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GCPS to hire more than 30 teachers

By KEITH FARNER
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SUWANEE — A spike in enrollment has caused Gwinnett County Public Schools to hang the help wanted sign.

After the post-Labor Day enrollment count was 1.22 percent over district projections, district officials said on Thursday that they would post 35 to 40 new teaching

positions available immediately. Frances Davis, chief of human resources, told the Gwinnett County Board of Education members that the district has made 976 new teacher hires, 453 rehires and 86 rehired retirees for the new school year.

The current enrollment stands at 168,696. The largest schools in the county are Mill Creek High

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(3,721 students), Hull Middle (2,290 students) and Nesbit Elementary (1,948 students). "We don't make adjustments in staff until we have all of these counts completed," Davis said.

There are 10 current vacancies; three each at the

elementary and middle school levels, and four at the high school levels.

Davis also said the district no longer has the option of Cigna or United Healthcare for a health care coverage provider, and would instead use Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia. Employees would no longer have an HMO, but be under a health reimbursement arrangement, Davis said.

BCBS offers three levels of coverage, bronze, silver and gold, Davis said. The bronze would decrease the premium based on current coverage, the silver could increase or decrease and the gold would increase across the board. "We're paying for more, and probably getting somewhat less," Davis said.

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Rehab center

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