

Guilford County Board of Education
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 21, 2017, 2:30 p.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 (11/6/17)	<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: December 19, 2:30 p.m.	
Adjournment	

Guilford County Board of Education
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 6 2017 10:00 am.
Swann Room, GCS Administrative Offices



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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from October 25, 2017 meeting were approved.

2018 Legislative Agenda – L. Welborn

- K-2 Class Size Reduction Mandate
 - Staff will update the Board of Education about costs associated with the Class Size Reduction Mandate at the November 16 Board meeting.
- Career and Technical Education
 - Linda Welborn will follow up with Pat Tillman to ensure he has reviewed and approves CTE information.
 - In the second paragraph: change considering to delete any reference to specific percentages.
- Teacher and Principal Pipeline
 - Include a reference to forgiveness.
- Quality Public Education Options
 - In the first paragraph, include reference to public education being required to have open public records.
 - In the third paragraph, include partnering with universities and other types of educational management organizations
- Discipline Disparities
 - Add disability to the list of disparities.
- School Funding Formula
 - In the first paragraph, add flexible descriptions of funding formulas. Also include reference to class size flexibility.
- Federal Education Issues
 - Include incentives for states with fair funding formulas.

Next Steps – L. Welborn

- Ask Board of Education members to communicate the 2018 Legislative Agenda to NC Legislators person as well as through social media and other venues when Legislators return on January 10.
- Staff will investigate scheduling a meeting (breakfast, dinner, social, etc.) in January with the Guilford County Delegation to allow the Policy Committee an opportunity to share the 2018 Legislative Agenda. A second meeting will be held with the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners. Staff will contact RTI for assistance with organizing and Guilford Education Alliance for sponsorship. Linda Welborn will contact the head of Guilford County legislation delegation regarding best dates and times for this meeting.
- Sharon Contreras asked that the Board of Education consider holding a work session focused only on the 2018 Legislative Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by:
Nora Carr, Chief of Staff

11.20.2017

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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 college fees, books, and transportation for dually enrolled students;

Consider targeting a percentage of 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;

Holding veteran teachers and principals harmless from salary reductions caused by changes in state compensation schedules and plans;

Creating more scholarships and incentives, including bonuses and student loan forgiveness programs, to encourage top-performing high school and college graduates to pursue teaching as a profession,

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particularly for hard-to-fill positions in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Special Education and Career and Technical Education.

Facilities and Capital Needs

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, public record access, 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 local education agencies (school boards) to improve student performance and expand choice options by contracting with universities to create innovative schools and/or manage existing schools while still maintaining ownership and board authority over the school.

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 and student support services to reduce disparities based on race, ethnicity, disability and socioeconomic status in student disciplinary actions.

School Funding Formula and Tax Status

We support:

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A simplified, flexible and more streamlined approach to funding schools that weights allocations based on student need including poverty, disability, homelessness and English language status;

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;

Funding mechanisms for public schools 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.

Incentives for states with fair funding formulas that ensure equitable and weighted allocations.

We oppose:

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

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

Tax policies that reduce funding for public schools, repeal deductions for teachers who purchase supplies for their classrooms, tax tuition grants and waivers for graduate students and/or increase taxes for poor and working class families in order to fund tax cuts for wealthy individuals and corporations.