

**GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Thursday, November 13, 2008**

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Garth Hébert (arrived 6:12 p.m.), Anita Sharpe, Walter Childs (arrived 6:24 p.m.), Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, Dot Kearns, Amos Quick (arrived 6:04 p.m.). Also present were Superintendent Maurice Green and Attorney Jill Wilson.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Board member Darlene Garrett led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Recognitions**

**A. GCS Employee of the Month for November 2008**

The board recognized Chris Fox, teacher assistant at Sumner Elementary, as the GCS November Employee of the Month. Board member Anita Sharpe presented Mr. Fox with a certificate of recognition and a \$50 gift card from Sam's Club.

**B. GCS Volunteer of the Month for November 2008**

The board recognized Alvin Connell, a volunteer at Gateway Education Center, as the GCS November 2008 Volunteer of the Month. Board member Dot Kearns presented Mr. Connell with a certificate of appreciation. He received a \$25 gift card and a gift basket from American Express, which has partnered with GCS to support the volunteer recognition program.

**C. American Education Week Proclamation**

The board, along with the Guilford County Association of Educators, presented a proclamation in support of American Education Week (November 17-21, 2008). Board member Kris Cooke read the proclamation and presented it to Mark Jewell, President of Guilford County Association of Educators. Members of Smith High School band accompanied Mr. Jewell during the presentation.

**D. Association of School Building Officials – 2008 Facilities Masters Award**

The board recognized the GCS facilities staff for being awarded the prestigious Facilities Masters Award, which recognizes school districts that meet national standards for excellence in facilities maintenance and operations. GCS is one of only eight school districts nationwide to win this coveted award. Board member Deena Hayes presented a plaque of recognition to Leo Bobadilla, Gerald Greeson, Andy LaRowe, and Alan Bailey.

**Public Comments**

Chairman Duncan called on members of the public who requested an opportunity to address the board.

Mark Jewell, 210 Lindell Road, Greensboro, NC 27403  
Martha Snaverly, 620 Candlewood Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407  
Monica Adams, 4727 Weston Place, Jamestown, NC 27282  
Rachel Baisden, 3100 Sandy Ridge Road, Colfax, NC 27235  
Robert Owens, 4100 Duffers Lane, Greensboro, NC 27407  
Joe Stafford, 4604 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

## **Presentation to Outgoing Board Members**

The board recognized outgoing board members Dot Kearns, Anita Sharpe and Dr. Walter Childs for their service as board members. Superintendent Green presented each board member with a plaque of recognition for their dedication and service to the children of Guilford County Schools. Each board member addressed the board regarding their time and service to the Board of Education.

Kris leaves 7:22 p.m.

## **Reception of Outgoing Board Members**

The board took a short recess to honor the outgoing board members with a reception.

7:51 pm break  
8:18 pm resume

## **Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Duncan asked board members to review the meeting agenda and called for a motion to approve or amend it.

Chairman Duncan asked that Item D – Randleman Dam Feeder Main Water Easement Request be moved from the consent agenda to Item C under staff reports.

*Motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Deena Hayes to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*

## **Consent Agenda**

Superintendent Maurice Green presented the following consent agenda items:

### **A. Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the September 20 Retreat and October 14 Regular Meeting were presented for approval.

### **B. Personnel Action Reports**

The consent agenda included personnel actions as noted in the monthly Personnel Action Report requiring board approval.

### **C. Designation of Official Depositories and Appointment of School Treasurers for 2008-09**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve the official depositories and treasurers for the 2008-09 school year. The North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) 115C-444 requires boards of education to designate the official depositories for all funds of the school district including the accounts of the individual schools. In addition, N.C.G.S. 115C-448 requires boards of education to appoint a treasurer for each school within the administrative unit.

The administration recommends that (a) if an individual school wishes to do business with any financial institution that does not appear on the official depository listing, the account(s) will be established and maintained in accordance with GCS local school fund accounting procedures and collateralization requirements; and (b) if any school treasurer vacancy occurs during the fiscal year, the vacancy and/or replacement appointment will be reported to you via the monthly personnel action report.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Walter Childs to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*

*Item A passed upon unanimous roll-call vote. Item B passed upon majority roll-call vote of 8-2 as follows: **Ayes** – Jeff Bolton, Alan Duncan, Nancy Routh, Deena Hayes, Dot Kearns, Amos Quick, Walter Childs and Darlene Garrett **Nays** – Anita Sharpe and Garth Hebert. Item C passed upon unanimous roll-call vote.*

## **Staff Reports**

### **A. Update on End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading Results and Final ABC/AYP Report for 2008**

Dr. Gongshu Zhang, chief accountability and research officer, presented to the board an update on the EOG reading results and a final report on the 2008 ABC/AYP results.

### **B. Proposed 2009-10 Traditional Calendar Options**

Lekan Oguntoyinbo, district relations officer, presented to the board the two proposed traditional calendar options for the 2009-10 school year. Both calendar options are in compliance with board guidelines and state law that outlines the criteria for public school calendars. School cannot start before August 25 and must end by June 10. There must also be 180 days of instruction and not more than 215 teacher days. During the 2009-10 school year, Christmas Day falls on a Friday which, by state law, requires that the extra holiday be taken off the calendar. This is offset by the addition of one workday to the calendar.

Options 1 and 2 have similar features:

- Both include an August 25, 2009 start and a June 9, 2010 end date
- Both designate a protected workday on the last day before students arrive
- Both have 10 holidays
- Both have seven workdays

There is one key difference between the two calendars. Under Option 1, Spring Break will be on the week of Easter Sunday, which means district employees will not get Good Friday off. Under option 2, Spring Break will be on the week of Good Friday, which means that Good Friday will be a holiday.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Deena Hayes, to put the calendars submitted out for public comment. The motion passes by electronic vote of 6-3.*

### **C. Randleman Dam Feeder Main Water Easement Request – Sumner Elementary School**

Leo Bobadilla, chief, presented to the board a recommendation that the Board accept compensation from the City of Greensboro in the amount of \$6,900 for the requested permanent utility easement affecting the Sumner Elementary School campus and approve the execution and delivery of an appropriate Deed of Easement prepared by GCS counsel. The City of Greensboro has completed plans for the Randleman Dam Feeder Main Project and has requested a permanent 30 foot utility easement along the west side of Sumner Elementary School campus. The location of the proposed easement is directly adjacent to an existing utility easement crossing the western portion of the Sumner Elementary School campus.

The proposed easement would contain 26,024 square feet of area, and it is requested in order to provide water service to the City of Greensboro's Randleman Dam Feeder Main Project, which was initiated to solve area water problems.

The City of Greensboro is currently uncertain whether the waterline will be transporting treated, pre-treated or raw water and, due to the size of the water line being installed, it is not possible at this time for Sumner Elementary to connect (tap on) to the system. According to City of

Greensboro officials, if the waterline will transport treated water, taps to the system could only be allowed if the area is annexed into the city and certain "step-down" (smaller) utility lines are provided. The City of Greensboro has not allowed any taps to the system thus far.

The GCS maintenance department has advised that there is no immediate need to hook up to the city's water system, but due to the proximity of a service station across the street from Sumner Elementary and the maintenance costs currently associated with the school's existing water tanks, eventual hookup to the city water system would be beneficial.

The City of Greensboro has submitted an offer to purchase the necessary easement area based upon an independent appraisal. The total amount offered is \$3,900 for the permanent utility easement and \$3,000 for spontaneous growth, for a total offer to the Guilford County Board of Education of \$6,900.

Melinda King from the City of Greensboro was present to answer questions of the board. She addressed water usage questions and explained that the school would have a water line running through the property but would not have the water as a resource.

*Motion was made by Amos Quick, seconded by Deena Hayes, to table this item for staff to be able to provide greater detail. Motion passes by majority electronic vote of passes 8-1.*

## **Board Discussion**

### **A. Discussion of Southern Middle and Northern Middle Construction Projects**

Chairman Duncan called on Anita Sharpe to lead the board in a discussion regarding the Southern Middle and Northern Middle Construction Projects.

Bids were received on April 28, 2005 for the construction of Northern Middle School and site work at Northern Guilford High School. The construction budget for Northern Middle School is \$17,776,575. The site work for Northern High School is \$3,550,839 for a combined construction budget of \$21,327,414. The bids received came in over the construction budget.

Board discussion followed about the disparities between these two middle schools. Those disparities are as follows:

Usable handicap access  
Lighting on the football field  
Restrooms (field house)  
Stage lighting  
Movable petition walls

*Motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Dot Kearns, to remedy the disparities between Southern Middle and Northern Middle Schools up to \$1.4M. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote.*

### **B. Legislative Committee Update**

Chairman Duncan called on board member Dot Kearns, convener of the legislative committee, to lead the board in a discussion regarding the proposed content for the 2009 Legislative Agenda.

The board suggested adding the following items:

1. No sale of alcoholic beverages within 1000 feet of a new public school facility.

*Motion was made by Dot Kearns, seconded by Deena Hayes to add this item to the agenda. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote.*

2. No public school within 1000 feet of a correctional facility.

*Motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Alan Duncan to add this item to the agenda. The motion passes by majority electronic vote 8-2.*

*Motion was made by Dot Kearns, seconded by Walter Childs, to approve the 2009 Legislative Agenda. The motion passed upon majority electronic vote 9-1.*

### **C. First Reading – Policy GBM, Assignment and Transfer - Licensed**

Chairman Duncan called on board member Nancy Routh, convenor of the governance review committee, to lead the board in a discussion regarding the first reading – Policy GBM, Assignment and Transfer - Licensed. Steve Foster was present to answer any questions.

The administration recommends the board adopt Policy GBM for first reading and direct the administration to receive input per the board's adoption policy. Alan requested a redline copy in the future, as it is easier to follow.

*Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Deena Hayes, to approve Policy GBM for first reading. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote.*

### **Reports from the Superintendent, if needed**

Superintendent Green thanked the board for approving the appointment of Nora Carr as Chief of Staff and Eric Becoats as Chief Administrative Officer. He also informed the board the he found the education summit to be powerful and very impactful.

### **Reports from the Chairman, if needed**

Chairman Duncan requested that the governance committee work with staff on the issue of naming our new schools.

### **Board Comments**

Board members were each allowed two minutes to make remarks, as they deemed appropriate.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, at 10:53 p.m., *motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Deena Hayes, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*