

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

**Tuesday, February 10, 2009**

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke (arrived 6:07 p.m.), Carlvena Foster, Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, Garth Hébert, Amos Quick (via telephone), 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 Carlvena Foster led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Recognitions**

**A. GCS Employee of the Month for February 2009**

The board recognized Nancy Hines, youth development coordinator at Washington Montessori, as the February 2009 Employee of the Month. Board member Nancy Routh presented Ms. Dowd with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Hines 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 February 2009**

The board recognized Monica Frye, volunteer at Oak Ridge Elementary, as the February 2009 Volunteer of the Month. Board member Darlene Garrett presented Ms. Frye with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Frye also 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.

**Public Comments**

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

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 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 January 13 regular meeting and January 29 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. Auction of Surplus Property**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve to declare the provided list of items surplus property and to allow the administration to dispose of these items via a public auction. The auction is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2009 at the GCS warehouse located at 529 W. Grimes Avenue, High Point. Dave's Auctions, LLC, McLeansville, North Carolina will conduct the auction

**D. Approval of Dedicated Internet Access Service**

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve a contractual agreement with AT&T Communications to provide dedicated Internet access at a cost of \$13,680 per month. AT&T Communications currently provides Internet access for GCS. The service delivers high-speed Internet access to all elementary, middle and traditional high schools. The required access speed has continued to increase as schools have continued to use the network for more bandwidth-intensive applications. The district currently uses a 250 Mbps circuit dedicated to this purpose at a cost of over \$22,000 per month.

With this requirement for bandwidth anticipated to continue, it would be advantageous to implement a long-term contract and receive the associated savings. The vendor would continue to provide a 250 Mbps circuit dedicated to Internet access. The term of the new contract would continue for a 36-month period and would reduce the cost to \$13,680 per month. Future upgrades would not be penalized so long as the district continues service with AT&T.

**E. Approval of Supplemental Education Services Contract**

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the maximum contract amounts that can be paid to each Supplemental Educational Services (SES) provider that exceeds \$150,000 for the 2008-09 school year. SES are tutoring services offered outside of the regular school day to help students improve reading and mathematics skills. As required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, section 1116(e), Title I schools not making Adequate Yearly Progress in the same subject for two or more years must offer these services to students eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch.

SES providers must be approved by the State Board of Education, and local school districts can only contract with approved providers. Once parents select providers, contracts are established between the school district and the selected providers. SES providers are paid directly by the school district from Title I funds.

**F. Duke Energy Carolinas Right-of-Way Agreement, Pleasant Garden Elementary School**

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve a right-of-way request by Duke Energy Carolinas affecting the Pleasant Garden Elementary School campus. Duke Energy Carolinas has requested that the board grant a right-of-way affecting a 20-foot strip in order to serve Pleasant Garden Elementary. The installation has already been completed, and this would allow continued maintenance of the underground wiring by Duke Energy Carolinas. The requested right-of-way would have a width of 10-feet on each side of a centerline, and its location would be determined by the centerline of the electrical facilities.

**G. Duke Energy Carolinas Right-of-Way Agreement, Pearce Elementary School**

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the rights-of-way requested by Duke Energy Carolinas affecting the Pearce Elementary School campus. Duke

Energy Carolinas has requested that the board grant rights-of-way affecting 30-and 20-foot strips to permit the installation and maintenance of overhead and underground wiring to serve the mobile classroom units being located at the Pearce campus. The requested rights-of-way would have widths of 15 and 10 feet on each side of a centerline, and their locations would be determined by the centerline of the electrical facilities to be installed.

#### **H. Approval of RUSH into Historical Literacy: Reading in the Teaching of American History Grant**

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Education for the RUSH into Historical Literacy: Reading in the Teaching of American History (TAH) Grant.

The TAH grant program addresses the need to implement professional development for improving teacher knowledge, understanding and appreciation of traditional American History as a separate subject within the core curriculum.

The grant awards funding of approximately \$1 million over a three-year period (2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12) to eligible local education agencies and does not require any local matching funds.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Deena Hayes 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 10-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexandra, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster, and Paul Daniels – **Nays** – Amos Quick.*

*Item C passed upon unanimous roll-call vote.*

*Item D passed upon unanimous roll-call vote.*

*Item E passed upon majority roll-call vote of 6-5 as follows: **Ayes** – Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, and Carlvena Foster – **Nays** – Sandra Alexander, Nancy Routh, Amos Quick, Kris Cooke and Paul Daniels*

*Item F passed upon unanimous roll-call vote.*

*Item G passed upon unanimous roll-call vote.*

*Item H passed upon majority roll-call vote of 10-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster, and Paul Daniels – **Nays** – Sandra Alexander.*

#### **Staff Reports**

##### **A. Update on High School Behavior Improvement Teacher Positions**

Dr. John Morris, chief student services officer, presented to the board an update on high school behavior improvement teacher positions.

During the Board of Education Fall 2008 retreat, the board received a report on the high school behavior improvement teacher positions. Recently, board members asked for an update on high schools' use of the behavior improvement teachers. All traditional high schools received a behavior improvement teacher allotment and currently all high schools have individuals in these positions. A copy of the job description was provided.

Board discussion followed.

Dr. Foley, principal at Page High School, was present and explained to the board how the position is being used at her school.

Since the School Climate Task Force recommendations outlined the position in a different manner in which it is being used, the board requested that staff return in the spring with a comprehensive report.

6:41 (Amos disconnects)

**B. 2007-08 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)**

A representative from Dixon Hughes, Randy Brodd, presented to the board the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

The CAFR consists of four sections: introductory, financial, statistical and compliance. The introductory section contains a transmittal letter, a list of the Board members and principal officials, the district's organizational chart, and the ASBO and GFOA certificates awarded for the 2006-07 financial report. The financial section includes the independent auditor's report, management's discussion and analysis, basic financial statements, notes to the basic financial statements, combining and individual fund statements and schedules, and supplementary information. The statistical section includes several tables of unaudited data providing financial history of the Board as well as demographics and other informative statistics pertaining to Guilford County. The school district is required to undergo an annual single audit in conformity with the provisions of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Circular A-133, Audits of State, Local Governments, and Non-profit Organizations. The compliance section includes the compliance and internal control reports, the single audit reports, the schedule of findings and questioned costs, the summary schedule of prior year audit findings, corrective action plan(s) and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards.

Dixon Hughes PLLC, expressed an unqualified opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Guilford County Board of Education for the year ended June 30, 2008. An *unqualified*, or "clean", opinion indicates the financial statements have been prepared on a consistent basis with prior years using GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles), and such statements fairly present the Board's financial position, cash flows and results of operations. In addition no material internal control weaknesses were noted and no reportable instances of noncompliance with provisions of applicable laws/regulations/contracts/grants were noted. One finding regarding our School Food Service Program; one finding regarding the More at Four Program; as well as one finding in our State Public School Fund were noted for the year ended June 30, 2008. The findings, auditor recommendations and management responses are found on pages 131-132 of the CAFR. The Corrective Action Plan for these findings is on page 134. The four prior year audit findings regarding our School Food Service Program and State Public School Fund have been corrected (see page 133).

**C. Bond Project Update**

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board a follow-up to the proposed project ordinance revisions associated with select 2000 and 2003 bond projects that were presented at the January 29, 2009 meeting. Andy LaRowe, executive director of facilities, and Gerald Greeson, director of maintenance, were present to address any questions.

Staff requested that bond funds be transferred FROM the following projects:

Southern High	\$557,500
Reedy Fork Elementary	\$224,879
Gibsonville Elementary	\$165,089
Florence Elementary	\$143,989
Guilford Elementary	\$ 42,053
Brightwood Elementary	\$ 20,000
McLeansville Elementary	\$127,576
Andrews High	\$100,000
Oak Ridge Elementary	\$ 3,960

To the following projects:

Pleasant Garden Elementary	\$557,500
Northeast High	\$249,865
Oak View Elementary	\$143,989
Guilford Middle	\$ 42,053
Northeast Middle	\$ 90,103
Madison Elementary	\$ 50,000
Brown Summit Middle	\$147,576
Penn Griffin	\$100,000
Northwest High	\$ 3,960

Justifications/explanations for the transfers are as follows:

- Andrews High – balance will remain to replace carpet in auditorium, project contingency
- Brightwood Elementary – balance will remain for HVAC improvements, project contingency
- Brown Summit Middle – install camera system, flooring improvements, project contingency
- Florence Elementary – balance will remain for roofing improvements, HVAC improvements, project contingency
- Gibsonville Elementary – balance will remain for lighting improvements, sound remediation, project contingency
- Guilford Elementary – balance will remain for storm water improvements, project contingency
- Guilford Middle – roofing improvements, project contingency
- Madison Elementary – HVAC improvements, project contingency
- McLeansville Elementary – balance will remain for HVAC improvements, project contingency
- Northeast High –water filtration system, roofing improvements, air conditioning in kitchen, project contingency
- Northeast Middle – roofing improvements, install camera system, project contingency
- Northwest High – widen sidewalks, project contingency
- Oak View Elementary –air conditioning improvements in kitchen, project contingency
- Penn Griffin – install camera system, project contingency
- Pleasant Garden Elementary – fire alarm improvements, flooring improvements, HVAC improvements, fencing improvements, accessibility improvements, project contingency
- Reedy Fork Elementary – balance will remain for storm water improvements, project contingency
- Southern High – balance will remain for water filtration system, roofing improvements, HVAC improvements, project contingency

Justifications/explanations for additional projects not requiring transfers:

- Dudley High – paving improvements, project contingency

- Irving Park Elementary – HVAC improvements, project contingency
- Lincoln Middle – intercom system, install camera system, canopies at student busing area, project contingency
- Morehead Elementary – roofing improvements, electrical improvements, project contingency
- Peck Elementary – HVAC improvements, doors/hardware improvements, flooring improvements, accessibility improvements, project contingency
- Peeler Elementary –plumbing improvements, project contingency

*Motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Nancy Routh, to approve the improvements recommended by staff and related bond fund transfers and for staff to be authorized to appear before the county commissioners on March 5, 2009 to seek approval of this recommendation. The motion passes by majority vote of 9-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster; **Nays** – Darlene Garrett.*

*Break 7:46 p.m.*

*Resume 8:16 p.m.*

## **Board Discussion**

### **Strategic Plan**

Chairman Duncan led the board in a discussion regarding the strategic plan. At the January 29 meeting, board members were asked to review the plan and return with any questions. Board discussion followed.

## **Reports from the Superintendent**

The superintendent thanked staff for all the great work done on the magnet fair last weekend.

## **Reports from the Chairman**

Board member Kris Cooke attended the Federal Relations Network conference.

The board was asked to provide a resolution commemorative of the high school student lead sit-in on Feb. 11, 1960 at High Point F.W. Woolworth's. The sit-in is a key component of High Point's 150 year anniversary celebration.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Deena Hayes to approve a resolution acknowledging and celebrating the historical impact and great leap toward racial equality when a group of High Point high schools students staged a sit-in at the F.W. Woolworth's on February 11, 1960. The motion passes upon unanimous electronic vote.*

## **Closed Session**

At 9:06 pm, motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett to go into closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege and to give advice and instruction to our staff and attorneys on terms to be included in a proposed contract for the purchase of real property.

The board returned to open session at 9:40 p.m.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Deena Hayes authorize the board chairman to exercise our option on property to be used for Special Ed West, owned by Thurman Haynes, consisting of approximately 14.7 acres on Harvey Road for a sum of \$389,000, subject to the following conditions:*

1. *Successful rezoning of the property for use as a school;*
2. *Allowing Mr. Hayes to hold a life estate on approximately two acres; and*

3. *Subject to seeking and obtaining the approval of the County Commissioners of the price to be paid for the real property pursuant to N.C.G.S. 115C-426(f). The motion passes upon unanimous electronic vote.*

**Board Comments**

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

**Adjournment**

With no further business, at 9:51 p.m., *motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*