GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 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, Deena Hayes (via telephone at 11:36 p.m.), Garth Hébert, 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 4:08 p.m.

Closed Session
At 4:08 p.m., *motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Kris Cooke to go to closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege and to discuss student matters protected by state and federal law. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

Board returns to open session at 6:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
Board member Garth Hébert led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Recognitions

A. GCS Employee of the Month for June 2009
The board recognized Travis Reeves, principal at Eastern High, as the June 2009 Employee of the Month. Board member Paul Daniels presented Dr. Reeves with a certificate of recognition. Dr. Reeves also 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 June 2009
The board recognized Mary Beth Winfree, volunteer at Sumner Elementary, as the June 2009 Volunteer of the Month. Board member Sandra Alexander presented Ms. Winfree with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Winfree 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.

C. State and National PTA Reflections Competition Winners
The board recognized the state and national PTA reflections competition winners. The PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program, which provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works. This year's theme was "WOW." Students submitted entries in six categories: Literature, Visual arts, Musical Composition, Dance Choreography, Film Production and Photography. Out of hundreds of GCS entries, 24 first place winners from grades Pre-K through 12 were forwarded for state level judging. Out of those 24, five talented Guilford County students received recognition. They are:

Dance - 1st Place, Demetria Hall, Lindley Elementary and 3rd Place, Talie Patalano, Nathanael Greene
Literature - 3rd Place, Anjali Kapil, Academy at Lincoln Middle
Music - 1st Place, Lauren Easter, Millis Road

Photography - 1st Place, John Hudgins, Southwest Guilford Elementary

All First Place state winners' entries went on to the National PTA to compete with students from all fifty states and several countries. Lauren Easter of Millis Road Elementary received the highest national Reflections award: The "National Award of Excellence" for her musical composition in the primary division entitled "Wow is Everywhere."

D. Winter and Spring Sports State Champions
The board recognized the team state champions in women's basketball and men's indoor track. The board also recognized the individual state champions in wrestling, indoor track and track and field. The board recognized team and individual state champions for both winter and spring sports.

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
Tijuana Hayes, 6 Pyruss Court, Greensboro, NC 27401
Mary Alice Austin, 3713 Parkwood Drive, Greensboro, NC 27403
Elizabeth Foster, 1505 Bridford Parkway, Apt. 5M, Greensboro, NC 27407
Linda May, P.O. Box 3954, Champagne, Illinois
Cathy Old, 203B Yesteroaks Way E, Greensboro, NC 27455
Kristen Williams, 2108 McKelvey Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406
Dave Owens, 4100 Duffers Lane, Greensboro, NC 27407
Crystal Taylor, 6300 Quate Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406
Kelley Branch, 8300 Berrywood Court, Colfax, NC 27235
Todd Reagan, 4103 Pheasant Run Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455
Elaine Reagan, 6838 Coltrane Mille Road, Randleman, NC 27317
Ashley Valequez, 4136 Tarrant Trace Circle, High Point, NC 27260
Lauren Sastre, 409 Fox Hunt Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410
Deborah Green, 1620 Forest Valley Road, Greensboro, NC 27410
Michelle Barsley, 3 Wildrose Court, Greensboro, NC 27410
Erin Velzeboer, 230 Blandwood Avenue, Apt 4, Greensboro, NC 27401

Approval of Agenda
Chairman Duncan asked board members to review the meeting agenda and called for a motion to approve or amend it. A request was made to move Item E, Approval to Submit Application for Parent University Development Grant Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, and Item G, Approval of Compass Learning – Odyssey Contract from the consent agenda to staff reports. Item B, Personnel Reports, would be voted on after closed session.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve the agenda as amended, with the exceptions stated. 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 April 21 budget work session, April 29 special called meeting and May 12 regular meeting were presented for approval.

B. Personnel Reports
The consent agenda included personnel actions and addendum as noted in the monthly personnel action report requiring board approval.

C. Request for Approval: Application for State/Federal Funding of Career and Technical Education

The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the application for state/federal funding of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for the fiscal year 2009-10. In the Improvement Plan, data for Performance Indicators 1-8 will be populated in the plan by North Carolina Department of Public Instruction after CTE end-of-year post-test assessments, and other end-of-year information has been uploaded to the state by local school districts. Local school districts are required to submit their approved plans to the state by June 30, 2009.

D. Proposed Revisions to the 2009-10 Extended-Year and Year-Round Calendars

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve revisions to the 2009-10 extended-year and year-round calendars. At its regular meeting on May 12, the board approved several revisions to both calendars in order to align them with the 2009-10 traditional calendar. However, the calendars did not include a change to the last early release day of the school year from April 21 to April 22. This omission was not detected until after the board's vote.

E. Approval to Submit Application for Parent University Development Grant Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education

Item moved to Staff Reports

F. Mathematics and Science Development and Innovation Project

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve the submittal of an application for an Institute of Educational Sciences grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. For this Mathematics and Science Development and Innovation project, four partners will develop and pilot test a standardized pre-health professions mathematics and science supplementary curriculum with high school faculty and students in after-school and summer enrichment programs. The total grant funding is $600,000 per year for three years with no financial cost to the district.

G. Approval of Compass Learning – Odyssey Contract

Item moved to Staff Reports

H. Contractual Agreement with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Pre-Construction Services at Special Education Center West

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve a contract to New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for pre-construction services at the Special Education Center West project in the amount of $87,000. On May 12, 2009, staff received approval from the board to negotiate contract terms with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. to provide Construction Management at Risk Services for the Special Education Center West project. Staff has completed negotiations for pre-construction services with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc.

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

Paul Daniels leaves 7:46 p.m.

At 7:48, *motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Carlvena Foster to go to closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege and to discuss personnel matters protected by state law. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.*

Return to open session at 8:33 p.m.

Items A, C, D and F pass upon unanimous voice vote of 9-0.

Item H passes by majority voice vote of 8-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Garth Hébert.*

Staff Reports

A. Budget Update

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, presented to the board an update on the budget. GCS is potentially facing a $40M cut in state funding. Approximately 60 person of the district's funding comes from the state level. The potential cuts are divided into three tiers. Tier One would include cuts totaling $10.3M and would consist of reorganization of central administration, central office cuts, reduction in Weighted Student Formula dollars allocated to schools and the elimination of various school-based and central office positions. Tier Two would include $15M in cuts generated by an additional 10% reduction in central office budgets. Tier Three cuts totaling $15M would include an additional three percentage point reduction in central office budgets, elimination of about 12-13 elementary level foreign language teacher positions and increase in class size by 1 student in grades K-12.

The capital budget requested from county commissioners was $7M. The commissioners appropriated $4M and indicated that GCS could request an additional $3M, if needed. The county official based the capital outlay appropriation on belief that GCS has additional funds available to meet needs.

Ms. Ozment presented to the board options to use the Medicaid swap dollars granted to GCS from the reduction in or loss of Public School Building Capital Fund dollars. Staff requested that the board approve use of Medicaid swap dollars to address the air-conditioning upgrade at Hunter Elementary School and the HVAC upgrade at Archer Elementary as well as authorize staff to request approval of the same from the County Commission.
Board discussion followed.

Motion was made by Paul Daniels, seconded by Amos Quick to move forward with board members taking a $50 monthly reduction in board compensation. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 9-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *- Sandra Alexander, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton.*

Carlvena Foster leaves 10:20 p.m.

Motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Sandra Alexander to approve staff's recommendation to use Medicaid swap dollars for Hunter and Archer Elementary Schools HVAC upgrades. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 6-3 as follows: ***Ayes*** *- Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, and Paul Daniels;* ***Nays*** *– Alan Duncan, Amos Quick and Darlene Garrett.*

Carlvena Foster returns 10:41 p.m.

B. Update on Oak Ridge Elementary School

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update on Oak Ridge Elementary. Facilities staff cleaned all carpets with an antimicrobial cleaner and also that the school tested for termite and insect infestations. The school was found to be in relatively good condition as it relates to insect infestation. Dr. Ward Robinson from the Guilford County

Department of Public Health informed the board that they are in the process of analyzing the surveys sent out to parents and staff. Approximately 50% of the surveys have been returned. Health officials anticipate having the data to school staff by the beginning of next week.

The board revisited the consent agenda to vote on the personnel report and addendum.

Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Carlvena Foster to approve the personnel report and addendum as presented. The motion passed upon majority electronic vote of 9-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Garth Hébert, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garret;* ***Nays*** *– Amos Quick.*

As part of the personnel report, the teacher contract renewals were also presented. The board agreed to vote on each tier individually.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Nancy Routh to approve all personnel tiers presented for teacher contract renewal. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.

Item A passes by majority electronic vote of 9-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Darlene Garrett*

Items B, C, E, F and G pass upon unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.

Item D passes by majority electronic vote of 8-1-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Darlene Garrett;* ***Abstain*** *– Nancy Routh.*

Item H passes by majority electronic vote of 7-3 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Sandra Alexander, Amos Quick and Darlene Garrett.*

Break 11:27 p.m.
Resume 11:36 p.m.

Deena Hayes joins via telephone at 11:36 p.m.

C. Approval to Submit Application for Parent University Development Grant Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education

Dr. Eric Becoats, chief administrative officer, presented an application for a Parent University Development Grant. The GCS District Relations Department and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro requested permission to submit the application to the U.S. Department of Education for a Parent University Development Grant. Parent University is an initiative in the district's strategic plan.

This grant would support the planning process for the Parent University initiative, which will include input from a variety of parents, existing community organizations and university and district employees. The district will continue to research additional grant and private funding opportunities for other aspects of Parent University. Although this particular grant is for early childhood programs, Parent University will be designed to support the parents of students in grades pre-K through 12.

The grant program provides funding of approximately $500,000 each year for three years (2010-2013) to universities who partner with school districts to conduct intervention development activities. No district matching funds are required.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Forster to approve the submission of the application for a Parent University to the U.S. Department of Education. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 11-0.

D. Approval of Compass Learning – Odyssey Contract

Steve McGrath, director of virtual learning, presented to the board a contract with Compass Learning Odyssey to provide computer assisted instruction in modules aligned with the district's standard courses of study and pacing guides. This tool provides intervention, remediation and enrichment. It serves as the basis for credit and course recovery during the regular day and in Saturn. Middle Colleges, Twilight and SCALE use this tool as well for new courses on an as-needed basis. The contract amount for these services is $117,000**.** The services will be effective from June 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

Motion was made by Garth Hébert, seconded by Nancy Routh to approve the contract with Company Learning Odyssey. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 11-0.

E. Guilford Child Development Request

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, and Joe Hill, facilities consultant, presented to the board an overview of options for uses for the Craven School.

Options available are:

1. Sell the property. This process would need to declare that the property is no longer necessary or desirable for usable purpose
2. Lease the property. The Board of Education would retain ownership with a lease agreement of up to 10 years.
3. Exchange for property of equal value.
4. Donate the property.
5. Keep the property for future development.

Board discussion followed.

Motion was made by Sandra Alexander, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to declare Craven Elementary School as surplus property which may be disposed of according to North Carolina General Statute 115C-518 subject to the following conditions: (a) that the Guilford County Commissioners shall agree to pay the sum of $860,000 to the Guilford County Board of Education and thereafter convey to Guilford Child Development for that amount, if they are the highest bidder; and (b) Guilford Child Development will do so only if it is successful in obtaining necessary funding to renovate Craven School.

A substitute motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Amos Quick to offer a lease to Guilford Child Development for a minimum of five years, with the stipulation with improvements made would be returned to their amortization schedule. The motion failed by majority electronic vote of 6-5 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Sandra Alexander, Nancy Routh, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster.*

A substitute motion was made by Sandra Alexander, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to declare Craven Elementary School as surplus propert, that it is unnecessary and undesirable for public school purposes and that it be offered to the Guilford County Commissioners for the price of $1.14M or such other amount as received through the upset bid process. The

motion fails by majority electronic vote of 6-5 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick and Darlene Garrett.*

Board Discussion
This item was moved to the June 25, 2009 board meeting.

Governance Review Committee Update

Reports from the Superintendent
GCS's last graduation ceremonies were held on Monday evening, June 8, 2009. More than 4,862 seniors graduated from Guilford County Schools this spring. The class of 2009 earned a record-breaking $78.9 million in scholarships. That number is likely to go up even more as graduates continue to receive scholarship offers through August. There were 26 graduation ceremonies with more than 63,500 people in attendance. Superintendent Green thanked the Tony Watlington, students, principals and faculty for making these graduations such memorable events. He also congratulated all of the valedictorians and salutatorians.

Reports from the Chairman
Chairman Duncan requested board members provide dates for reassignment hearings that need to be heard in June before the next meeting.

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

Adjournment

With no further business, at 1:37 a.m., *motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to adjourn the meeting*. *The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*