The Guilford County Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 712 North Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina. The following Board members were present: T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Darlene Garrett (arrived at 6:09 p.m.), Byron Gladden (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Deena Hayes, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman 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 Pat Tillman to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Recognitions
Employee of the Month for April 2019
The Board recognized Paula Ritter-Lipscomb, student intervention assistant at the Middle College at GTCC-Greensboro, as the GCS Employee of the Month for April 2019. Khem Irby presented Ms. Ritter-Lipscomb with a certificate of recognition.

Volunteer of the Month for April 2019
The Board recognized Eileen Lloyd, a volunteer at Western High School, as the GCS Volunteer of the Month for April 2019. Khem Irby presented Ms. Lloyd with a certificate of recognition.

Winter Sports Champions
Chairperson Hayes called on Director of Athletics Leigh Hebbard to recognize the following individuals and teams who earned state championship titles in winter sports:

- Southwest Guilford High Swimming, 3A 200 Yard Medley Relay – Jeff Jones, Kyle Kwon, Sawyer Mosley and William Watson; Coaches Denis Byrd, Kristin Steely, Kristin Frohme
- Southwest Guilford High Indoor Track, 3A Triple Jump – Ahmad Joyner; Coaches Desiree Wright and Charlie Brown
- Western Guilford High, 3A Shot Put – Makayla Watkins; Coach Otis Hudson
- Southeast Guilford High, 3A Wrestling (120 lbs.) – Carson Smith; Coach Jed Cox
- Ragsdale High, 4A Wrestling (132 lbs.) – Nigel Freeman; Coach Lewis Walker
- Southwest Guilford High, 3A Wrestling (126 lbs.) – Caleb Smith; Coach John Chambers
- Northwest Guilford High, 4A Wrestling (182 lbs.) – Chris Garrison; Coach Ron Bare
- Northwest Guilford High, 4A Dual Team Wrestling – Chance Abel, Zach Christy, Jed Hampton, Colin Queen, Jordan Bennett, Zane Ducast, Riley Edwards, Marcus Harnarain, Matthew Heras, James Joiplin, Chasten Kota, Nick Smith, Luke Gordy, Lake Price, Stephen Vega, Mitchell Vermilyea, Jevin Wells, Ian Adams, Shane Chavis, Chris Garrison, Jacob Hardy, Dontrey King, Duncan McGuire, Nick Nefe and Fin Queen; Coach Ron Bare
- Southeast Guilford High 3A Women’s Basketball – Raven Present, Jessica Hopkins, Sydney Roberts, Emilee Liggins, Gabby McGough, Kenndi Simmons, Shunte Bethea, Kristen Roberts, Shekinah Cooke; Managers Carly Mack, Lanyaesha Phyll, Morgan Goin; Trainers Ray Davis Mark White, Taylor Hilliard; Head Coach Rachel Clark; Assistant Coaches Dave Beasley, Amy Beasley, Steven Cheek, Bre Hartley, Leah Turner
Public Comments
Chairperson Hayes call on the following members of the public who requested an opportunity to address the Board:

- Virginia Hunt, 718 Percy St., Greensboro, NC 27405
- Teyanni Ashley, 2412 Hubbard St., Greensboro, NC 27405
- Tyrone Ashley, 2412 Hubbard St., Greensboro, NC 27405
- Saletta Urena, 2900 Orange St., Greensboro, NC 27405
- Deb Greene, 1620 Forest Valley Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410
- Kimberly Jones, 902 Nottingham Rd., Greensboro, NC 27408
- Shannon Myers, 1012 Lexington Ave., Greensboro, NC 27403
- Brittney Dennis, 1425 Cantwell Ct., High Point, NC 27265
- Amy Harrison, 7385 Woodsprings Dr., Whitsett, NC 27377
- Todd Warren, 1043 S. Josephine Boyd St., Greensboro, NC 27403

Approval of the Agenda
Chairperson Hayes stated she would like to amend the agenda to include a discussion regarding making May 1 a teacher workday.

Motion was made by Khem Irby, seconded by Byron Gladden, to amend the agenda to add a discussion regarding making May 1 a teacher workday as an action item. The motion passed upon unanimous show of hands of 9 to 0.

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

A. Approval of March 2019 Meeting Minutes
   The minutes from the March 9, 2019 retreat, March 12, 2019 regular meeting, March 14, 2019 joint meeting with the Guilford County Board of Commissioners and March 28, 2019 regular meeting were presented for approval.

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

C. Non-Traditional Academic Calendars – First Reading
   The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board accept the non-traditional academic calendars for a First Reading and direct staff to open a 30-day public comment period.

D. Contract Renewal for New Leaders
   The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board approve the New Leaders contract for 2019-20.

E. Literacy Professional Learning Contracts
   The consent agenda included a recommendation that GCS partner with trainers from TNTP, Crosswalk Education and American Reading Company to provide job-embedded coaching for teachers.

F. Math Professional Learning Contracts
   The consent agenda included a recommendation that GCS continue to partner with trainers from Eureka and National Training Network to provide coaching for teachers in grades Kindergarten through NC Math 1.

G. Revisions to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 Traditional Academic Calendars – First Reading
   The consent agenda included a recommendation that the Board accept the revised 2019-20 and 2020-21 traditional academic calendars as presented and direct staff to post the calendars for a
14-day public comment period.

Linda Welborn request that item D, Contract Renewal for New Leaders, be pulled from the consent agenda.

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

**Contract Renewal for New Leaders**

Linda Welborn asked for clarification on the $16 per student cost average indicated in the agenda item memo. Superintendent Contreras stated that for each contract presented for the Board’s consideration, staff analyze how much the contract costs per student; this is not a charge per student. Administration is recommending a third-year partnership with New Leaders that will include executive coaching for school support officers (SSOs), first-year principals, Title I principals and assistant principals interested in leading Title I schools. A RAND Corporation study found a statistically significant effect on academic achievement in New Leaders schools. Administration is recommending continuing this partnership with New Leaders to invest in the professional development for GCS school leaders in support of improving leadership capacity and increasing student outcomes districtwide.

Following discussion, motion was made by T. Dianne Bellamy Small, seconded by Byron Gladden, to approve the New Leaders contract for 2019-20. The motion passed upon electronic vote of 8 to 1 as follows: Ayes – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby, Winston McGregor, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn; Nays – Darlene Garrett.

**Report from the Chair**

Chairperson Hayes began her report by stating that GCS partnered with the Guardian ad Litem program to create a two-month campaign in March and April to generate awareness about the volunteer-based organization that allows people to serve as advocates in Guilford County’s Juvenile Court System on behalf of more than 400 neglected or abused children, of which more than 300 are GCS students.

According to comparisons from March 2018 to March 2019, the number of inquiries are up by 21 percent, the number of people who began an online application was up 113%, and the number of people who fully completed and submitted an application to become a Guardian ad Litem was up 45 percent. For more information, please visit their website at [www.volunteerforgal.org](http://www.volunteerforgal.org) or call 336-412-7580.

Chairperson Hayes congratulated Grimsley High, Northwest Middle and Northern Elementary schools for advancing to the Region 5 Battle of the Books competition.

*New York Times* best-selling author Jason Reynolds will be in Greensboro at the Union Square Auditorium on April 24. Admission is free. In preparation of his visit, every GCS middle school will receive a bundle of his books for the school library.

Dual Language Literacy Fun Dan is scheduled for this Saturday, April 13 at UNCG. GCS’ dual language staff, in collaboration with UNCG’s Project EnACTed, are facilitating the day for students and parents who will participate in dual language sessions on the college campus before selecting a bilingual book for their home libraries.

Chairperson Hayes congratulated High Point Central High School’s Quiz Bowl team for placing second in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. inaugural Black History Quiz Bowl competition. The competition took place Sunday, April 7 at Winston Salem State University.
Chairperson Hayes concluded her report by congratulating Superintendent Contreras on receiving two honors this past week. Superintendent Contreras was inducted as an honorary member into the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society as a recognition for her numerous professional achievements. She also received the 2019 Women of Distinction Award from the High Point NAACP.

**Report from the Superintendent**

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

In recognition of National Volunteer Week, Superintendent Contreras began her report by thanking all the volunteers who give of their time and talents to GCS’ schools and students. She also thanked the Carolina Peacemaker and High Point Enterprise for partnering with the district this week to feature some of the district’s standout volunteers. The district will celebrate the work of the volunteer coordinators on Friday with a luncheon sponsored by the Guilford County Council of PTAs and Rice Toyota. Schools are also planning celebrations to honor their volunteers.

Superintendent Contreras reported that online applications for magnet, high school options and choice programs are at an all-time high totaling 12,037 at the close of the application period on Friday, April 5. Last year, the district we received approximately 6,000 applications. She thanked school leaders for opening up their computer lab or media center to assist parents with the process. Superintendent acknowledged that a new online application process can be challenging, and the first year communication was confusing, for which she apologized. To clarify, the new online application system – SchoolMint – streamlines enrollment for student registration, application lottery management, and integrates with the district’s student information system. This means it does three things: it helps the district to efficiently register new students, conduct lotteries for magnet schools that do not have entry criteria, and serves as an online application for choice schools that do have entrance requirements. For GCS students, teachers now upload recommendation letters. And while it is now possible to upload transcripts, grades and test scores for GCS choice schools that require this as part of the application, no GCS student has to upload data that the district already has. Grades, transcripts, end of course and end of grade scores will automatically be sent to Brown Summit Middle Schools, the Early College at Guilford, the STEM Early College at N.C. A&T, Weaver Academy, Penn Griffin School for the Arts, all of the middles colleges and a couple of specialized programs. All applications will be sent electronically from SchooMint to school principals where admissions teams will review and score completed packets. They will then select the students who will attend their schools in rank order of the scores.

For students who have applied to schools without criteria, if there are more applicants than seats, the SchoolMint system will run a random lottery. Superintendent Contreras stated that she has received numerous emails from parents at the Early College at Guilford, in particular, who believe that the academic standards have changed. They have not. Admission to the Early College at Guilford is still merit-based as it always has been. SchoolMint does not select the students as it would do for a magnet school lottery; the admissions team selects the students after scoring applications and rank ordering student scores.

In recognition in School Library Month this month, Superintendent Contreras applauded the district’s media specialists and the essential role they play in schools. She congratulated Northern Elementary media specialist Barbara Ferrell for being named School Library Media Coordinator of the Year by the Guilford County Association of School Librarians.

Superintendent Contreras thanked N.C. A&T State University Chancellor Harold Martin for joining her and members of her leadership team on a visit to Dudley High’s Early College Academy of Education, Engineering and health Sciences. As GCS continues to seek better ways to prepare students for college and careers, the district is strengthening partnership with local universities.

Superintendent Contreras announced that the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) designated GCS as one of the best communities for music education. This is the district’s second year receiving this honor. The designation is awarded to school districts that demonstrate outstanding
achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

Superintendent Contreras congratulated the 44 GCS students selected to attend the 2019 Governor’s School of North Carolina. The school is the nation’s oldest statewide summer residential program for academically gifted students.

In conclusion, Superintendent Contreras reported that Monday, April 15 will mark the one-year anniversary of the tornado that devastated East Greensboro and severely damaged three of our schools. In the spirit of gratefulness, Superintendent Contreras thanked the families, students, staff and numerous community leaders and volunteers who put their compassion into action.

**Action Items**

**2019-20 Board of Education Meeting Schedule**
Chairperson Hayes called on Superintendent Contreras to present the revised options for the Board’s 2019-20 meeting schedule.

Superintendent Contreras presented Option A, which follows the Board’s traditional meeting schedule. She noted that on Option B, the March 10, 2020 meeting was inadvertently designated as a work session; it should be designated as a board meeting.

*Motion was made by Byron Gladden, seconded by Khem Irby, to adopt Option B as the Board’s 2019-20 meeting schedule.*

*Substitution motion was made by Linda Welborn, seconded by Anita Sharp, to adopt Option A as the Board’s 2019-20 meeting schedule. The motion failed by an electronic vote of 4 to 5 as follows: Ayes – Darlene Garrett, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn; Nays – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby and Winston McGregor.*

*Mr. Gladden’s original motion to adopt Option A was then considered. The motion passed upon electronic vote of 5 to 4 as follows: Ayes – T. Dianne Bellamy Small, Byron Gladden, Deena Hayes, Khem Irby and Winston McGregor; Nays – Darlene Garrett, Anita Sharpe, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn.*

**Designating May 1, 2019 an Optional Teacher Workday**
Citing that more than 1,300 teachers, school nutrition staff and bus drivers have requested to take leave on May 1 to attend the North Carolina Association of Educators’ rally in Raleigh, *motion was made by Winston McGregor, seconded by Khem Irby, to make May 1 an optional teacher workday, and in exchange make June 11 on the traditional academic calendar, June 18 on the extended year calendar; May 23 on the calendars for the Kerns Academy at Central and the Academy at Smith, the middle colleges at Bennett, N.C. A&T and GTCC campuses, the Greensboro College Middle College; and May 24 on the calendars for the Early College at Guilford and Middle College at UNCG a student day. The motion passed upon unanimous electronic vote of 9 to 0.*

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

**Closed Session**
At 8:12 p.m., *motion was made by Anita Sharpe, seconded by Winston McGregor, to go into closed session to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to discuss personnel matters protected by state law. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of 9 to 0.*

The Board returned to open session at 9:55 p.m.

**Adjournment**
There being no further business, at 9:56 p.m., *motion was made by T. Dianne Bellamy Small, seconded by Khem Irby, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of 5 to 0. Darlene Garrett, Winston McGregor, Pat Tillman and Linda Welborn were absent for the vote.*