The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following Board members were present: T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Darlene Garrett, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman (arrived at 6:09 p.m.) and Linda Welborn. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Sharon L. Contreras, Attorney Jill Wilson and Board Clerk Lisa Nolen.

Call to Order
Chairperson Deena Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
Chairperson Hayes called on Byron Gladden to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Recognitions
National Volunteer Week 2019
The Board accepted a proclamation recognizing April 7 – 13, 2019 as National Volunteer Week.
Chairperson Hayes called on Guilford County Schools Council of PTAs President Sherrill Williams to read the following proclamation into the record:

National Volunteer Week
April 7 – 13, 2019

WHEREAS, the entire community can inspire, equip and mobilize individuals to take action that supports our community and public schools; and

WHEREAS, individuals, organizations and businesses connect with local volunteer opportunities through Guilford County Schools’ 126 schools to help transform learning and life outcomes for every student; and

WHEREAS, during this week all over the nation, and in Guilford County, projects will be performed and volunteers recognized for their commitment to service; and

WHEREAS, our schools’ volunteer coordinators play an essential role in welcoming, organizing and motivating our district’s volunteer force of 13,400 individuals and nearly 452,000 service hours; and

WHEREAS, our volunteers’ contributions are essential to the district’s success;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Guilford County Board of Education and Guilford County Council of PTAs hereby recognize April 7 – 13, 2019 as National Volunteer Week. We encourage all citizens of Guilford County to recognize those who serve and volunteer in the community and in our local public schools as we come together to make a difference.

Volunteer of the Month for March 2019
The Board recognized Tiaira Moragne, a volunteer at Hairston Middle School, as the GCS Volunteer of the Month for March 2019. Byron Gladden presented Ms. Moragne with a certificate of recognition.

Public Comments
Chairperson Hayes called on the following members of the public who requested an opportunity to address the Board:
Natalie Heaggans Andrews, 1826 Runner Stone Dr., High Point, NC 27265
Sylvia Clapp-White, 603 Cardella Dr., Greensboro, NC 27405
Kendall Brown, student, Kernodle Middle School
Lori Kirt, 1211 W. Hampton Dr., Greensboro, NC 27405
Jordan Alston, student, Sedgefield Elementary School
Dennis Rankin, 1611 W. Cone Blvd., Greensboro, NC 27408
Susan Tysinger, 801 Blanton Pl., Greensboro, NC 27408
Leah Hendershot, 1501 Ontario St., Greensboro, NC 27403
Riley Driver, 504 Houston St., Greensboro, NC 27401
Amy Harrison, 7385 Woodspring Dr., Whitsett, NC 27377
Jamie Yi, 4018 Canterwood Dr., Greensboro, NC 27410
Todd Warren, 1043 S. Josephine Boyd St., Greensboro, NC 27403
Marcz Matchett, 5201 Ainsworth Dr., Greensboro, NC 27410
Ron Surgeon, 6806 Rustic Wood Ct., Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
Yvonceria Sutton, PO Box 953, Greensboro, NC 27402
Gina Alem, 5105 Bodie Ln., Greensboro, NC 27455
Mark Carley, 1205 Madison St., High Point, NC 27262

Approval of the Agenda
Chairperson Hayes asked Board members to review the meeting agenda and called for a motion to approve or revise it.

Motion was made by T. Dianne Bellamy Small, seconded by Winston McGregor, to approve the agenda. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of 9 to 0.

Motion was made by Khem Irby, seconded by Byron Gladden, to move consideration of the Action Item “Resolution in Support of the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019” to the Consent Agenda. The motion passed upon electronic vote of 5 to 4 as follows: Ayes – Darlene Garrett, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby and Anita Sharpe; Nays – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Winston McGregor, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn.

Consent Agenda
Chairperson Hayes called on Superintendent Contreras to present the following consent agenda items for the Board’s consideration:

A. Personnel Report
The consent agenda included personnel actions as noted in the monthly personnel action report requiring Board approval.

B. 2018-19 Budget Amendments/Transfers Report
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve State Public School Fund Amendment #7, Local Current Expense Fund Amendment #9, Federal Grant Fund Amendment #5, Child Nutrition Fund Amendment #1, After School Enrichment Services (ACES) Amendment #2, and Special Revenue Fund Amendment #8 as follows:

State Public School Fund Amendment #7 reflects the following allotment adjustments:
- Substitute reimbursement for October, November, December;
- School Technology Fund, interest August – September; and
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.

Local Current Expense Fund Amendment #9 reflects:
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.

Federal Grant Expense Fund Amendment #5 reflects:
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.

Child Nutrition Expense Fund Amendment #1 reflects:
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.
After School Enrichment Services (ACES) Expense Fund Amendment #2 reflects:
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.

Special Revenue Amendment #8 reflects:
- Pre-K Children with Special Needs;
- Restricted donations [Daimler Cares; Mark III Services];
- GCS Alternative Certification Track (ACT) Program – program fees;
- Tablet fees; and
- Transfers due to site-based requests and year-to-date expenditures.

C. Class Size Update and Waiver Request
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve the individual class size and enhancement class size waivers for Shadybrook Elementary School.

D. Summer Enrichment Plan Approval
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve the written summer program plan for the 2018-19 school year.

E. Education Innovation and Research Grant
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve the submission of a grant application for the Education Innovation and Research Grant.

F. Managed Print Services Contract
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board award an initial three (3) year contract with three (3) additional one (1) year renewals contract effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022 to COECO Office systems, Greensboro, NC for managed print services.

G. Resolution Urging Support of the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019
The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve a resolution urging support of the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019.

Motion was made by T. Dianne Bellamy Small, seconded by Khem Irby, to approve the consent agenda. Item A passed upon a roll call vote of 7 to 2 as follows: Ayes – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn; Nays – Darlene Garrett and Anita Sharpe. Items B, C and D passed upon unanimous roll call vote of 9 to 0. Item E passed upon a roll call vote of 8 to 1 as follows: Ayes – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Darlene Garrett, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Anita Sharpe and Linda Welborn; Nays – Pat Tillman. Items F and G passed upon a roll call vote of 8 to 1 as follows: Ayes – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Darlene Garrett, Byron Gladden, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn; Nays – Deena Hayes.

Report from the Chair
Chairperson Hayes began her report by congratulating Guilford County Schools for receiving the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. This is the second consecutive year NAMM has honored the district with this national recognition. The award recognizes that GCS is leading the way with learning opportunities as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act which recommends music and the arts as important elements of a well-rounded education for all children.

March is National Music in Our Schools Month. Appropriately, the GCS Fine Arts Department sent approximately 12,000 third and fourth grade students to Grimsley High over the past few weeks to experience the Greensboro Symphony. Chairperson Hayes expressed her appreciation to the 58 community partners and dedicated GCS teachers and staff who work to bring music to the district’s students every day. Studies have shown that participating in arts education can boost student achievement and help close the opportunity gap between socioeconomic groups.
Chairperson Hayes recognized Jamestown Middle School choral director Teresa Kennedy for being recognized as a Music teacher of Excellence by the Country Music Association Foundation. She was one of only ten teachers in the country to receive this award.

Chairperson Hayes concluded by recognizing GCS Director of Academically Gifted Services Dibrelle Tourret for recently being named President of the North Carolina Association for the Gifted and Talented. In this role, she will represent the state at various national events aimed at addressing gaps in gifted education. At this same conference, Sedalia Elementary AG teacher Terri Kennedy was named the 2019 Outstanding Teacher of the Gifted, and Ragsdale junior Logan Smith received a Leadership Through Service award for reestablishing a robotics club at Millis Road Elementary.

**Superintendent’s Reports**

**Report from the Superintendent**

Chairperson Hayes called on Superintendent Contreras to share information about the district.

Superintendent Contreras began her report by thanking those who attended the 2019 GCS Choice Showcase on March 13. An estimated 6,000 to 7,000 people attended, making this year’s one of the largest ever in terms of attendance. GCS’ expanded JROTC programs were a great addition to the showcase this year, as well as the six new signature career and technical education (CTE) academies that will prepare more students for high-skill, high-wage careers in advanced manufacturing, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields, healthcare and other growth industries in the state region and nation. This was in addition to the more than 50 other magnet and high school options, like the nine middle and early colleges, and themed academies that serve students from pre-kindergarten through high school.

Applications for all magnet, high school options and choice programs are due by midnight, Friday, April 5. In order to assist parents with the district’s new, online application system, SchoolMint, all schools will open a computer lab or provide space in the media center tomorrow, Friday, March 29 during the planned teacher workday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for those who need assistance with the online application system. Additionally, as next week is the application deadline, all schools will be open to families who need assistance with their student’s online application Monday, April 1 through Thursday, April 4.

Superintendent Contreras reported that she traveled with Board members Byron Gladden, Khem Irby and Linda Welborn to Washington, DC March 16-19 for the Council of Great City Schools’ annual Legislative and Policy Conference. They had the opportunity to visit Capitol Hill and meet with legislative aids for U.S. Representatives Alma Adams, Ted Budd and Mark Walker.

Superintendent Contreras thanked U.S. Representative Mark Walker for joining her to visit two GCS schools. Representative Walker took time to speak with Northeast Middle School students after they wrote to him about the condition of their school. They toured the school along with Principal Jamie King and students Daziha Coulibalu, Joshua Gray and Isabella Reyes.

Representative Walker also visited Smith High School to thank and honor the three heroes responsible for quickly apprehending an armed intruder. Officer D.K. Evans, Assistant Principal Lashonti Hines and Student Intervention Assistant Patrick Jordan each received a U.S. flag that had flown over Capitol Hill.

Superintendent Contreras reported that she had the opportunity to share GCS’ plans for CTE programs at the City Help of the Triad community gathering on March 19. The topic was “Tomorrow’s Workforce,” and she reiterated the district’s goal of providing equitable choices of high-quality education through CTE pathways. Superintendent Contreras thanked Bishop Adrian Starks, who hosted the event, and the City Help Board of Directors for organizing the event and included her in that discussion.

Superintendent Contreras reported that the new issue of **IGNITE** magazine is available. This issue focuses on the many arts education opportunities in GCS. Of students enrolled in arts education, 100 percent graduate from high school, 99 percent are college bound, 99 percent are enrolled in honors, Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses; and 97 percent are involved in sports, clubs, and...
or student government. She thanked the Guilford Education Alliance (GEA) for its continued sponsorship of this magazine.

Superintendent Contreras concluded her report by asking Legislative Committee Chair Linda Welborn to read the following resolution (approved as part of the consent agenda) into the record:

RESOLUTION
URGING SUPPORT FOR THE REBUILD AMERICA’S SCHOOLS ACT OF 2019

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Board of Education (“GCS”) oversees the public schools in Guilford County and serves over 72,000 students in 126 schools over 627 square miles; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners (“GCBCC”) is statutorily charged with providing facilities for the public schools and has worked with GCS to consider ways to meet the needs of GCS; and

WHEREAS, the air quality, water quality and other environmental issues inherent in buildings throughout over 126 sites that are an average of 56 years old create substantial challenges and financial burdens for maintenance and upkeep; and

WHEREAS, increasing demands for STEAM education and Career and Technical Education programs with 21st Century learning to prepare students for college and careers requires equipment and technology to meet those demands; and

WHEREAS, GCS and GCBCC have been working together on a collaborative effort to assess the infrastructure of the schools in Guilford County and to make a plan to upgrade, improve, repair and redesign the facilities so that every child in Guilford County can be educated in classrooms free of environmental, structural or logistical impediments and equipped with the technology and equipment required for effective learning; and

WHEREAS, estimates of the cost of completing the facilities upgrades recommended in the most recent study are approximately One Billion Five Hundred Million Dollars. GCS and GCBCC believe that the need to improve facilities is urgent and funding the improvements will require many sources of revenue; and

WHEREAS, Congress has acknowledged the financial burdens and challenges facing public schools and has introduced legislation titled Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019, H.R. 865 (“The RAS ACT”), which would provide significant funding through grants available to states and public schools, with a particular focus on children living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, GCS and GCBCC believe that the RAS Act would be of great benefit to the citizens of Guilford County in that it would provide, through a grant-based process, an opportunity to improve schools and infrastructure in Guilford County’s schools most impacted by poverty;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guilford County Board of Education joins with the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners to urge its Congressional representatives to support and fully fund the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019 for the benefit of the students and citizens of Guilford County.

EVAAS by Subject Baseline Presentation
Chairperson Hayes called on Dr. Judy Penny, Executive Director of Research and Accountability, to present baseline data around the performance key performance indicators (KPIs) under Goal IV: by 2022, increase by 50 percent the number of schools that exceed growth (currently 32.5 percent).

Dr. Penny began her report by stating that the specific KPIs being reported on are IV.1, meet or exceed the yearly district value-added growth measure across grades in end of grade (EG) Reading 3-8; IV.2,
meet or exceed the yearly district value-added growth measure across grades in EOG Math 4-8; and IV.3, meet or exceed the yearly district value-added growth measure in end of course (EOC) Math 1.

Dr. Penny reminded Board members of the difference between “proficiency” and “growth”: proficiency is scoring at or above Achievement Level III on a specific test at one point in time; growth is the change in test scores from one point in time to another. Value-added growth is based on the assumption that students generally develop academically year to year. Value-added analyses examine how growth varies from teacher to teacher, school to school and district to district. EVAAS (education value-added assessment system) “predicts” or estimates how well a student will perform on a particular test. If the student’s progress is better than expected, the student is said to have “exceeded growth” and the teacher is said to have “added value.” If the student’s progress is about what was expected, the student is said to have “met growth;” and if the student’s progress is not what was expected, the student is said to have “not met growth.”

Student achievement describes “where we are” and is highly correlated with demographic factors, such as poverty and race. Student growth describes “how far we have come” and is highly dependent on what happens as a result of schooling rather than on demographic factors.

EVAAS growth is calculated for each EOG subject and grade: Reading 3 through 8, Math 4 through 8, and Science 5 and 8. EVAAS growth is also calculated for each EOC subject: English 2, Biology, Math 1, and for the first time in 2018-19 Math 3.

Across grades 3 through 8 Reading, the district exceeded growth for 2016, 2017 and 2018. Across grades 4 through 8 Math, the district exceeded growth for 2016 and 2017, but did not meet growth in 2018. Dr. Penny noted that across the three years, the district average exceeded growth in grades 4 through 8 Math. For Math 1, the district exceeded growth for 2016 and 2017, and met growth for 2018; the three year average shows that the district exceeded growth for Math 1.

In summarizing the status of these KPIs, the district has met the KPI for Reading for each of the past three years. The district has met the Math 4-8 KPI in 2016 and 2017, and on-track to meet the KPI in 2019 because of the new math curriculums that have been implemented in both elementary and middle schools. The district has met the Math 1 KPI for each of the past three years.

**Action Items**

2019-20 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Chairperson Hayes led the Board through a discussion regarding the Board of Education’s meeting schedule for the 2019-20 school year.

Following discussion, staff was directed to bring back revised options for the Board’s consideration at its April 9 meeting.

**Board Member Comments**

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

**Closed Session**

At 8:54 p.m., motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Khem Irby, to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of 9 to 0.

In Chairperson Hayes’ absence, Vice Chairperson T. Dianne Bellamy Small called the meeting back into open session at 9:27 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 9:27 p.m., motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Linda Welborn, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of 6 to 0. (Board members Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes and Khem Irby were absent for the vote.)