The Guilford County Board of Education encourages the strategic use of grants funding aligned to school and district goals and priorities. The Board of Education urges individuals, schools, and the district to apply for strategic grants which may be designated by the donor for a limited use and specific purpose to fund a specific program. Strategic grant funding and private donations should not be intended to replace public funding of schools, but rather to foster innovative ideas and targeted programming.

A. Definitions

Grant funds are funds that are made available for charitable and/or educational purposes by a particular donor, either through an application process, request for proposal, or statements publicizing the availability of funds.

Research Component is any condition of receiving grant funds that requires the provision of data, the evaluation of a program, or the conduct of a research project.

Budgetary Impact is the amount of either revenue expected to be generated by a particular grant award or expense (including human resources and indirect costs) expected to cost GCS in order to comply with the grant requirements. The total Budgetary Impact is the total change to the revenues of GCS plus the total change to the expenses of GCS (not including expenditures of the grant revenues), over the life of the grant.

B. District Approval

Any individual, school, or district initiated grant must be pre-approved by the GCS Grants Office before drafting the application. The Grants Office may require that any grant be approved by the Grant Approval Committee and/or the Board if the grant involves an extensive Research Component, and must require such approval if the grant has a proposed budgetary impact of $100,000 or more.

The following procedures will apply to different grant types (See also Procedure DD-P):

1. Grant proposals and applications that have a Budgetary Impact of less than $100,000 do not require pre-approval by the Grant Approval Committee, unless
otherwise required by the Grants Office. Notice to the Grants Office is required after final submission of any pre-approved grants.

2. Grant proposals and applications that have a Budgetary Impact of $100,000 or more require approval by the Grant Approval Committee prior to final submission.

3. Grant proposals and applications that have a Budgetary Impact of $250,000 or more require approval by the Grant Approval Committee and the Board of Education prior to final submission.

The Superintendent or his or her designee is authorized to issue procedures providing the details of the grant approval process.

C. Grant Agreements

All grant applications, grant proposals, and requests for contributions or donations shall include a request that the donor execute a GCS Grant Agreement Rider or incorporate the provisions of the GCS Grant Agreement Rider into the donor’s grant agreement. The GCS Grant Agreement Rider shall include a Statement of Donor’s Intent, which shall describe any and all restrictions placed on the funds by the donor, including limitations on the use of funds, purpose of funds, programs supported, and populations served. The GCS Grant Agreement Rider shall also include a Research Component Agreement, which shall provide that any request for data capture or other program evaluation will be conducted through the GCS Accountability and Research Office, rather than through public records requests.

D. Annual Report to the Board

The Board shall receive an annual report on the status of grant funding.