

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

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 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, Amos Quick, Nancy Routh. Board member Garth Hébert was absent. Also present were Superintendent Maurice Green and Attorney Jill Wilson.

Call to Order

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Board member Jeff Belton led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Public Comments

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

Robert Key, 7800 Airport Centre Drive, #401, Greensboro, NC 27409
Tijuana Hayes, 6 Pyruss Court, Greensboro, NC 27401
Farrah Shepherd, 1118 McCormick Street, Greensboro, NC 27403

Recognitions

A. GCS Employee of the Month for August 2009

The board recognize Mayra Hayes, director of the English as a Second Language (ESL) department as the August 2009 Employee of the Month. Board member Nancy Routh presented Ms. Hayes with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Hayes also received a \$50 gift card from Sam's Club, which has generously partnered with GCS to support the employee recognition program.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Duncan asked board members to review the meeting agenda and called for a motion to approve or amend it. Mr. Duncan also requested that a closed session be held during the break to discuss a confidential student matter.

Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Deena Hayes 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 June 9 and June 25, 2009 regular meetings 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.

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene Garrett to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.

Amos Quick leaves 6:24 p.m.

Staff Reports

Chairman Duncan called on members of the public who requested an opportunity to address the board on the naming of the Special Education Center West.

- Dan McAlister, 2408 Martinston Road, Greensboro, NC 27408
- Dale Metz, 5318 Montevista Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407
- Dr. Kris Allred, 2501 Calumet Court, High Point, NC 27265
- Susan Haynes, 5017 Wiley Park Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407
- Clarence Easter, 1724 Greenwood Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27403
- Joe Stafford, 4604 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

A. Public Hearing and Approval for the Naming of the Special Education Center West

Chairman Duncan called on members representing each name, and granted ten minutes, to discuss the proposed name for the Special Education Center West. Following the public hearing, the board had the opportunity to select a final name.

Pursuant to GCS procedure on the naming of schools (FDCA-P), the Department of District Relations collected input from citizens regarding the appropriate name for the new Special Education Center West School. In keeping with the procedure, the materials presented to the Department of District Relations were open for public comment for 30 days, beginning June 26. The following names were open for comment:

- “Keller-Sullivan Learning Center” – named for Helen Keller and her teacher, Anne Sullivan
- “Bennie Lee Inman Education Center” – named for Mrs. Bennie Lee, the director of the Greensboro Cerebral Palsy School from 1950 until 1993
- “Christopher Reeve Education Center” – named for actor Christopher Reeve
- “Meredith Leigh Haynes Education Center” – named for the daughter of the family from whom the land was purchased; she attended Gateway Education Center

Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Carlvena Foster to approve naming the Special Education Center West the Meredith Leigh Haynes Education Center.

*A substitute motion was made by Alan Duncan, seconded by Deena Hayes to name the Special Education Center West the Meredith Leigh Haynes-Bennie Lee Inman Education Center. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 5-4 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Alan Duncan, Deena Hayes and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels and Carlvena Foster.*

B. Update on Oak Ridge Elementary School

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, presented to the board an update on Oak Ridge Elementary. The packing and moving of materials from Oak Ridge Elementary into the alternate facilities is almost complete. The mobile units at Northwest Middle and Colfax Elementary are ready for teachers to occupy. Oak Ridge Military Academy will be ready shortly.

Two parents information meetings have been scheduled to update parents on the plans for the school. Items for discussion are transportation, afterschool programs and food services. The transportation hub has been changed from Oak Ridge Elementary to Northwest Middle and High School.

C. Update on Advanced Placement (AP)

Dr. Barbara Zwadyk, chief curriculum and organizational development officer, and Dr. Wanda LaGrand, high school curriculum officer, presented to the board an update on advanced placement. Staff completed recommendations for Advanced Placement testing given the most recent budget adjustments. A district wide project team was established and reached consensus on items regarding communication, placement, and payment. The proposed model used a 75-25 split. A partnership between Guilford County Schools and the Businesses for Excellence in Education (BEE) will make this model possible. GCS will pay \$43.00; BEE will pay \$21.50; parents will pay the remaining \$21.50 of each exam fee, for a total of \$86. With this change in payment, students will not be mandated to take the AP tests; however, they would be granted the AP quality point as earned in the course. A teacher created final exam will be administered and count for 25% of the final average.

Students will be placed in AP classes by open enrollment. Efforts will be strengthened to encourage and schedule all students in at least one AP course during their high school years, redouble efforts to close the opportunity gap, and ensure high performing students are scheduled appropriately. AP potential from 10th grade PSAT scores and EOG scores are recommended as potential data sources. Concrete criteria will be developed prior to registration.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Deena Hayes to adopt the recommendation of staff to implement the 75-25 advanced placement payment model with an amendment to allow parents who willing to pay the full fee to do so and the additional funds would be paid for the benefit of the advanced learning. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 7-2 as follows: **Ayes** – Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Sandra Alexander and Alan Duncan.*

At 8:05 pm, motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett to go into 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.

*Break 8:05 p.m.
Resume 8:34 p.m.*

D. Update on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)/ABCs

Dr. Gongshu Zhang, chief accountability and research officer, presented to the board an update on AYP/ABC results. The 2009 results show the following:

An increased number of ABC honor schools, from 1 in 2008 to 10 in 2009
An increased percentage of schools that made AYP by 39 points, from 31.1% in 2008 to 70.6% in 2009
An increased average performance composite of schools, from 60% in 2008 to 66.5 in 2009
A decrease in the number of ABC priority schools, from 42 in 2008 to 24 in 2009
Over 75% of schools made ABC expected growth for two years.

Board discussion followed.

Amos Quick returns 9:30 p.m.

E. Continued 2009-10 Budget Discussion

Dr. Eric Becoats, chief administrative officer, and Angie Henry, assistant finance officer, led the board in a continued budget discussion. From the last board meeting, there were various questions that were raised by board members. Those questions were addressed in a memorandum which was reviewed with the board by Dr. Becoats.

Board discussion followed.

Ms. Henry explained recommendations by staff to restore to the schools the balance of the weighted student formula funds to bring their totals to 100%. Traditionally, the district has provided these funds to the schools based on their actual enrollment.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Kris Cooke to restore the balance of the weighted student formula funds to 100% for all schools. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 9-1 as follows: **Ayes** - Sandra Alexander, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Jeff Belton.*

A substitute motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Amos Quick, to restore student formula funds minus \$417,000 for the home field advantage program. The home field advantage program would be restored for at least a year to give parents time to prepare for the modification of the program. Once the remaining budget funds are allocated, weighted student formula funds would be restored to 100%.

*An additional substitute motion was made by Alan Duncan, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to fund weighted student formula dollars fully back to 100% with the proviso that five percent be held in reserve until the 20th day of enrollment. The district would restore home field advantage with the proviso that parents receive notification of the district's future plans for the program. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 7-3 as follows: **Ayes** – Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster; **Nays** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton and Darlene Garrett.*

Chairman Duncan and Vice Chairman Quick shared with the board their participation in communication with the board of county commission leadership, Commissioners Alston and Arnold, regarding the board of education's action pertaining to the qualified school construction bonds (QSCB). Clarification from the state explains that the qualified school construction bonds may be used to substitute other bonds that are interest bearing. The range of savings in finance interest charges would be approximately \$5.5 to \$6M. The county commission leadership requested the board of education to provide an alternative list of projects from the 2008 bond projects where the QSCB can be used instead of the list of projects submitted in its application for the bonds. Staff identified projects eligible for application of this bond money. The projects identified as alternatives could be used in the first phase of application for these bonds. The projects identified in the list submitted with the application could be used in the second phase. Each application for bonds to cover capital maintenance projects would be for approximately \$17.2M. The two projects identified by staff are Allen Middle School (new classroom wing and a new auxiliary gym) and Grimsley High School (new cafeteria addition, conversion of current cafeteria space to instructional space, renovations to the main gym and improvements to Jamison stadium).

Motion was made by Nancy Routh, second by Deena Hayes, to approve the suggested alternative list of capital maintenance projects to be completed using the qualified school construction bonds for submission to the county commissioners at their August 20, 2009 meeting. The motion passes by unanimously electronic vote of 10-0.

Break 11:06 p.m.
Resume 11:16 p.m.

Board Discussion

Governance Review Committee Update – Report on Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics

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. At its June 25 meeting, the Board of Education approved for first reading Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics. This policy had been posted on the district Web site for a public comment period per the board's policy.

The district received comments until July 16, 2009. Based on this input, the Governance Committee revised the proposed Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and procedures and resubmitted at the Board of Education meeting on July 23. This item was tabled during the July 23 meeting for August 11, 2009.

Since the revisions are substantive in nature, the Governance Committee recommended that the revised policy be presented to the board as a first reading. The committee further recommended a seven-day posting/public comment period. 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.

Board discussion followed.

Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Jeff Belton to change unweighted grade point average to a weighted grade point average.

*A substitute motion was made by Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, to establish a standard grade point average of 1.5 weighted from Jan to June 2010, 2.0 beginning with the 2010-11 school year. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 7-3 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Jeff Belton, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes and Carlvena Foster; **Nays** – Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels and Darlene Garrett.*

The board asked for more clarity on the 365 waiting period regarding the change in residence. The last paragraph one page two under Students Assigned a Base School should be eliminated.

Motion was made by Alan Duncan, seconded by Jeff Belton to incorporate the suggested revisions to Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and place the policy back out for a ten day comment period. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.

Reports from the Superintendent

The superintendent will begin to have individual meetings with board members to discuss his first year on the job and plans for the coming school year.

Reports from the Chairman

Chairman Duncan requested that board members provide him with agenda item suggestions for the fall retreat to be held on September 19, 2009.

Board Comments

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

Adjournment

With no further business, at 12:31 a.m., *motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Carlvena Foster, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*