

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

Thursday, February 26, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Carlvena Foster (arrived 6:14 p.m.), Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes (arrived 7:07 p.m.), Garth Hébert (arrived 6:01 p.m.), Amos Quick (arrived 6:27 p.m.), 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

Eagle Scout Malcolm Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Public Comments

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

John Meeks, 1405 Westover Terrace, Greensboro, NC 27408
Robert Owens, 4100 Duffers, Greensboro, NC 27407
Leon Nutes, 214 Peach Orchard Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455
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 Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett 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. Personnel Action Reports

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

B. 2008-09 Budget Amendments/Transfers Report

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the State, Local, Federal, Capital Outlay and After-School Care Enrichment Services (ACES) budget amendments/transfers for 2008-09 school year as follows:

State Public School Fund Amendment #5 reflects:

- the receipt of substitute reimbursement for October and November, 2008 (\$22,058)
- the transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures

Local Current Expense Fund Amendment #5 reflects:

- the receipt of:
 - Medicaid Administrative Claim reimbursement for quarters ending 12/30/07 (\$208,429) and 06/30/08 (\$279,288)

- Reimbursement for Ready Schools program at Peck Elementary for December, 2008 (\$914)
- School Impact Grant reimbursement for June through November 2008 (\$11,063)
- Quarterly payment from Time Warner Cable per the franchise agreement between Time Warner and the City of Greensboro (\$8,639)
- UNC-G Doctoral Cohort program reimbursement (\$26,769)
- Clearwire Wireless Broadband lease payments (\$800)
- the transfers for school allotments, site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures

Federal Grant Fund Amendment #5 reflects:

- the following adjustments due to receipt of initial versus planning allotments:
 - IDEA VI-B Handicapped (\$38,857)
 - Children with Special Needs - Risk Pool (\$15,792)
- the receipt of the following grant:
 - ESEA Title I School Improvement (\$442,448)
- the transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures

Capital Outlay Fund Amendment #5 reflects:

- the receipt of allotment from NCDPI for installment payment for the lease/purchase of replacement school buses (\$1,662,994)
- the transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures

After-School Care Enrichment Services (ACES) Fund Amendment #5 reflects:

- the transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures

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

The consent agenda includes a recommendation that the board approve to increase the scope with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc., for Phase 2B construction management at risk services at Jamestown Middle in the amount of \$17,701,554. On December 16 and 17, 2008, New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. received bids for Phase II-B building package at Jamestown Middle School project. The Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) is \$17,701,554. The construction budget for this portion of the project is \$20,602,387.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Jeff Belton to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.

*Items A – C passes upon majority roll call vote of 9-0-1 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Abstain** – Amos Quick.*

Staff Reports

A. Construction Update

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update on the district's construction projects. Julius Monk, director of construction, led discussion of the 2008 bond projects (Jamestown Middle School and Eastern Guilford High School) and other projects (Pleasant Garden Elementary School cafeteria conversion, Dean B. Pruette Scale Center, Union Hill Elementary and Southern Middle School).

B. 2008 Bond HVAC Projects – Selection of Engineering Firms

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board a recommendation that the

board approve staff to negotiate design contracts with firms for selected Heating, Air Conditioning and Ventilation (HVAC) projects included in the 2008 school construction bond. Ten projects (Andrews High, Kirkman Park Elementary, Colfax Elementary, Alderman Elementary, Guilford Middle, Aycock Middle, Sedalia Elementary, Jackson Middle, Jamestown Elementary and Northwest High) have been identified as high priority for work to be completed in 2009. A Request for Qualifications for engineering services was issued on November 3, 2008. Fourteen proposals were received and reviewed by facilities staff. Details regarding the assignment of engineering firms to specific HVAC projects were presented to the Architect Selection Committee on February 11, 2009.

The recommended assignments are as follows:

Projects

Engineering Firm

Andrews High	Sutton-Kennerly Associates - Greensboro, NC
Kirkman Park Elementary	Triad Engineering Consultants - Greensboro, NC
Colfax Elementary and Alderman Elementary	Palma Engineers - Greensboro, NC (MBE)
Guilford Middle	Consultant Engineering Services – Winston-Salem
Aycock Middle and Sedalia Elementary	AEP Collaborative - Greensboro, NC
Jackson Middle	Engineered Design, Inc. – Raleigh, NC (WBE)
Jamestown Elementary and Northwest High	SUD Associates – Durham, NC (MBE)

Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Paul Daniels, to approve staff to negotiate design contracts with firms selected for HVAC projects included in the 2008 school construction bond. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote.

C. NC Wise Update

Dr. Terrence Young, chief information officer, presented to the board an update on the implementation of North Carolina Window of Information on Student Education (NC WISE).

GCS will convert from the DOS-based Student Information Management System on February 27, 2009. The conversion process will last a week as defined by the Department of Public Instruction timeline; March 2 – 6, 2009. The following week will be the required conversion verification as specified by DPI; timeline March 9 -13, 2009. Once the conversion process is completed and GCS data is verified, the district will be “live” on NC WISE beginning March 16, 2009. All classroom teachers will take attendance using NC WISE immediately following training.

The Student Information Department has been training district departments; Exceptional Education, Advanced Learners, Counseling, English as a Second Language and Data Managers since January 5 and preliminary training sessions began in November 2008. All principals have attended an NC WISE overview session. Due to our size, we have a train-the-trainer model where each respective department will re-deliver training to their school site or department.

D. Preliminary End-of-Course (EOC) Results

Dr. Gongshu Zhang, chief accountability and research officer, presented to the board an update on preliminary results of the fall semester EOC multiple choice item tests.

E. Strategic Plan: Execution

Dr. Eric Becoats, chief administrative officer, presented to the board an update on the execution of the strategic plan.

Project sponsors have been identified for strategies that will require a deployment project. A deployment project is a detailed plan that outlines related strategic plan goals and strategies, a project overview, which contains project introduction/context, desired results, project oversight, deployment project team members, advisory team members and clients. The project also includes the major deliverables, project impacts, a budget summary, positions required to implement the project, and project assumptions. This plan will be reviewed and approved by the Strategic Plan Accountability Committee (SPAC) which is made up of members of the Superintendent's Cabinet.

To date, 31 strategies have been identified to be monitored through completion. Project management training has been provided to approximately 40 project managers as identified by their sponsors. Project sponsors are the persons who have the ultimate authority in ensuring the project's success.

Project managers and sponsors are in the process of completing their deployment projects which will be tied to the budgeting process for the 2010 fiscal year.

Project managers will begin presenting their deployment projects to the SPAC beginning the week of March 16, 2009. Once deployment projects have been approved, they will be posted on our site for internal and external viewing.

The board and the community will continue to receive updates on the progress toward implementing the district's strategic plan.

Regionalization will be discussed further at the March 10, 2009 board meeting.

Break 7:48 pm

Resume 8:06 pm

F. Piedmont Environmental Center

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, presented to the board a consideration to approve an expenditure of up to \$9,100 in Medicaid Administrative Claim escrow dollars to fund a contract with the Piedmont Environmental Center for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

On September 11, 2008, the Board of Education approved the 2008-09 Budget Resolution with the condition that staff will monitor expenditures during the first semester of the school year and, if possible, identify dollars that could be used to fund a contract with Piedmont Environmental Center for educational services to be provided in the second semester of the 2008-09 school year.

Subsequent to that action, in December of 2008, the district incurred budget reductions of approximately \$3.8 million. Approximately \$2.8 million of that amount was our share of a required reversion caused by state revenue shortfalls and approximately \$1 million was due to a decrease in our Average Daily Membership (ADM) of students (actual enrollment was less than projected enrollment).

Based on information provided by Piedmont Environmental Center (PEC):

- The PEC curriculum of 38 classes meets or exceed requirements set forth by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- The PEC K-12 curriculum is designed for no more than 15 students per PEC class.

- The proposed contract will provide 350 PEC classes for the fee of \$13,000.
- The proposed contract will provide PEC classes to a total of 5,250 students. (15 students x 350 classes = 5,250 students)
- The current non-contract PEC fee is \$3.50 per student.
- The proposed contract represents a potential savings of \$5,375.

Staff recommended that the board consider approving the expenditure of up to \$9,100 in Medicaid Administrative Claim escrow dollars to fund a contract with PEC for the balance of the 2008-09 school year.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Deena Hayes, to approve an expenditure of up to \$9,100 in Medicaid Administrative Claim escrow dollars to fund a contract with the Piedmont Environmental Center for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year and to carry over to the next year if there are any remaining funds. The motion passed by majority electronic vote of 7-4 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster; **Nays** – Paul Daniels, Garth Hebert, Darlene Garrett and Nancy Routh.*

*A substitute motion was made by Paul Daniels, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve the \$9,100 to be used for classroom supplies. The motion failed by a majority electronic vote of 4-7 as follows: **Ayes** – Paul Daniels, Garth Hebert, Darlene Garrett and Nancy Routh; **Nays** - Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster.*

G. Budget Update

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, presented to the board an update on the budget. In December 2008, GCS was required to make a reversion of approximately \$3.8M to the state. There is a strong likelihood that there will be a second reversion of state funds. The next joint meeting with the county commissioners will be held on March 12, 2009.

Board discussion followed.

Board Discussion

A. Second 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 second reading of Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code.

At its meeting on January 13, 2009, the board approved for first reading Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code. This policy has been posted on the district Web site for a public comment period per the board's policy.

Six comments were received as follows:

- Two comments were in support of the policy as listed
- One comment was in support of the policy with questions on funding and logistics
- One comment has requested clarification to the voting
- One comment has requested clarification to the statement "provisions for purchasing"
- One comment has requested to explore creating a waiver for the principal to approve exceptions

Board discussion followed.

Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Jeff Belton, to adopt Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code with elimination of the last paragraph. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote.

*A substitute motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Paul Daniels to send Policy JCDB, Student Dress Code by to the committee for revisions. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 6-5 as follows: **Ayes** – Jeff Belton, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Nancy Routh, Paul Daniels and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Sandra Alexander, Garth Hebert, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster.*

B. Update - Policy JBC, School Admission

Chairman Duncan called on board member Nancy Routh, convenor of the governance review committee, to lead the board in a discussion regarding Policy JBC, School Admission. The policy has been revised to reflect changes in the law. Those changes include moving the entry dates of kindergarten students from October 31 to August 31, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.

Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to establish the changes reflected in the change in the law and adopt Policy JBC, School Admission. The policy will not have to be posted for the comment period. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote.

Reports from the Superintendent

None

Reports from the Chairman

None

Closed Session

At 9:32 pm, motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Carlvena Foster to go into closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege and to discuss personnel matters protected by state law. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

The board returned to open session at 10:16 p.m.

The superintendent decided to decline his salary increase for the 2009-10 school year.

Motion was made by Alan Duncan, seconded by Amos Quick to accept instruct the board attorney to draft an amendment to reflect the change in the superintendent's contract. Motion passed by 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 10:40 p.m., *motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Paul Daniels, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*