

Guilford County Board of Education  
 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 22, 2020, 2:30 p.m.

Swann Room, GCS Administrative Offices



Committee Members: Linda Welborn, Chairperson    Nora Carr, Staff Liaison  
 Darlene Garrett  
 Khem Irby  
 Pat Tillman

AGENDA	
Welcome and Introductions	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Review of Minutes (November 21, 2019)	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Sales Tax Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">House Bill 436 Expand Local Option Sales Tax for Education</a> (Cabarrus County)</li> <li>• <a href="#">House Bill 667 Local Option Sales Tax Flexibility</a></li> </ul>	<i>Discussion Leaders: Nora Carr</i>
<a href="#">Finalize 2020 Legislative Agenda</a>	<i>Discussion Leaders: Linda Welborn, Sharon Contreras</i>
2020 Legislative Delegation Gathering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed Dates               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ February 20 &amp; 27</li> <li>○ March 20 &amp; 27</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">NC General Assembly</a> 2020 Session Convenes on April 28</li> </ul>	<i>Discussion Leaders: Linda Welborn</i>
Other Business	<i>Discussion Leader: Linda Welborn</i>
Next Meeting: <i>February 25, 2020</i>	
Adjournment	

*Guilford County Board of Education*  
**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*November 21, 2019, 2:30 p.m.*

*Swann Room, GCS Administrative Offices*

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**Members Present:** Linda Welborn, Darlene Garrett, Khem Irby, Pat Tillman (via phone)

**Staff Present:** Nora K. Carr, EdD, Kim Hipp

The Committee approved the October 15, 2019 meeting minutes.

**2020 Legislative Agenda Discussion**

- Nora Carr will incorporate the Committee's feedback into the draft 2020 Legislative Agenda.

**NCSBA Legislative Agenda**

- Committee to review and send their feedback to Linda Welborn and Nora Carr.

**NCSBA Resolution Urging the State to Take Action to Remit Civil Penalties Unconstitutionally Withheld from North Carolina's Public Schools**

- The Committee agreed to present the NCSBA Resolution Urging the State to Take Action to Remit Civil Penalties Unconstitutionally Withheld from North Carolina's Public Schools for consideration to the Board of Education at the December 17, 2019 meeting.

**North Carolina School Boards Action Center (NCSBAC) 2019-2020 Contribution**

- The Committee agreed to present the NCSBAC 2019-2020 Contribution for consideration to the Board of Education at the December 17, 2019 meeting.

**Next Meeting**

December 18, 2019

Submitted by:

Nora K. Carr, EdD

Chief of Staff, Guilford County Schools

< GCS logo >

Board of Education

## 2020 Legislative Agenda

### STATE ISSUES

#### K-3 Class-Size Reduction-Mandate

- Repeal the K-3 class-size reduction-mandate (HB 1030 and HB 13) and restore flexibility in adjusting class sizes to meet local staffing needs and concerns.

#### Career and Technical Education

- Provide \$1.5 million to GCS to support the innovative Signature Career Academies launched in the fall of 2019.

#### Teacher, Employee and Principal Pipeline

- Address personnel shortages by removing the six-month wait-period for state retirees and eliminating the health insurance penalty for state retirees.
- Increase teacher and principal pay to the national average within four years and provide incentives to recruit and retain personnel for difficult-to-fill positions.
- Provide more competitive pay scales for classified employees.
- Create student loan forgiveness program and other financial incentives to encourage top-performing high school and college graduates to pursue teaching as a profession, particularly in STEM subjects and hard-to-fill positions.

#### School Bus Driver Shortage

- Increase state pay scales for school bus drivers to competitive market rates for Commercial Driver Licenses (CDLs).
- Provide recruitment and retention bonuses for school bus drivers.
- Expand number of CDL training classes and/or seats available in each county.
- Offer CDL training classes and examinations (written and driving) 12 months per year.
- Allow Guilford County Schools the opportunity to partner with Department of Transportation to provide more local CDL training and examinations for school bus drivers.
- Waive state CDL fees for new applicants who successfully complete all requirements and agree to serve as a school bus driver for a North Carolina public school district for at least three years.

#### Early Childhood

- Increase the number of NC PreK seats available to serve all eligible three- and four-year-old children, and eliminate NC Pre-K waiting lists.

#### School Safety

- Increase funding to secure facilities, upgrade safety-related technologies, provide more training and add more safety- and security-related personnel.
- Increase allocations for school-based and community-based mental health personnel and services.
- Oppose arming teachers or other school personnel other than sworn law-enforcement personnel.
- Strengthen background checks and processes for all firearm purchases.
- Restrict access to automatic weapons, bump stocks and related equipment to on-duty military and law-enforcement personnel.

#### School Funding Formula and Tax-Free Status

- Provide a simplified, flexible and more streamlined approach to funding schools that increases state funding to public schools and that weights allocations based on poverty, disability, English Language status and other student needs.
- Oppose funding formula changes that reduce current levels of funding to public school districts like GCS that serve large numbers of students who are poor, disabled, English language learners, or have other significant needs.
- Restore tax-free status to all local education agencies and traditional public schools.
- Oppose portability proposals that leave too few dollars in schools with the highest concentrations of student poverty.

#### Capital Needs

- Give Guilford County the opportunity to obtain an additional source of revenue with which to meet their public education needs by levying a local sales-and-use tax (one-quarter percent or one-half percent), approved by a majority of those voting in a referendum, only for Guilford County Schools capital outlay purposes, as defined in G.S. 115C-426(f), and to retire any indebtedness incurred by the county for this purpose.
  - The form of the question to be presented on the ballot for a special election concerning the levy of the tax shall be: “[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST Local sales and use tax [at the applicable rate stated both in words and as a percentage] in addition to the current local sales and use taxes, to be used only for public education.”
- Support a statewide bond issue for K-12 public schools to supplement (not supplant) local dollars for K-12 capital improvement projects.

Commented [CN1]: Mirrors H 436 for Cabarrus – would this be better saying Guilford County Schools capital needs? Public school capital outlay needs?

#### College Access

- Ensure all eligible high school graduates become productive citizens and contributing members of our economy by joining 21 other states in allowing undocumented students who graduate from local public high schools to pay in-state tuition at North Carolina public community colleges, colleges and universities.

#### Charter Schools

- Hold charter school management companies and operators to the same level of public transparency in reporting management and school salaries, budgets, expenses, contracts, and other public information as other public schools and school districts.
- Place on cap on charter school growth in Guilford County.
- Oppose legislation that would give charter schools access to other local education agency’s Fund 8 accounts, which include competitive grant awards and private, philanthropic donations that charters can apply for and already have access to.

#### Lottery

- Change legislation to ensure that lottery funding supplements rather than supplants existing revenue sources for PreK-12 public schools.
- Decrease the percentage of the lottery budget spent on marketing and increase the percentage of lottery proceeds spent on PreK-12 public education.
- Ensure lottery funds allocated to county governments for K-12 facilities supplement rather than supplant county funding allocations for capital needs, including maintenance of existing facilities.
- Ensure lottery funds allocations to county governments for K-12 facilities are not used for debt service for voter-approved bonds or to reduce taxes, but rather to build, renovate and maintain new facilities, technology and other capital expenses outlined in state statutes.

Commented [CN2]: Could hurt current negotiations regarding fall 2020 bond; already decided by the courts that this is an allowable use

#### FEDERAL ISSUES

- Fuel economic growth by providing low-interest bond dollars or other federal infrastructure funding for public school capital needs; prioritize funding by student poverty rates and concentration of poverty.
- Maintain categorical funding for Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV based on high concentrations of poverty, disability and other student needs.
- Maintain public schools' ability to seek Medicaid reimbursement for IEP-required health and related services for students with disabilities.
- Oppose portability proposals that leave too few dollars in public schools with the highest concentrations of poverty, disability, English Language learners and other student needs.
- Oppose any dismantling of key protections and rights provided to students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Oppose policies that reduce funding for public schools that serve the highest concentrations of poverty and other student needs, or that negatively impact public school educators, students or families.
- Restore federal guidance letters on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline dated January 8, 2014 and Overview of the Supportive School Discipline Initiative Dates January 8, 2014 that were rescinded on December 21, 2018.
- Support universal prekindergarten for students ages 3 to 5 to ensure that more students enter kindergarten ready to learn.
- Streamline the pathway to citizenship for GCS and other recent public high school graduates who previously qualified for, or would qualify, for DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).

**Commented [CN3]:** Send guidance letters to committee to review along with applicable research.

Sharon L. Contreras, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

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<Note to designer: include all info below if space allows use full listing; if space doesn't allow, simply list District # and Name, Address and Contact Info>

#### **DISTRICT 1**

**T. Dianne Bellamy Small**

[bellamysmall@gcsnc.com](mailto:bellamysmall@gcsnc.com)

3211 Delmonte Dr., Greensboro, NC 27406

Phone: 336-580-4655

Allen Middle, Andrews High, Fairview Elementary, Frazier Elementary, Greene Education Center, Haynes-Inman Education Center, Jamestown Middle, Kirkman Park Elementary, The Middle College at GTCC-High Point, The Middle College at GTCC-Jamestown, Millis Road Elementary, Montlieu Elementary, Parkview Elementary, Penn-Griffin School for the Arts, Ragsdale High, Sedgely Elementary, Triangle Lake Montessori, Union Hill Elementary and Welborn Middle.

**DISTRICT 2**

**Anita Sharpe**

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5521 Drake Rd., Greensboro, NC 27406

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The Kearns Academy at Central, Allen Jay Elementary, Allen Jay Preparatory Academy, Ferndale Middle, High Point Central High, Jamestown Elementary, Johnson Street Global Studies, Morehead Elementary, Oak Hill Elementary, Pilot Elementary, Pleasant Garden Elementary, Pruette SCALE, Shadybrook Elementary, Southern Elementary, Southern High, Southern Middle and Sumner Elementary.

**DISTRICT 3**

**Pat Tillman**

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Brooks Global Studies, The Early College at Guilford, Guilford Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Kiser Middle, Lindley Elementary, The Middle College at UNC-G, Northwest High, Northwest Middle, Oak Ridge Elementary, Pearce Elementary, Sternberger Elementary and Stokesdale Elementary.

**DISTRICT 4**

**Linda Welborn**

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Alamance Elementary, Brown Summit Middle, Eastern High, Eastern Middle, Gibsonville Elementary, Madison Elementary, McLeansville Elementary, Monticello-Brown Summit Elementary, Nathanael Greene Elementary, Northeast High, Northeast Middle, Northern Elementary, Reedy Fork Elementary, Sedalia Elementary, Southeast High and Southeast Middle.

**DISTRICT 5**

**Darlene Garrett**

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Claxton Elementary, Cone Elementary, General Greene Elementary, Greensboro College Middle College, Grimsley High, Irving Park Elementary, Jesse Wharton Elementary, Joyner Elementary, Kernodle Middle, Mendenhall Middle, Northern High, Northern Middle, Page High, Summerfield Elementary and Weaver Academy.

**DISTRICT 6**

**Khem Irby**

1414 Adams Farm Pkwy., Apt. G

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Colfax Elementary, Florence Elementary, Newcomers School, Northwood Elementary, Oak View Elementary, Southwest Elementary, Southwest High, Southwest Middle, Western Middle and Western High.

**DISTRICT 7**

**Byron Gladden**

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Bessemer Elementary, Bluford Elementary, Brightwood Elementary, Dudley High, Falkener Elementary, Gateway Education Center, Hairston Middle, Herbin-Metz Education Center, Lincoln Academy, McNair Elementary, The Middle College at GTCC-Greensboro, Peeler Elementary, Rankin Elementary, SCALE – Greensboro, Simkins Elementary and Vandalia Elementary.

**DISTRICT 8**

**Deena A. Hayes, Chairperson**

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The Academy at Smith, Alderman Elementary, Archer Elementary, Erwin Montessori, Foust Elementary, Gillespie Park Elementary, Hunter Elementary, Jackson Middle, Jones Spanish Immersion, The Middle College at Bennett, The Middle College at NC A&T, Murphey Elementary, Peck Elementary, Smith High, The STEM Early College at NC A&T, Swann Middle School, Washington Montessori and Wiley Elementary.

**AT-LARGE**

**Winston McGregor**

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At-Large represents all GCS schools.

<mandatories>

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