Early survey data shows this is a major issue for people in our community.
  - 69.47% say they are serious about the level of crime in their neighborhood.
  - Nearly 60% say crime has increased in their neighborhood.
  - Most effective crime fighting measures are supervised activities for youth and increased sheriff patrols.





*"Let's be the change we want to see in our communities."*

*"We have the solutions here in our communities."*

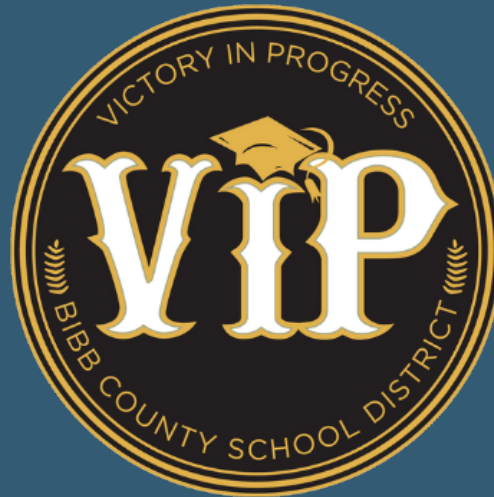
*"We need to grow and empower our communities to create change."*

*"Trust is earned through service, and we need to focus on the youth. Building a person at their core and restoring our neighborhoods."*



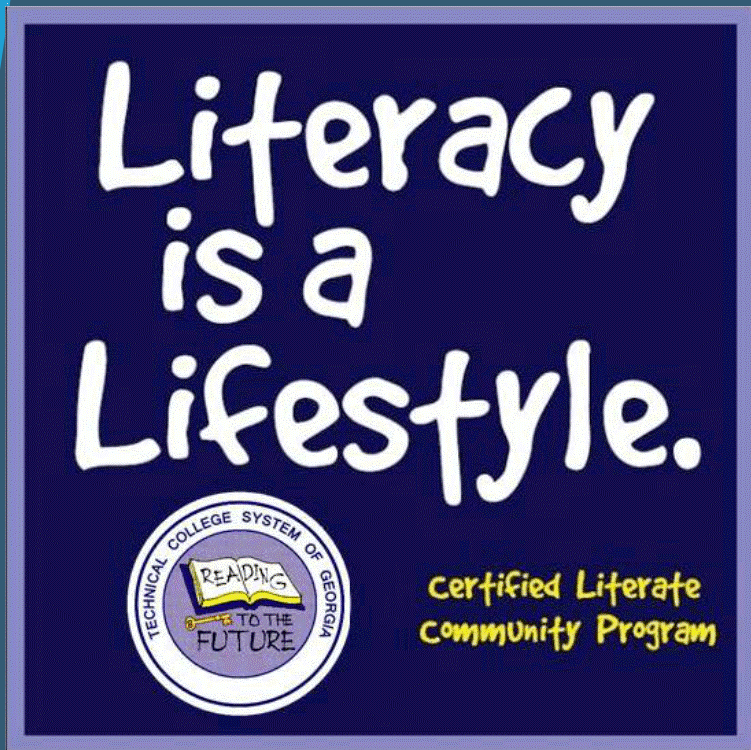


# Mayor's Literacy Alliance



*Partnering to make literacy improvement  
a community-wide commitment.*

# Certified Literate Community Program



In 1990, the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) & the Georgia Council on Adult Literacy (GCAL) created the Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) as a means for a community to establish a nonprofit collaborative to promote, support, and enhance local community literacy efforts.



# Certified Literate Community Program

- Local, grass-roots approach to making literacy improvements a community-wide commitment.
- Nonprofit collaborative that raises the visibility of literacy & provides support to local literacy providers and individuals in need of services.
- Network formed to coordinate business, church, volunteer, social service, local government & schools, media, & other efforts to reach, influence, & support people wanting to improve their education.

# Certified Literate Community Program

**REMEMBER**

**65%** OF THIRD  
GRADERS

**+1.7 MILLION ADULTS**

**DO NOT  
READ WELL**

# Literacy: Corrections

## ➤ Correctional Literacy

- U.S. has the highest incarceration rates in the world
- 1 in every 100 Americans-behind bars
- 43% do not have a high school diploma, GED, or high school equivalency
- 23% of students with an incarcerated father are suspended from school
- 53% of incarcerated parents were the primary wage earners for their children
- 42% of children born in the bottom income distribution stay there
- 85% of all juvenile offenders have problems reading
- 7 out of 10 prisoners perform in the lowest two levels in all forms of literacy

*Sources: Georgia Department of Corrections, National Coalition For Literacy, US Census, Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education, Technical, College System of Georgia (TCSG), & Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP).*

# Literacy: Family

- Two-Gen Approach (Students and Parents)
- Family Literacy
  - Parents working with their children on reading, character education, and emotional well-being.
- **Parent Involvement**
  - Improves school attendance
  - Increases support of schools
  - Creates a better understanding of roles and relationships between the parent, student, and school
  - Improves emotional well-being

# Literacy: Adult Education

- In Georgia, more than 1.8 million adults in Georgia do not have a high school diploma, and 40% of adults have less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education.
- For every \$14 invested in adult literacy, \$33 is returned to the community.
- 50% of adults without a high school diploma have a learning disability.
- 75% of unemployed adults have difficulty reading and writing.
- Low literacy skills have a direct impact on crime, recidivism, poverty, teenage pregnancy, and substance abuse.

# Literacy: Financial

- 1/3 or more than seven million Americans do not pay their bills on time.
- 56% of Americans admit they do not have a budget.
- 39% of Americans carry over credit card debt from month to month.
- Only 3 in 10 Americans keep a long-term savings plan.
- 25% of people who do not currently have non-retirement savings indicated that if they did begin to save, they would keep their savings at home in cash.

# Literacy: Health

- People living with limited health literacy:
  - Have poorer health outcomes;
  - Have increased mortality and morbidity;
  - Use fewer preventative measures;
  - Overuse hospitals and emergency rooms; and
  - Cost the healthcare system more.

# Literacy: Economic Impact

- Georgia Per Capita Personal Income
  - Less than high school
    - \$28,800
    - 10% unemployment rate
  - High school graduate
    - \$35,910
    - 6.2% unemployment rate
  - Bachelor's Degree
    - \$70,210
    - 3.1% unemployment rate
- Adults with less than a high school diploma:
  - Earn 28% less than a high school graduate.
  - Earn 42% less than with an Associate's Degree.
  - Earn 56% less than with a Bachelor's Degree.
- 43% of people with the lowest literacy levels live in poverty.



# Certified Literate Community Program



- Self-designed, self-owned, self-managed community efforts.
- Governed by volunteer boards that work to fund and promote literacy efforts.
- An executive director manages day-to-day operations and directs activities designed to meet the goals of the CLCP.

# Certified Literate Community Program



- Responsible for funding efforts.
- Budgets based on the goals and staffing
  - Executive Director, Admin Asst salaries
- Funding sources vary
- Can include:
  - individual donations, annual giving campaigns, fundraisers, grants, corporate contributions, & in-kind resources.

# Certified Literate Community Program

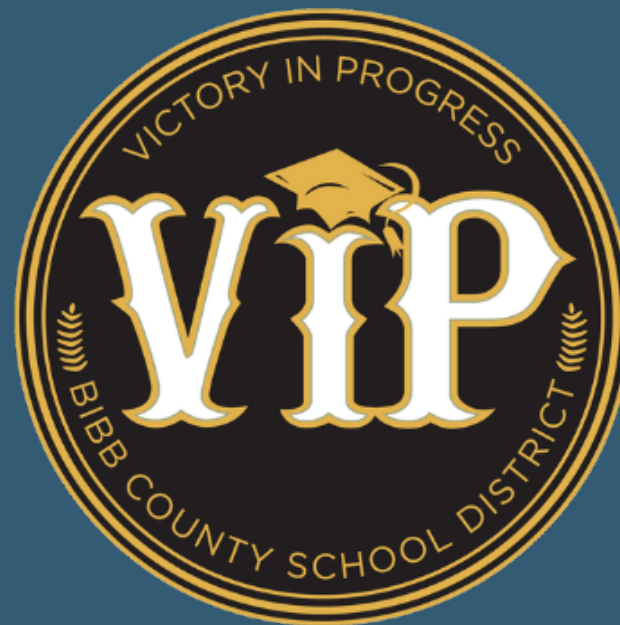


- Regular meetings, communication w/ CLCP Professional Association
- Board of Directors
- Educational webinars, resources
- Exclusive grant opportunities
- Paid membership to Coalition Adult Basic Education (COABE)
- Media toolkits

# Certified Literate Community Program

- Draft a Memorandum of Understanding
- Support creation of the CLCP to include hiring an Executive Director and an Administrative Assistant with MBC and BCSD American Rescue Plan Funds (Approximately \$200,000)
- Complete the CLCP Application
- Create a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation





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