

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

Thursday, October 22, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Carlvena Foster, Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett (arrived 6:38 p.m.), Deena Hayes (via telephone), Garth Hébert (via telephone) and Amos Quick. Board member was absent. Board member Nancy Routh and Attorney Jill Wilson were absent. Also present was Superintendent Maurice Green.

Call to Order

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Board member Amos Quick led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Recognitions

A. 2009 GCS Teacher of the Year and Finalists

The board recognized the 2009 GCS Teacher of the Year and finalists. On September 28, the district announced the winners of the Teacher of the Year program.

Teacher of the Year and Finalists:

Terri Roberts, Southwest Elementary	Elementary and Overall Teacher of the Year, winning \$1,500
Deanna Wynn, Southern Middle	Middle School Teacher of the Year, winning \$500
Darren Corbett, Grimsley High	High School Teacher of the Year, winning \$500
Jennifer Caligan, Nathanael Greene Elem.	Finalist, winning \$300
Joan Kimmel, Weaver Academy	Finalist, winning \$300

The winners were announced during the annual Celebrating Excellence in Education event, sponsored by Businesses for Excellence in Education, which also provided all award monies for the finalists. Roberts will represent teachers across the district at various local and state events.

B. 2009 GCS Principal of the Year and Finalists

The board recognized the 2009 GCS Principal of the Year and finalists. On September 28, the district announced the winners of the Principal of the Year program.

Principal of the Year and Finalists:

Cheri Keels, Triangle Lake Montessori	Elementary and Overall Principal of the Year, winning \$1,500
Anna Brady, Grimsley High	Secondary Principal of the Year, winning \$500
Patrice Brown, Archer Elementary	Finalist, winning \$300
Geraldine Cox, Rankin Elementary	Finalist, winning \$300
Edwina Monroe, Falkener Elementary	Finalist, winning \$300

The winners were announced during the annual Celebrating Excellence in Education event, sponsored by Businesses for Excellence in Education, which also provided all award monies for the finalists. Keels will represent principals across the district at various local and state events.

C. Wanda Smith Earns American Red Cross Certificate of Merit

The board recognized Wanda Smith, pre-k teacher at Archer Elementary, for earning a certificate of merit from the American Red Cross. In December 2009, Wanda Smith's quick thinking helped save the life of a student thanks to her Epinephrine (Epi) Auto-Injector training by the Greensboro chapter of the American Red Cross. The child, who has a peanut allergy,

ate a cookie that contained peanuts and began exhibiting signs of anaphylactic shock. Following the protocol she had learned in her training, she administered an Epi pen to the child and stayed with him until EMS arrived. For her actions, Smith was awarded the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit, which is the highest award given by the Red Cross to an individual who saves or sustains a life by using skills and knowledge learned in an American Red Cross course.

Public Comments

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

Yvonne Hunt Perry, 1105 Willow Road, Greensboro, NC 27401

Linda Mozell, 4701 Whitby Place, Greensboro, NC 27406

Howard Johnson, 1580 Guest Street, Greensboro 27405

Joe Stafford, 4604 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Kris Cooke, 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 8 and September 24 regular meetings 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. Approval of School Health Nursing Services Contract

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve a contractual agreement with the Guilford County Department of Public Health to provide nursing services as well as compensation for salaries for five school nurses in the amount of \$286,961. The contract is renewed yearly and inclusive of providing nursing services to the elementary, middle and high schools in addition to compensation for salaries of five school nurses.

D. Approval of Safe Schools Plan for 2009-2012

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve the safe schools plan for 2009-2012. North Carolina General Statute 115C-105.47 requires that "each local board of education shall develop a local school administrative unit safe school plan designed to provide that every school in the local school administrative unit is safe, secure, and orderly, that there is a climate of respect in every school, and that appropriate personal conduct is a priority of all students and public school personnel." The plan is reviewed on an annual basis and a revised copy of the plan is submitted to the Department of Public Instruction every three years.

E. Contractual Agreement with Bovis Lend Lease for Pre-Construction Services at Southwest High School

The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to Bovis Lend Lease for pre-construction services at the Southwest High School project in the amount of \$124,000. On May 12, 2009, the Architectural Selection Committee made recommendations to the board and

proposed firms to provide Construction Management at Risk Services for the Southwest High School project. Staff received approval from the board on May 12, 2009 to negotiate contract terms with the short-listed firms in order of ranking. Staff notified the board on September 1, 2009 that staff and the district's legal counsel were unable to agree on contract terms with the first ranked firm and intended to begin negotiations with the second ranked firm, Bovis Lend Lease. Staff has successfully completed negotiations with Bovis Lend Lease to provide pre-construction services for the Southwest High School project.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Sandra Alexander to approve the consent agenda.

Items A,B, D and E passed upon unanimous voice vote.

*Item C passes by a majority voice vote of 9-1 as follows: **Ayes:** Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Carlvena Foster, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, and Garth Hébert; **Nays:** Amos Quick.*

Staff Reports

A. Schools of Choice and Magnet Schools Update

Dr. Barbara Zwadyk, chief curriculum & organizational development, and Dr. Michelle Ungurait, director of magnet and choice schools, presented to the board an update on the district's schools of choice and magnet schools.

On September 19, 2009, the Board of Education participated in a discussion around the purpose and evaluation of schools of choice and magnet schools. As a follow-up to that discussion, staff was asked to provide 1) focus group findings and relevant themes, and 2) specific data that reflect enrollment, waiting pool, capacity of facility, and student achievement.

Staff shared summary information from the regional parent focus groups that met on October 8 and from university and foundation groups that met on October 13 and 14. Group size ranged from one to fourteen, based on participant availability. Questions posed included the following:

1. What are the benefits of having magnet schools or choice schools in GCS? What are the drawbacks?
2. What is the purpose of magnet schools? How is this different from other choice or option schools?
3. What special curriculum or relevant themes should magnet schools or choice schools offer students?
4. How would you determine the success of a magnet school or school of choice?
5. Why did you choose/not choose a magnet school for your child or children? What were the deciding factors for you/your family?
6. What would encourage more participation in magnet schools or schools of choice?
7. Is there anything we didn't think to ask that you'd like to share about magnet schools or schools of choice?

Staff shared data that ranked schools of choice/magnet schools on the following criteria: enrollment numbers, minority isolation, evidence of magnet curriculum, waiting pool numbers, facility capacity, and student achievement. Re-visioning for selected schools via application to the Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) was also shared. GCS will revise magnet programs at four schools next year. The exploration of new themes will begin at Bluford Communications Magnet, Hampton Leadership Academy, Montlieu Math and Science Academy

and Parkview A+ Magnet. The four school chosen met less than 70 percent of the evaluation criteria. Seven other schools also met less than 70 percent of the evaluation criteria—these schools are either currently receiving funding under the Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP), are under restructuring due to No Child Left Behind or in are a school-within-a-school model, so they will not be revised at this time. Before deciding on new themes, the four schools will hold meetings with teachers, parents, students and community members to get their input on potential themes.

Board discussion followed.

B. Construction Update

Andy LaRowe, executive director for construction and facilities management, presented to the board an update on the district's construction projects at the following schools: Eastern Guilford High, Jamestown Middle, Ragsdale High/Autism Wing, Meredith Leigh Haynes-Bennie Lee Inman Education Center, Southeast Middle and High Schools, Alamance Elementary, Summerfield Elementary, Southwest High, Southeast Area Elementary/Autism Wing, Allen Middle, North Greensboro Area Elementary, Grimsley High, Airport Area High/Autism Wing, Northwest High and Middle, Allen Jay Middle, Dudley High, High Point Central High, and McLeansville Elementary. Also included were heating and air conditioning projects and mobile classroom relocations. Other projects included Southern Middle School's new movable partition wall, staging lighting and miscellaneous site improvements.

C. Oak Ridge Elementary School Update

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update regarding Oak Ridge Elementary. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) does not anticipate identifying in their final report any new areas of remediation work that will be required at Oak Ridge Elementary. As a result, the district will continue working with Turner Group and other outside firms to complete the remediation efforts on the items previously identified by NIOSH. As the district and various contractors complete each phase of the work, Turner will confirm that the appropriate protocols/standards have been met during the remediation process. Currently, a projected return date to Oak Ridge Elementary has not been determined. The district will continue to provide updates to the Oak Ridge Elementary community as the district completes work. In addition, the district is convening the GCS cross-departmental team to start crafting a plan that will ensure a smooth transition back into Oak Ridge Elementary School.

Reports from the Superintendent

None

Reports from the Chairman

Chairman Duncan advised the board that, in the near future, recommendations of the building advisory team may come to the board for consideration. The recommendations will be regarding the autism wings that were a part of the 2008 bond projects. The board may need to look at how the bond projects are executed and determine if a different manner than what was originally proposed should be used.

Closed Session

At 7:46 p.m., motion was made by Alan Duncan, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to consider land transaction matters protected by state law, and to give advice and instruction to our agents and employees and attorneys with regard to the purchase of real property. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

At 9:03 p.m., the board returned to open session.

Board Comments

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

Adjournment

With no further business, at 9:07 p.m., *motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*