

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

**Thursday, August 27, 2009**

The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, August 27, 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, Garth Hébert, Amos Quick (arrived 6:36 a.m.), Nancy Routh. Board member was absent. Also present were Superintendent Maurice Green and Attorney Jill Wilson.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Board member Paul Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

**Recognitions**

**A. GCS Volunteer of the Month for August 2009**

The board recognized Susan Tysinger, volunteer at Page High, as the August 2009 volunteer of the Month. Board member Kris Cooke presented Ms. Tysinger with a certificate of recognition. Ms. Tysinger 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 presented to her by Terry Worrell, regional superintendent for the central region.

**Public Comments**

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

Kimber Bass, 3305 Wood Lea Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406  
Linda Welborn, 4903 Warfield Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406  
Dave Gearhart, 4515 Bramley 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. Chairman Duncan, first break we will go into closed session.

*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 July 7 and July 23 regular meetings were presented for approval.

**B. Personnel Action Reports**

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

**C. Contractual Agreement with Barnhill/Vannoy for Pre-Construction Services at Southeast Middle and High School**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to Barnhill/Vannoy for pre-construction services at the Southeast Middle and High School project in the amount of \$234,391. On May 12, 2009, Barnhill/Vannoy was recommended by the Architectural Selection Committee to provide Construction Management at Risk Services for the Southeast Middle and High School project. Staff received approval from the board on May 12, 2009 to negotiate contract terms with Barnhill/Vannoy. Staff successfully completed negotiations for pre-construction services.

**D. NCDOT Three Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement and Two (2) NCDOT Two Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreements Affecting the Southeast Middle School and Southeast High School Properties**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve the execution and delivery of a North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Three Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement and two (2) NCDOT Right of Way Encroachment Agreements (Two Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreements) affecting both the Southeast Middle School and Southeast High School properties. To accommodate this work, GCS will be required to relocate an existing fire hydrant plus associated appurtenances to a location within the Woody Mill Road right-of-way. In addition, GCS will be required to install approximately 60 linear feet of storm piping within the Woody Mill Road right-of-way and to construct and/or install approximately 1,650 linear feet of pavement widening and associated storm drainage improvements within the Southeast School Road right-of-way.

**E. NCDOT Three Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement and NCDOT Two Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement affecting the Alamance Elementary School Property**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve the execution and delivery of both a NCDOT Three Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement and a Right of Way Encroachment Agreement (Two Party Right of Way Encroachment Agreement) affecting the Alamance Elementary School property. To provide public water service to the school, GCS will be required to construct approximately 20 linear feet of 8" water main, plus appurtenances that will extend from the Alamance Elementary School site and tap into a new waterline that will be constructed by the City of Greensboro within the Southeast School Road right-of-way. In addition, approximately 1,220 linear feet of pavement widening (left turn lane) and associated storm drainage improvements will be required along the Southeast School Road right-of-way.

**F. Contractual Agreement with Morganti/Horus for Pre-Construction Services at Northwest Middle and High School**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to Morganti/Horus for pre-construction services at the Northwest Middle and High School project in the amount of \$88,000. On May 12, 2009, Morganti/Horus was recommended by the Architectural Selection Committee to provide Construction Management at Risk Services for the Northwest Middle and High School project. Staff received approval from the board on May 12, 2009 to negotiate contract terms with Morganti/Horus. Staff successfully completed negotiations for pre-construction services.

**G. Contractual Agreement with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 3B – Jamestown Middle School**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to approve increasing the scope with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc., for Phase 3B construction management at risk services at the Jamestown Middle School in the amount of \$630,789.

**H. Contractual Agreement with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 1 Site and Building Packages at Meredith Leigh Haynes-Bennie Lee Inman Education Center**

The consent agenda included a recommendation to award a contract to New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. for Phase 1 site and building packages at the Meredith Leigh Haynes –

Bennie Lee Inman Education Center project in the amount of \$11,247,128. At the June 9, 2009 meeting, a contract was approved by the board for pre-construction services at Meredith Leigh Haynes – Bennie Lee Inman Education Center with New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$87,000. On July 8, July 23, and July 28, 2009, New Atlantic Contracting, Inc. received bids for Phase I Site and building packages at Meredith Leigh Haynes – Bennie Lee Inman Education Center project. The Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) (including allowances and contingencies) is \$11,247,128. The construction budget for this portion of the project is \$11,383,487.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Paul Daniels to approve the consent agenda.*

*Items A, C, D, E, F, G and H pass by majority voice vote of 9-1 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.*

*Item B passes by majority voice vote of 8-2 as follows: **Ayes** – Sandra Alexander, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Paul Daniels, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Jeff Belton and Garth Hébert.*

### **Staff Reports**

Chairman Duncan allowed time for members of the public to make comments regarding the naming of The Northeast High School Gymnasium:

Gary Swing, 6512 McLeansville Road, McLeansville, NC 27301  
Rick Apple, 5441 NC 150 East, Browns Summit, NC 27214

#### **A. Consideration for Naming of the Northeast High School Gymnasium**

Chairman Duncan called on members of the public who wished to speak on proposed name(s) for the Northeast High School gymnasium. John Primm has been a positive role model for Northeast students for 37 years. He was a teacher, coach and athletic director at Northeast Middle and High schools. While teaching Advanced Placement (AP) American History and AP European History for more than 20 years at Northeast High, his students consistently passed the national AP exams, scoring a three or better. His students have won state and national awards in the National History Day competition.

As a coach, his teams have been to the conference championships and state playoffs. He has been honored as conference coach of the year and for the past four years he served as commissioner of the 3A Athletic Conference.

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Alan Duncan to approve for posting for public comment the name John Primm Gymnasium for Northeast High School Gymnasium for thirty days. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 10-0.*

Chairman Duncan allowed time for members of the public to make comments regarding the renaming of Madison Elementary School:

Joe Stafford, 4604 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

#### **B. Consideration for the Renaming of Madison Elementary School**

Chairman Duncan called on members of the public who wished to speak on proposed names for the renaming of Madison Elementary School. The following names were presented for consideration for renaming of the school: Dolley Madison Elementary School, James and Dolley Madison Elementary School and James Madison Elementary School. Following

discussion regarding the proposed names, the board requested staff to research the history of the school's name.

*Motion was made by Kris Cooke, seconded by Darlene to table this item until history on Madison Elementary can be verified. The motion passes by vote of 7-4 as follows: **Ayes:** Sandra Alexander, Kris Cooke, Alan Duncan, Amos Quick, Deena Hayes, Carlvena Foster and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Jeff Belton, Garth Hébert, Nancy Routh and Paul Daniels.*

### **C. Opening of Schools Update**

Dr. Eric Becoats, chief administrative officer, presented to the board an update on the first day of school for students. The central office developed a cross departmental team of fifty individuals to visit schools on the first day as well as the remainder of the first week of school. Six critical areas were viewed during those visits: curriculum and organizational development, operations, child nutrition, communication, human resources and fixed assets.

Some of the highlights included the following:

- The district provided professional development to hundreds of teachers to prepare for the start of the school year.
- Only two teaching positions, a math and a science position, needed to be filled at the start of school due to resignations. The district is working to fill those vacancies quickly.
- The projected enrollment was 71,079, while the actual enrollment for day 2 was 68,111. The shortfall is not unusual, and the enrollment will likely rise to the projected amount by day 10 when the district must provide information to the state.
- Buses were serviced in preparation for the first day of school. Changes for the start of the school year include the consolidation of 20 percent of bus stops and the Oak Ridge Elementary hub system, both of which are operating smoothly.
- Maintenance completed painting, flooring, paving, installation of camera systems, roofing and HVAC improvements in several schools.
- The district served 1,112 more breakfasts and 1,826 more lunches on this year's first day than last year.

### **D. Oak Ridge Elementary School Update**

Leo Bobadilla, chief operations officer, and Angelo Kidd, western region superintendent, presented to the board an update regarding Oak Ridge Elementary. Plan B operations for students to attend class in multiple locations due to repairs being made at their school building are running smoothly. Parents have provided positive feedback about the operation of the plan, including the transportation hub system between Northwest Middle, Oak Ridge Military Academy and Colfax Elementary.

Work continues in the Oak Ridge Elementary facility. The district expects to receive an update from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health soon. Turner Building Science and Design, LLC continues to work with the district to develop protocols for the scope of work to be completed. Carpet removal should be complete by early September and roof repairs continue.

The Facilities department is working closely with Financial Services to track the cost of the repairs. As direction from Turner continues, it is not yet known if the amount budgeted by the board will cover the complete cost of the recommended repairs.

### **E. 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, Meredith Leigh Haynes-Bennie Lee

Inman Education Center, 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 and mobile classroom relocations. Other projects included Union Hill Elementary and Southern Middle School track. Building advisory teams have been set for most of the projects and those teams are meeting on a monthly basis.

Chairman Duncan reported that the board of education submitted a proposal to the county commission for the first phase of the qualified school construction bonds. The bonds are to be used for capital maintenance projects and total approximately \$17.2M. Alternative projects at Grimsley High and Allen Middle Schools were submitted where the bonds could be used by the county commission, if they so elected. The county commission passed a motion pursuing the qualified school construction bonds approving the use of those bonds on the alternative projects at Grimsley High and Allen Middle School projects. The benefit would be a savings in financing charges somewhere between \$5.5M and \$8M to tax payers for the repayment of the outstanding bond obligations from the 2008 bond referendum. GCS will be eligible to apply for the second phase of the qualified school construction bonds in January 2010. Additional capital maintenance projects needs may be addressed during the second phase.

*At 7:56 p.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 student matters protected by state and federal law, to discuss personnel matters protected by state law, and to discuss the lawsuit encaptioned the Guilford County Board of Education v. Lyon Construction, Inc. and Federal Insurance Company. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

*Break 7:56 p.m.  
Resume 9:04 p.m.*

#### **F. Low Performing Schools Update**

Dr. Beth Folger, chief academic officer, presented to the board an update on low performing schools. School districts must develop improvement plans for schools designated as low-performing by the state's ABCs of Public Education. Low performing schools are those that failed to meet their expected growth standards and have less than 50 percent of their students' scores at or above Achievement Level III.

The 10 schools that have been identified as low performing are Fairview Elementary, Gillespie Park Elementary, Hampton Leadership Academy, Oak Hill Elementary, Montlieu Math and Science Academy, Parkview Elementary, Hairston Middle, Andrews High, Dudley High and Eastern High.

The improvement plans for low performing schools will be open for public comment by school staff and parents through September 18. Afterwards, the plans will be revised and presented to the board on September 24 for approval. Final plans will be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, thereafter.

#### **G. Continued 2009-10 Budget Discussion**

Sharon Ozment, chief financial officer, led the board in a continued budget discussion. Staff brought forth recommendations for an adjustment for the advanced placement 50/25/25 model, the funding for a minimum of 20 additional teacher positions based on 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> day enrollment adjustments and reinstating PSAT testing in grades 10 and 11 in 2009-10.

*Motion was made by Nancy Routh, seconded by Kris Cooke, for an adjustment for an increase in funding to \$338,458.62 for the advanced placement test 50/25/25 model. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 11-0.*

*Motion was made by Darlene Garrett, seconded by Kris Cooke, for the addition of a minimum of 20 additional teacher positions for 10<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> day adjustments. 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.*

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

An additional \$4.9 million remains to be allocated. District staff will bring more recommendations before the board at upcoming meetings.

#### **H. SAT Update**

Eric Becoats, chief administrative officer, presented to the board an update on preliminary SAT results. Scores released by the College Board show a slight decrease among 2009 Guilford County Schools (GCS) graduates, but scores for 11 of the district's schools improved.

Following state and national trends, the district's mean score on the combined Critical Reading, Math and Writing sections decreased six points from 1471 in 2008 to 1465 in 2009. The North Carolina mean decreased three points and the national mean decreased two points. The combined mean score on the traditional Critical Reading and Math sections fell to 988, a three-point decrease from 2008.

While participation increased at six district schools, the participation rate among GCS students was lower overall. With 316 fewer test takers, participation decreased 7.1 percent, down from 65.6 percent in 2008 to 58.5 percent.

SAT performance among select schools and students remained outstanding. Three GCS students earned perfect scores of 1600 on the combined Critical Reading and Math sections. Thirteen students scored a perfect 800 in Critical Reading, nine had perfect scores in Math, and four had perfect scores in Writing.

Seven schools had higher total scores than the national average of 1509. Three schools improved both their mean scores and their student participation rates.

#### **Board Discussion**

##### **A. Selection of Voting Delegates for the North Carolina School Board Association (NCSBA) Conference**

Chairman Duncan led the board in a discussion regarding the selection of voting delegates for the NCSBA conference to be held on November 16-18, 2009 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Guilford County Board of Education is eligible to have four board members serve as voting delegates at the conference.

*Motion was made by Amos Quick, seconded by Nancy Routh, to approve to send one board member, Sandra Alexander, to serve as a voting delegate at the North Carolina School Board Association Conference. The motion passes by majority electronic vote of 10-1 as follows:*

**Ayes** – Jeff Belton, Alan Duncan, Nancy Routh, Kris Cooke, Paul Daniels, Amos Quick, Carlvena Foster, Garth Hébert, Deena Hayes and Darlene Garrett; **Nays** – Sandra Alexander.

**B. Recognition of High Point City Schools Integration**

Chairman Duncan called on board member Carlvena Foster to lead the board in a discussion regarding a resolution recognizing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the integration of the High Point City Schools. The resolution was requested be presented at a reception at High Point Central High School on September 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m., to commemorate this anniversary. The District Relations department will prepare plaques to be presented to sisters Brenda and Lyn Fountain, the first African-American students to attend an integrated High Point school.

*Motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett to accept the resolution and recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of integration of High Point City Schools. The motion passes by unanimous electronic vote of 11-0.*

**C. Governance Review Committee Update - Report on Policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics**

Chairman Duncan called on board member Nancy Routh, convener of the Governance Review Committee, to present to the board a report on policy JI, Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics. The policy sets eligibility standards for interscholastic athletics based on GCS rules and rules established by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

In addition to NCHSAA academic requirements, GCS students will be required to have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 to participate in athletics. This will be phased in, with students being required to earn a 1.5 GPA in 2009-10 and then a 2.0 GPA in 2010-11.

The policy also defines a “base school” for students for the purpose of athletic participation according to their domicile or administrative assignment determined by GCS. Prior to participating in sports each year, students and their parents will be required to complete a residence verification form as proof of domicile. Cases of alleged impropriety related to a student’s residence will be investigated by an Athletic Eligibility Committee and students who are improperly enrolled will lose athletic eligibility for a period of up to 365 days.

The second paragraph on page two under heading Students Assigned a Base School should be changed to read *Base schools may change without having a 365-day waiting period, however, if the transfer is consistent with administrative procedures.*

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

**D. Legislative Committee Update**

Chairman Duncan called on board member Kris Cooke, convener of the Legislative Committee, to present to the board an update from the legislative committee. The committee is beginning work on preparation for the 2010 legislative agenda. Board members were requested to consider the format for that agenda and the items to be included.

Concerned was expressed for teachers being unable to use the furlough hours granted in the executive order signed by the governor in late spring. Staff was requested to draft a letter to the governor and the Guilford County legislators addressing the issues the district is facing

regarding the furlough hours, including an extension of the furlough. General consensus was given by board members to have staff draft the letter and sign the same at the September 8, 2009 board meeting.

### **Reports from the Superintendent**

None

### **Reports from the Chairman**

A letter from the North Carolina School Boards Association has been received with respect to nomination of the Raleigh Damon Award for the all state board school board positions. Chairman Duncan requested that staff work through a nomination for one of our board members for submission. General consent was given by the board.

### **Closed Session**

*At 10:57 p.m., motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to discuss personnel matters protected by state law, to give advice and instruction to our staff and attorney regarding terms to be included in a proposed contract for the purchase of real property and to discuss the lawsuit encaptioned Gant and Lamot and others v. the Guilford County Board of Education. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.*

At 12:09 a.m., the board returns to open session.

### **Board Comments**

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

### **Closed Session**

*At 12:15 a.m., motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Darlene Garrett, to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to discuss personnel matters protected by state law and to discuss the lawsuit encaptioned Gant and Lamot and others v. the Guilford County Board of Education. The motion passes by unanimous voice vote.*

At 12:57 a.m., the board returns to open session.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, at 12:57 a.m., *motion was made by Deena Hayes, seconded by Paul Daniels, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*