

Guilford County Board of Education
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 6, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Swann Room, GCS Administrative Offices



Committee Members: Linda Welborn, Chairperson
Darlene Garrett
T. Dianne Bellamy Small
Pat Tillman

Nora Carr, Staff Liaison

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Review of Minutes (10/25/17)	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
2018 Legislative Agenda	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Next Steps	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Next Meeting: November 21, 2:30 p.m.	
Adjournment	

Guilford County Board of Education
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 2:30 p.m.
Swann Room, GCS Administrative Offices



Present: Linda Welborn, Darlene Garrett
Staff: Nora Carr, Kim Hipp, Tamara Holloway

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 21, 2017 meeting were approved.

2017-2018 Legislative Agenda L. Welborn

The Committee reviewed the second draft of the Legislative Agenda 2018. Nora Carr will incorporate the following feedback:

- Career and Technical Education
 - Remove “specifically” from the second paragraph.
- Teacher and Principal Pipeline
 - In the first paragraph, clarify that removing the sixth-month waiting period will help to mitigate personnel shortages.
 - In the third paragraph, convey that allowing for local flexibility of principal salary schedules will be helpful.
- Quality Public Education Options
 - In the third paragraph, clarify that the educational management organizations mentioned are “not for profit;” that the local education agency (LEA) would maintain control and fiscal, policy and legal oversight of the school.
 - Add a “we oppose vouchers” statement addressing lack of accountability. Also note the financial impacts to district when children return to GCS after the 40th day – convey the need for a process to return funds to district in these situations.
- Discipline Disparities
 - Remove “high-quality” and “school-to-prison pipeline.” Convey that this statement is about providing support to students and that the district wants to ensure children struggling with emotional needs are receiving the necessary supports to succeed.
- School Funding Formula
 - Reword both paragraphs to convey that the district supports funding formulas that support public school districts’ efforts to ensure student success. Nora Carr will touch base with Angie Henry and the Superintendent to ensure wording in these statements provide the best impact.
- Federal Education Issues
 - In the first paragraph, add a period after “concentrations.”

Next Steps L. Welborn

- Linda Welborn and Darlene Garrett would like more information about LEAs that have contracted with education management organizations, and asked staff to provide specific examples of successful partnerships.
- Linda Welborn will follow up with Superintendent Contreras regarding the district’s restorative justice practices, e.g., how has this been implemented, which schools are utilizing, etc.
- Nora Carr will follow up with Carolyn Gilbert for low performing schools data (for the last three years) to share with the Committee.
- Nora Carr will follow up with Angie Henry to check on 401k options for district employees, and to investigate what Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is utilizing.

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- Linda Welborn will reach out to Leanne Winner, NCSBA, about obtaining a fact sheet that contains information about principal bonuses and school vouchers.
- The Committee asked to review the NCSBA's 2017 Legislative Summary at the November 21 meeting.
- The Committee would like to meet prior to the November 16 Board of Education meeting to review the 2018 Legislative Agenda a final time. Committee members in attendance proposed meeting on Monday, November 6, at 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 10:00 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on November 21, 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Nora Carr, Chief of Staff

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Legislative Agenda 2018

State

K-2 Class-Size Reduction-Mandate

We support:

Repealing the K-2 class-size reduction-mandate (HB 1030 and HB 13). We also support restoring flexibility in adjusting class sizes to meet local staffing needs and concerns, and fully funding specials or enrichment teachers (art, music, physical education) as a separate line item as was done previously by the legislature.

Career and Technical Education

We support:

Additional funding at the state level for Career and Technical Education (CTE) to extending programming for K-12 students and to purchase and sustain advanced manufacturing technologies, equipment and instructional materials and supplies, and the additional costs associated with fees, books and transportation costs for dually enrolled students;

Considering targeting 1 to 2 percent of the North Carolina Lottery funds on an annual basis to support career and technical education in local education agencies without reducing other PreK-12 education funding streams or allocations;

A streamlined and more flexible process for certifying skilled and industry and trade professionals as teachers or co-teachers in K-12 schools;

Tax incentives and funding to expand paid internships and apprenticeships for high school and community college students in high-demand career and technical professions.

Teacher and Principal Pipeline

We support:

Removing the sixth-month wait-period so retired teachers and principals may return to work more quickly part-time or fulltime to help mitigate current personnel shortages, and removing the stipulation that retirees may work only 30 hours or risk permanently losing their state health insurance benefits;

Increasing teacher and principal pay to the national average within four years and providing additional incentives to recruit and retain experienced and effective educators for schools highly impacted by poverty and for difficult-to-fill positions;

Creating more scholarships and incentives to encourage top-performing high school graduates to pursue teaching as a profession, particularly for hard-to-fill positions in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Special Education and Career and Technical Education.

Facilities and Capital Needs

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We support:

Increasing state funding for renovating and upgrading facilities, technology and other capital outlay to meet 21st Century learning needs.

Pre-K

We support:

Expanding high-quality pre-kindergarten programs to serve all four-year-olds and expanding daily programming at no cost to parents beyond the current six-hour format to allow more working poor parents to take advantage of existing prekindergarten opportunities.

Quality Public Education Options

We support:

Quality public education options held to the same standards for academics, staffing, transparency, fiscal accountability and review as traditional public schools;

Providing local school boards and traditional public schools with the flexibility and timelines provided to charter schools and the Innovation School District (ISD);

Allowing (LEAs or school districts) to outsource school operations and management to post-secondary institutions, non-profit groups and non-profit education management organizations while still maintaining authority over and ownership of the school and school facilities.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

We support:

Leveraging our investment in K-12 education for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students by allowing those who meet admission criteria to public community colleges and UNC system schools to enroll and pay in-state tuition;

Providing a streamlined path to citizenship for DACA students so we may benefit from these longtime residents' civic and economic contributions to our communities, state and nation.

Discipline Disparities

We support:

Funding for high-quality programming to reduce disparities based on race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status in student disciplinary actions.

School Funding Formula and Tax Status

We support:

Simplified and streamlined funding formulas for public schools that provide additional funding based on student need including poverty, disability, homelessness and English language status;

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Restoring tax-free status to local education agencies and traditional public schools on par with the non-profit status afforded to North Carolina's private, parochial and charter schools;

Per pupil formulas and allocations that do not seek to reduce the state's Constitutional responsibility to adequately and fully fund its schools by shifting more of the cost of PreK-12 education to local counties and taxpayers.

We oppose:

Proposals at the state level that leave too few dollars in the schools with the highest concentrations of student poverty and other needs.

Federal Issues

We support:

Maintaining categorical funding for Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV based on high concentrations of student poverty and other needs.

Maintaining public schools' ability to seek Medicaid reimbursement for IEP-required health and related services for students with disabilities.

We oppose:

Proposals at the federal level that leave too few dollars in the nation's schools with the highest concentrations of student poverty.

Dismantling key protections and rights provided to students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.