

# GCS Information Ambassador Newsletter



April 6, 2023

## Strategic Direction Launch



### THE LAUNCH of Guilford County Schools' Strategic Direction **BETTER TOGETHER**



*Join Superintendent Dr. Whitney Oakley as she unveils the district's new strategic direction, Better Together, with a singular focus to make GCS the best place to learn, work and grow.*

**Tuesday | May 2, 2023**  
**5:30 PM-6:30 PM**

*We encourage you to RSVP by April 15, 2023. RSVP at [rsvp@gcsnc.com](mailto:rsvp@gcsnc.com) or scan the QR code below.*



Steven Tanger Center  
for the Performing Arts  
300 N. Elm Street  
Greensboro, North Carolina



[www.gcsnc.com](http://www.gcsnc.com)

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## Veteran Leaders Return to Guilford County Schools

Two veteran leaders will return to Guilford County Schools (GCS) as deputy superintendents, the district announced Tuesday.

Dr. Julius Monk will become the district's deputy superintendent of business and operations. Monk currently serves as deputy superintendent of operations in Durham Public Schools, a position he has held since June 2019. In that role, he developed a prioritized capital improvement plan estimated at \$1.08 billion. He also restructured the district's operations division to enable in-house school facility planning, focusing on transportation and food systems planning to create equity and access.

Monk worked in GCS from 2007 to 2019, most recently as executive director of facilities. He holds a bachelor's degree in construction management from North Carolina A&T State University, a master's degree in entrepreneurship from Western Carolina University and a doctoral degree in educational leadership from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Dr. Anitra Wells will become the deputy superintendent of instructional leadership, wellness and safety. Wells has been leading Lexington City Schools as its superintendent since 2018. During that time the percentage of schools meeting growth increased from 20 percent to 80 percent in one year. She led a budget overhaul, implemented a parent academy and introduced new choice and CTE programs. Wells was also the superintendent of Weldon City Schools from 2015 to 2018.

In GCS, she was a regional executive director for the central and northern regions from 2010 to 2015 and was principal at Northeast High from 2006 to 2010. Wells holds a bachelor's degree in business education from Norfolk State University, a master's degree in educational administration from Old Dominion University and a doctoral degree in educational leadership and policy studies from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

"Julius Monk and Anitra Wells are proven and effective leaders who were and will again be great assets to Guilford County Schools," said Superintendent Dr. Whitney Oakley. "Their knowledge of the district and track record, along with their ability to build and foster relationships to support the organization's work, will help lead our district as we move toward a new strategic direction, and I'm excited to have them back."

## Board of Education Confirms William (Bill) J. Goebel as District 3 Representative

A vacancy on the Guilford County Board of Education has been filled. At Tuesday's meeting, board members voted to select William (Bill) J. Goebel as the District 3 representative.

Board attorney Jill Wilson updated the board on the changes in S.L. 2013-361, which was signed into law on March 16, 2023. The amended law states that if the vacating board member was elected as the nominee of a political party, the county political party executive committee shall provide the name of an individual in writing within 30 days of the occurrence of the vacancy to the Superintendent of Schools of Guilford County.

While the district did receive a letter on March 28, it indicated that only the representatives of District 3 nominated the replacement candidate, not the executive committee, as required by law. Since the political party failed to provide the name of a qualified candidate within the 30-day window, the remaining board members then have the duty to fill the vacancy.

Goebel is the CEO of MPACT Maintenance & Reliability Solutions, which provides assessments, education and training in industrial and facility maintenance. He also serves as the area president of Focus CFO NC, which works to empower small businesses through sound financial management. He was appointed by Chief Justice Paul Newby to serve as an advisor to the North Carolina Supreme Court task force on Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs)-Informed Courts. Additionally, he is a member of the Board of Directors of Youth of North Carolina, Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina, and serves as the vice chair of the Boy Scouts of America National Service Territory 15.

## Kindergarten Registration Launched April 1

The time to register for kindergarten has arrived! Children who will be five years old by

August 31, 2023, are invited to join the next class of kindergartners in Guilford County Schools. Registration opens April 1 at [gcsnc.schoolmint.net](https://gcsnc.schoolmint.net).

Some documentation is required, including:

- The name of your attendance zone school. You can find this information on our website through the link for [school assignment locator](#).
- The child's birth certificate.
- A health transmittal form from your child's pediatrician.
- A record of your child's immunizations.
- Proof of residence showing your name and address. This could be a current utility bill, a lease agreement, or a driver's license plus another document such as a voter registration card, car registration or letter from employer.

This year, all GCS elementary schools will host a kindergarten kickoff event on Thursday, April 27. Times will vary by school; visit [www.gcsnc.com/kindergarten](http://www.gcsnc.com/kindergarten) for a list of times or check with your assigned school.

"We welcome all incoming kindergartners to visit our schools on April 27," says Superintendent Dr. Whitney Oakley. "Families can tour the building, meet the staff and introduce their child to the school environment. They can also get information about school nutrition, transportation and after-school programs."

Registering early helps the district ensure that schools have adequate staffing and allows teachers to prepare to welcome each student on the first day of school. Parents are encouraged to register early.

## ACES Afterschool Fees to Increase Slightly in 2023-24

The Guilford County Board of Education approved an increase to the weekly fee for the district's After-school Care Enrichment Services (ACES) program, to take effect in the 2023-24 school year. The funds will help support previous increases in pay for ACES staff and assisting custodians.

Weekly fees will rise from \$65 to \$75, and a late payment fee will increase from \$5 to \$15. A \$15 registration fee will remain unchanged, and there will be no required deposit.

Guilford County Schools currently offers after-school care to elementary children in 29 locations, with an average enrollment of 2,205 in 2021-22. A list of sites can be [found here](#).

## Non-Traditional Calendars Approved for Next Three Years

Following a 10-day public comment period, the Board of Education has approved the proposed calendars for its non-traditional schools, which include schools on an extended-year schedule, early and middle colleges and academies. The approved calendars are linked below.

Non-traditional calendars for 2023-24:

- [2023-24 Extended Year Schools Calendar](#)
- [2023-24 Early and Middle Colleges and Academies Calendar](#)
- [2023-24 Early College at Guilford, Middle College at UNCG, Greensboro College Middle College Calendar](#)

Non-traditional calendars for 2024-25:

- [2024-25 Extended Year Schools Calendar](#)
- [2024-25 Early and Middle Colleges and Academies Calendar](#)
- [2024-25 Early College at Guilford, Middle College at UNCG, Greensboro College Middle College Calendar](#)

Non-traditional calendars for 2025-26:

- [2025-26 Extended Year Schools Calendar](#)
- [2025-26 Early and Middle Colleges and Academies Calendar](#)
- [2025-26 Early College at Guilford, Middle College at UNCG, Greensboro College Middle College Calendar](#)

Greensboro College, Guilford College, and UNC-Greensboro have not yet published academic calendars for 2024-25 and 2025-26, so the designated March spring break is tentative, and district leaders will bring revised calendars to the board if necessary to align with the higher education partners' calendars once available.

## Board of Education Approves Policies as

## Policy Committee Moves Revised Policies Forward

The Guilford County Board of Education voted to approve a revised energy and natural resource conservation and management policy at Tuesday's board meeting.

The revised Energy and Natural Resource Conservation and Management [Policy 6530](#) communicates the Board's vision and commitment to conservation and sustainability and reflects current district practices emphasizing efficient stewardship of natural resources in planning, operations and building projects.

Additionally, the Board of Education's Policy Committee voted to send the following policies out for a 30-day public comment period:

- The revised Student Promotion and Accountability Standards [Policy 3420](#) directs the superintendent to develop administrative regulations that outline promotion standards, the process teachers and administrators use to determine a student's readiness to progress to the next level, and required intervention, supports and family engagement steps to meet the needs of students who are not on track to meet promotion standards. This proposed policy update also merges the Credit Recovery [Policy 3421](#).
- The revised Graduation Requirement [Policy 3460](#) updates the language of the policy to include requirements by the state and school district students need to meet in order to graduate. The revised policy also includes language on how the district will assist students who have transferred into the district to graduate on time.

The public can mail comments to the GCS Central Office at 712 N. Eugene Street or email them to [boardclerk@gcsnc.com](mailto:boardclerk@gcsnc.com). After a 30-day public comment period ending on May 4, 2023, the Board will consider the policies at their next board meeting.

## Guilford Parent Academy: Annual Family Summit

GPA WELCOMES YOU  
TO OUR



TITLE I  
ANNUAL  
FAMILY  
SUMMIT  
#bettertogether

SATURDAY

APRIL 22, 2023  
9:30 AM- 3:00 PM

Ragsdale High School  
1000 Lucy Ragsdale Dr  
Jamestown  
NC 27282

LUNCH & CHILDCARE  
PROVIDED

Free Family Event  
Door Prizes  
Yoga

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Registration is required for childcare  
Registration deadline is April 16th

336.279.4924



Student Panel Keynote  
"My Voice is Vital"

Break Out Sessions:

- Transitioning to Middle/ High School
- Anti-Bullying & Digital Safety
- Navigating Tutoring
- GCS Budget Process
- Advocating for Your Child
- Literacy & Math
- Wellness at Home
- Using PowerSchool & more



PARENTACADEMY@GCSNC.COM

Sign up to  
attend

