GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Thursday, July 23, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2009 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following board members were present: Sandra Alexander, Kris Cooke, Carlvena Foster, Paul Daniels, Alan Duncan, Darlene Garrett, Deena Hayes, Garth Hébert (via telephone), 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 4:05 p.m.

Closed Session
At 4:06 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. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote*.

The board returned to open session at 6:07 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
Board member Carlvena Foster led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Recognitions
GCS Newcomers School Honorable Mention for Magna Award

The board recognized the GCS Newcomers School as a recipient of an Honorable Mention in the Magna Awards 2009 recognition program, which is co-sponsored by American School Board Journal, the National School Boards Association and Sodexo School Services. The Magna Awards recognize school board best practices and innovative programs that advance student learning. In determining this year's winners, judges looked for programs that are the result of appropriate school board leadership, developed or actively supported by the school board, successful in view of the program's primary objectives, important in promoting the district's mission and advancing student learning, capable of being replicated by other school boards with similar conditions and resources and the result of collaboration between the school board and others. Jake Henry, principal of GCS Newcomers School was presented a certificate of recognition by board member Sandra Alexander.

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

Tijuana Hayes, 6 Pyruss Court, Greensboro, NC 27401
Andrew Corbin, 4460 River Birch Loop, Greensboro, NC 27409
Mary Austin, 3713 Parkwood Drive, Greensboro, NC 27403
Dave Owens, 4100 Duffers Lane, Greensboro, NC 27407
Dirk Siegmund, 3611 Redfield Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410

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 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 and addendum requiring board approval.

B. Contractual Agreement with D.H. Griffin/Balfour Beatty for Pre-Construction Services at Ragsdale High School
The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to D.H. Griffin/Balfour Beatty for pre-construction services at the Ragsdale High School project in the amount of $238,491. On May 12, 2009, D.H. Griffin/Balfour Beatty was recommended by the Architectural Selection Committee to provide construction management at risk services for the Ragsdale High School project. Staff received approval from the board on May 12, 2009 to negotiate contract terms with D.H. Griffin/Balfour Beatty and has successfully completed negotiations for pre-construction services.

C. Contractual Agreement with Samet/SRS for Pre-Construction Services at Summerfield Elementary School
The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to Samet/SRS for pre-construction services at the Summerfield Elementary School project in the amount of $124,781. On May 12, 2009, Samet/SRS was recommended by the Architectural Selection Committee to provide construction management at risk services for the Summerfield Elementary School project. Staff received approval from the board on May 12, 2009 to negotiate contract terms with Samet/SRS. Staff has successfully completed negotiations for pre-construction services.

D. NCDOT Three Party Right-of-Way Encroachment Agreement and Maintenance Agreement Affecting the New Jamestown Middle School and Special Ed Center West Facility
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the board approve the execution and delivery of a NCDOT Three Party Right-of-Way encroachment agreement for sewer line Segment I (and for sewer line Segment II, when required) and also approve the execution and delivery of a maintenance agreement with the Town of Jamestown, affecting the new Jamestown Middle School and Special Ed Center West Facility.

Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Jeff Belton to approve the agenda as presented.

Item A – Passes by majority voice vote of 10-1 as follows: ***Ayes****: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Garth Hebert, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays****: Amos Quick.*

Items B, C and D passes unanimously.

Staff Reports

A. Update on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)
Dr. Gongshu Zhang, chief accountability and research officer, will present to the board an update on preliminary AYP results.

Based on preliminary data from the Department of Public Instruction raw data of July 15, 2009, the following is a brief synopsis of the district's 2009 AYP results.

GCS students made AYP history in 2009 in that:

- 69.8 % of 113 schools made AYP - the highest ever
- 81.8% of 22 middle schools made AYP - the highest ever
- 70.1% of 67 elementary schools AYP - the second highest since 2003
- 58.3% of 24 high schools made AYP - the second highest since 2003

Ten of the district's schools met AYP for the seventh year in a row.

Some of the challenges that remain for GCS are:

- The overall percentage of schools making AYP is less than 70%.
- AYP is less than 70% for disadvantaged and students of color in both reading and math.
- Four schools have never made AYP for all seven years.
- There are 27 of 41 Title I schools in NCLB Improvement 2010.

Next steps are to continue improvement in all subgroups, offer school choice where required and to provide supplemental educational services where appropriate.

B. Update on Oak Ridge Elementary School

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update regarding Oak Ridge Elementary. GCS received preliminary reports from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Turner Building Science & Design, LLC. NIOSH has recommended not reopening Oak Ridge Elementary until work on the HVAC system and other initial recommendations have been completed. GCS administration proposes temporarily relocating the school at other facilities, using Plan B which was developed in partnership with Oak Ridge parents and staff members. Under this plan, the bulk of students, grades 2-5, would be housed at Oak Ridge Military Academy through October 2009. Pre-k students would be housed at Pearce Elementary while kindergarten and first grade would be housed at Colfax Elementary. The estimated cost of relocation is $222,000.

Break 7:58 p.m.
Resume 8:27 p.m.

C. **Construction Update**

Andy LaRowe, director of facilities and construction management, presented to the board an update on the district's 2008 construction projects at the following schools: Eastern Guilford High, Jamestown Middle, Ragsdale High/Autism Wing, Special Education Center West, 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, McLeansville Elementary. Also included were heating and air conditioning projects, mobile classroom relocations and athletic facility projects. Other projects included Union Hill Elementary and Southern Middle School track.

D. Capital Outlay Update

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update on capital outlay and capital stimulus funding. There are Qualified School Construction Bonds available for which Guilford County Schools is eligible to apply for. The bonds are zero interest federal stimulus bonds and would be used for school maintenance projects such as HVAC, roof, window and door replacements. The application for the bonds must be approved by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners. A resolution was presented approving the application for the Qualified School Construction Bonds.

Board discussion followed.

Motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Kris Cooke, to adopt the qualified school construction bonds as outlined in the resolution. The motion passed by majority electronic vote of 7-4 as follows: ***Ayes****: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, No - Garth Hebert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays****: Garth Hebert, Paul Daniels, Amos Quick and Darlene Garrett.*

Ms. Ozment presented to the board red light camera funds which were held in reserve which are available to address items that have been funded with capital outlay dollars in previous fiscal years.

Motion was made by Amos Quick, seconded by Kris Cooke, to approve the use of $1.1M in red light camera funds for school allotments, band equipment and instruments, furniture and technology services due to the reduction in capital outlay funding for 2009-10. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *- Garth Hébert.*

Board discussion continued.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Nancy Routh to proceed with working with Guilford County Board of County Commissioners to amend its Public School Building Capital Fund request and the associated project ordinance. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *- Garth Hébert.*

E. **Continued 2009-10 Budget Discussion**

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, led the board in a continued budget discussion. The district continues to assess its budget for the current fiscal year while awaiting the approval of a state budget by the General Assembly. At previous meetings, staff presented recommended cuts and redirections of approximately $36.8M, divided into three tiers. Tier 1 cuts were included in the Superintendent's budget request and the Board of Education's request to the county commissioners. The following were presented to the board for approval.

1 - Home Field Advantage – The proposal is changing the concept in 2009-2010 so that students will be eligible to participate in the program still for the remainder of the year in which a relocation that would change their school assignment takes place with grandfathering allowed in subsequent school years if the guardian or parent provides transportation. The proposed savings would be $416,877.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to approve home field advantage as presented. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 9-2 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton and Amos Quick.*

2 – Dental Insurance – The proposal is to change the plan for 2009-2010 so that employees pay the full cost for participation in the plan. GCS has paid $10.75 per month per participating employee for 2008-09. The annual proposed savings would be $1,358,000.

Motion was made by Paul Daniels, seconded by Kris Cooke, to approve changing the employee dental insurance plan as presented. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton.*

3 – Athletics – The proposal is to reduce supplies and materials by 15% at middle and high schools. Also reduce the supplements to a base of 80% instead of 85%. The proposed savings would be $123,667.

> *Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve changes to athletics as presented. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows:* ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Amos Quick.*

4 – Consolidation of Bus Stops – The proposal is to eliminate the circling of neighborhoods. The primary impact is on high school routes and a few middle schools routes. The proposed savings would be approximately $250,000.

Garth Hébert is disconnected.

> *Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Paul Daniels, to approve the consolidation of bus stops as presented. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 6-4 as follows:* ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster.*

5 – Eliminate ten standby bus driver positions. The standby drivers would be placed in vacant driver positions. The proposed savings would be $300,000.

> *Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Sandra Alexander, to approve the elimination of ten standby bus driver positions as presented. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 9-1 as follows:* ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Amos Quick.*

Garth Hébert is re-connected.

6- Further consolidation of bus stops, second phase would impact elementary, middle and high school students. Their walk to bus stops could be ½ mile in some instances. The estimated savings is $500,000.

> *Motion was made by Sandra Alexander, seconded by Carlvena Foster to reject this item as a reduction and remove it completely from consideration for this budget year. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 7-4 as follows:* ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Paul Daniels and Darlene Garrett.*

Board discussion followed. The elimination of the IB program at Smith High School was presented as an additional item for board consideration. The estimated savings is $73,500.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke to postpone any decision on this issue unless the district needs the fund sooner. There was no second, motion fails.

> *Motion was made by Amos Quick, seconded by Jeff Belton, to not consider cutting the IB program at Smith High School for the 2009-10 budget year. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 6-5 as follows:* ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Kris Cooke, Garth Hébert, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels and Darlene Garrett.*

No motion was made on the following items.

- Reduce the lead bus drivers from eleven to ten month terms of employment.

- Eliminating or scaling back the extended year program at Brooks Global and Johnson Street.
- Implementing the three-tier bus schedule.

Break 12:15 am
Resume 12:23 am

Board Discussion

Governance Review Committee Update

1. **Report on Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and Policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletic Coaches**

   Chairman Duncan called on board member Nancy Routh, convenor of the Governance Review Committee, to present to the board a report on policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletic Coaches.
   The board approved this policy for first reading at its June 25 meeting. This policy had been posted on the district Web site for a public comment period per the board's policy and received comments until July 16, 2009. Based on this input, the Governance Committee revised the proposed policy and procedures. Since the revisions are substantive in nature, the Governance Committee recommended that the revised policy be presented to the Board as a first reading and that a seven-day posting/public comment period be allowed. Although changes to the attached procedures were also substantive in nature, Board approval is not required. The procedures were presented to the Board and will be posted on the Web site for informational purposes only.

   Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Amos Quick to table the Report on Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and Policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletic Coaches until the July 23, 2009 board meeting. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 6-5 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster;* ***Nays*** *– Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Alan Duncan and Darlene Garrett.*

   Board discussion followed.

   At its June 25 meeting, the board also approved for first reading Policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletics Coaches which has been posted on the district Web site for a public comment period per the board's policy. Comments were received though July 16, 2009. The comments were reviewed by the Governance Committee on July 21, 2009 and did not result in any material changes. The word "qualified" was added to the phrase "other qualified GCS employees" for consistency and clarity. The Governance Committee recommended that the amended policy be brought to the board for a second reading and approval. The procedures (GBDBA-P) were amended to reflect changes made as a result of the public comment review by the Governance Committee and do not require Board approval.

   Motion was made by Paul Daniels, seconded by Darlene Garrett to reconsider Policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletics Coaches separate from Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 9-2 as follows: ***Ayes*** *– Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett;* ***Nays*** *– Kris Cooke and Amos Quick.*

   Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Jeff Belton, to adopt Policy GBDBA, Interscholastic Athletics Coaches as presented. The motion passed by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows: ***Ayes****: Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy*

Routh, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; ***Nays****: Alan Duncan.*

2. **Report on Changes to Procedures IKEA-P, Student Accountability Standards, IFA-P, Selection of Instructional Materials/Educational Resources and IHF-P, Graduation Requirements**
Chairman Duncan called on board member Nancy Routh, convenor of the Governance Review Committee, to present to the board a report on changes to procedures IKEA-P, Student Accountability Standards, IFA-P, Selection of Instructional Materials/Educational Resources and IHF-P, Graduation Requirements.

Updates to Procedures IKEA-P, Student Accountability Standards, IFA-P, Selection of Instructional Materials/Educational Resources and IHF-P, Graduation Requirements were made. Changes to IKEA-P and IHF-P were necessitated by changes to testing as made by the State Board of Education.

Procedure IHF-P reflects an increase from 20 units to 21 units in graduation credits required by the state. The impact at Saturn, SCALE, Twilight School, the Academies at Smith and Central, as well as middle colleges has been addressed.

Procedure IKEA-P outlines retesting procedures for students in grades 3-2 who do not score at the proficient level on end of grade and end of course tests; students may participate in one retest opportunity; student scoring at level I on the first test may retest with parental request. Final grades for high school students will be recalculated to include the higher of the two test grades. Additionally, material reflecting transition programs that no longer are in practice have been removed.

Procedure IFA-P contains new information to emphasize the need to use video in a limited way and following best practices.

Closed Session

At 12:48 a.m., *motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett to go into closed session to preserve the attorney client privilege and to discuss personnel matters protected by state law, and to give advice and instruction to our staff and attorney with regard to the price or other material term to be included in a proposed contract for the purchase of real property. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.*

Garth Hébert is disconnected.

The board returned to open session at 1:12 a.m.

Southeast Area Elementary School
Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to approve the purchase of property located at 1415-1417, 1423 and 1427 Mt. Hope Church Road and 601 and 625 Robertson Road in McLeansville, NC at the amount of $637,500 for the Southeast Area Elementary School and Autism Wing. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.

Northwest Middle/High School Campus
Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to approve the purchase of property at 5210 and 5212 Northwest School Road in Greensboro in the amount of $290,000 to help improve traffic circulation at the Northwest Middle and High School campuses. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.

Reports from the Superintendent
None

Reports from the Chairman
None

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

Closed Session
At 1:16 a.m., *motion was made by Deena Hayes, 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 passes by unanimous voice vote*.

The board returns to open session at 1:48 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further business, at 1:48 a.m., *motion was made by Jeff Belton, seconded by Paul Daniels, to adjourn the meeting*. *The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*