

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

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Sandra Alexander (arrived 6:04 p.m.), Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Carlvena Foster, Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, Garth Hébert (arrived 6:07 p.m.), Amos Quick, Nancy Routh. 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 Paul Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Recognitions

A. GCS Employee of the Month for January 2009

The board recognized Debbie Dowd, social worker at Eastern High School, as the January 2009 Employee of the Month. Board member Paul Daniels presented Ms. Dowd with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Dowd received a \$50 gift card from Sam's Club, which has generously partnered with GCS to support the employee recognition program.

B. GCS Volunteer of the Month for January 2009

The board recognized Gina Hicks, volunteer at Erwin Montessori, as the January 2009 Volunteer of the Month. Ms. Hicks was not present at the meeting. Board member Amos Quick, presented a certificate of recognition to Dr. Deborah Parker, principal of Erwin Montessori, on behalf of Ms. Hicks. Ms. Hicks received a gift bag and \$25 gift card from American Express. American Express recognizes the important role that volunteers play in our schools, and American Express has generously partnered with GCS to sponsor the volunteer recognition program.

C. Dudley High School State Championship Football Team

The board recognized the Dudley High School football team as the 3-AA state champions. The football team was present and was recognized by Leigh Hebbert, GCS athletic director. The Dudley High School Panthers completed their first ever 16-0 season and defeated Kannapolis Brown 34-18 to win the State High School 3-AA championship at BB &T Field in Winston-Salem on Saturday, December 13. This was Dudley's second consecutive state North Carolina High School Athletic Association football championship.

Public Comments

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

Joscelyn Nickerson, 2503 Netherwood Drive, Greensboro, NC 27408

Derrick Giles, 1008 Martin Street, Greensboro, NC 27406

Monty Edwards, 4518 Brantridge Drive, Greensboro, NC 27438

Luther Falls, Jr., 303 P Avalon Road, Greensboro, NC 27401

Karl Brockmeyer, 1021 Bloomfield Road, Sedalia, NC 27249

Kelvin Currie, 4323 Summit Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27402

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 Darlene Garrett, seconded by Kris Cooke to approve the agenda as presented. 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 December 2 regular meeting, December 17 work session and December 18 regular meeting were presented for approval.

B. Personnel Reports

The consent agenda included personnel actions as noted in the monthly personnel action report requiring board approval.

C. Renewal of Contract for Mowing Various School Grounds

The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to M&M Lawn Care, LLC (WBE) of Greensboro, in the estimated amount of \$428,900 for mowing, trimming and mulching the 62 school grounds comprised of groups one and two in accordance with the specifications of Bid Number 4818. On February 19, 2008, the board awarded a contract to M&M Lawn Care, LLC for mowing various school grounds within the district. This contract was for a one-year term, with the option to renew for four additional years. This contract is now due for renewal under the terms of the original bid. The services performed to date have been satisfactory. The renewal term will be March 10, 2009, through October 31, 2009.

The contractor has agreed to maintain the base price for mowing. The Maintenance Department has requested that a third trimming of shrubs at each of the 62 school sites be added to the contract. M&M Lawn Care has agreed to perform this additional service for a cost of \$6,000.

The total annual contract was originally estimated to be \$422,900. This amount includes \$384,000 (\$16,000 x 3 x 8) for mowing each site three times per month for eight months: \$24,800 (\$12,400 x 2) for trimming each site twice annually and \$14,100 for mulching each site once annually. With the addition of a third trimming of shrubs, the total annual contract amount is estimated to be \$428,900.

D. Assignment of Sewer Easements to City of Greensboro, McLeansville Elementary School

The consent agenda includes a recommendation that the board approve and authorize its Board Chairman to execute the required assignment instrument prepared by GCS legal counsel assigning the two sewer easements to the City of Greensboro, to execute the Utility Agreement and Annexation Petition affecting the McLeansville Elementary campus and to execute a utility easement to the City prepared by GCS legal counsel affecting that area that was required for the existing sewer manhole at McLeansville Elementary.

The board previously authorized the acquisition of two easements for a new sewer line to McLeansville Elementary. The City of Greensboro is requiring, as a condition to providing permits for any future additions or mobile units at this site, that GCS assign these sewer easements to the City and that the school be annexed into the City per City of Greensboro

policy regarding property that is connected to City water/sewer service. Annexation into the City of Greensboro will result in water and sewer service fee savings of up to 50 percent. GCS maintenance costs associated with the sewer easement and associated sewer line will also transfer to the City upon assignment of the sewer easement.

In addition, the board was required to install a sewer manhole on the school property as part of the City sewer service commitment and the City is also requiring a 359 square foot easement for this manhole in order to accept maintenance of the manhole.

E. Approval of Transition to Teaching Grant

The consent agenda includes a recommendation that the board approve the submission of the Transition to Teaching grant application to the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of this grant is to provide resources for teacher preparation. It is a five year grant, averaging \$450,000 per year for a total funding amount of \$2.2 million. The grant application is due to the U.S. Department of Education on January 15, 2009.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote. **Item A** passed upon majority roll-call vote of 10-0-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett. **Abstain** – Deena Hayes, approving minutes of December 17 and 18 only; **Item B and E** passed upon unanimous roll-call vote; **Item C** passed by majority roll-call vote of 10-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett. **Nays** – Paul Daniels; **Item D** passed by majority vote of 10-0-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett. **Abstain** – Alan Duncan.*

Staff Reports

A. Renaming of the Guilford Primary Building as the Doris Henderson Newcomers School

Lekan Oguntoyinbo, district relations officer, presented to the board a recommendation to confirm its proposed selection of the name Doris Henderson Newcomers School and direct the administration to complete any needed documents to authorize the use of this name. The administration also recommends that the new name become effective July 1, 2009.

At its December 2, 2008 meeting, the board voted to consider re-naming the Guilford Primary Facility the Doris Henderson Newcomers School. The board also decided that if the Newcomers program were to move to a new location, it would not keep the Doris Henderson name. However, the Doris Henderson name would become a part of any program that moves into the building.

The District Relations Department received input from the community about the re-naming of the Guilford Primary Facility, which houses the GCS Newcomers School. The consideration for re-naming was posted on the district's Web site for a public comment period. Of the 23 comments received, 21 supported naming the Guilford Primary Facility the Doris Henderson Newcomers School. One cited concerns about naming a school building for a living person and opposed it. Another was neutral, but raised concerns about the lack of an effective date for the name change.

Chairman Duncan allowed public comments (two minutes each)

Pam Holsbrink, 1206 George Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410
Joe Stafford, 4604 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

6:58 p.m. Amos Quick leaves

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Kris Cooke to approve the name Doris Henderson Newcomers School. Should the newcomers program move to a different location, the facility would remain named after Dr. Henderson. The name would become effective July 1, 2009. The motion passes by a vote of 9-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Nancy Routh; **Absent** – Amos Quick.*

7:08 p.m. Kris Cooke leaves

B. Report on Montessori Program Cost Projections

Dr. Beth Folger, chief academic officer, and Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, presented to the board a report on the district's Montessori program cost projections. The report provides projected costs of the potential financial allocations needed to:

1. increase the number of PreK and K seats at the three Montessori Schools (Erwin, Triangle Lake and Washington);
2. add new students and fill vacant seats through second grade;
3. fund the professional development needs of staff in implementing Montessori education; and,
4. pursue accreditation for Guilford County Schools to serve as a training site.

Also included in the report were More at Four (MAF) funding projections based on 2008-09 actual funding. Staff provided a cost comparison of Montessori education to traditional school and other magnet programs in GCS in the near future.

7:13 p.m. Kris Cooke returns

Dr. Routh was concerned that all of the funding for the PreK students comes from the district's local monies. We have the opportunity to apply for additional More at Four funds for all of the students that qualify. Her recommendation is that the district will not increase the number of students we enroll in PreK based on our budget and that we continue with taking more applications for first and second grade. For budget reasons we should not increase the number by 27.

Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve staff recommendations as presented with the exception of an increase in the number of PreK and kindergarten seats at Erwin Montessori, Triangle Lake Montessori and Washington Montessori. The motion passes by unanimous vote of 10-0.

Break taken at 7:54 pm

Resume at 8:22 pm

8:26 p.m. Amos Quick returns

C. Approval of Action Plans for Low Performing Schools

Dr. Beth Folger, chief academic officer, presented to the board a recommendation to approve the revised action plans to be submitted to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for the following schools designated as low performing: Gillespie, Montlieu, Oak Hill, Vandalia,

Ferndale, The Academy at High Point Central, The Academy at Smith, Andrews and Northeast.

In compliance with the ABCs of Public Education, the plans were placed on each school's website and a printed copy made available at the school for public comment, including personnel assigned to each school, and the parents or guardians of the students attending the schools. Based upon feedback received, the revised plans are presented to the Board for approval to submit to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) by January 15, 2009.

The administration recommends approval of the revised action plans to be submitted to DPI for the following schools designated as low performing: Gillespie Elementary, Montlieu Elementary, Oak Hill Elementary, Vandalia Elementary, Ferndale Middle, The Academy at High Point Central, The Academy at Smith, Andrews High and Northeast High.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Foster to approve staff's recommendations. The motion passes by vote of 10-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster; **Nays** – Darlene Garrett.*

D. Report on School Nutrition Services

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, and Cynthia Sevier, director of school nutrition services, presented to the board a report on the district's school nutrition services.

Board discussion followed. Staff was asked continue to explore ways to make sure every bit of food we are not using is put to good use.

E. Contractual Agreement with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 2A – Jamestown Middle School

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board a recommendation to approve increasing the scope with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 2A at the Jamestown Middle School in the amount of \$3,975,681. On December 9 and 17, 2008, New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. received bids for concrete foundations and structural steel for the Jamestown Middle School project. The Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) is \$3,975,681. The construction budget for this portion of the project is \$4,488,912.

At the August 28, 2008 board meeting, a contract was approved by the board for pre-construction services at Jamestown Middle School with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$130,000.

At the October 14, 2008 board meeting, a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) was approved by the board for Phase 1 Site-work at Jamestown Middle School with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,780,798.

On December 9 and 17, 2008, New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. received bids for concrete foundations and structural steel for the Jamestown Middle School project.

Pre-construction services.....	\$ 130,000
Phase 1 site-work.....	\$2,780,798
Phase 2A foundation and structural steel.....	\$3,975,681
Total.....	\$6,889,479

The total for all contracts issued for this project is \$6,889,479.

The MWBE participation is as follows:

MBE \$848,015.....Percent - 12.31

WBE \$79,700.....Percent - 1.16

Total \$927,715.....Percent - 13.47

The cumulative MWBE participation with the 2008 bond:

- If MWBE participation is calculated based on the amount of construction contracts awarded to date for the referendum, the MWBE participation = 12.56%.
- If minority participation is calculated based on the amount of construction/architect contracts awarded to date for the referendum, the minority participation = 11.46%.

As required by General Statute 143-128.1 regarding construction management at risk, the Board of Education is required to approve the GMP. Facilities and purchasing staff attended the bid opening conducted by New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. and also reviewed the bids.

The administration recommends that the board approve increasing the scope with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 2A at the Jamestown Middle School in the amount of \$3,975,681.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Foster to approve staff's recommendations. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote.

Board Discussion

First Reading – Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code

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 JCDB, Student Dress Code.

The administration recommends the Board accept Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code, for first reading and direct the Administration to receive input per the Board's adoption policy.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Jeff Belton, to approve for first reading Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code. The motion passed upon majority electronic vote of 8-3 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Alan Duncan, Amos Quick and Paul Daniels.*

Reports from the Superintendent

The Superintendent informed the board of education of the bond sale that occurred on Tuesday, January 13. Today, Interim County Manager sent a letter outlines that today Guilford County successfully sold \$164.6M general obligation bonds in a competitive fixed rate auction.

He also updated the board on the development of the strategic plan. Two meetings were held this week, one with the Principals Advisory Council and the other with all principals. The plan will be presented to the public on January 27 at the Jamestown Campus of Guilford Technical Community College.

The Superintendent also informed the board that he plans to meet with various groups in the next few months to discuss the strategic plan. He will be speaking at the Greensboro Partnership Annual Dinner on Jan. 29. He will leave the board of education meeting to speak at the dinner.

Reports from the Chairman

Board of education committee assignments have been sent out. He also thanks Kris Cooke, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Sandra Alexander for their work on the legislative luncheon. This year's luncheon was the best attended.

Board Comments

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

Closed Session

At 10:17 pm, motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett to go into closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege to discuss personnel matters protected by state law, and to give advice to our attorneys and staff regarding the price and other material term to be included in a proposed contract for the purchasing of real estate. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

The board returned to open session at 11:27 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business, at 11:27 p.m., *motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Jeff Belton, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*