



# GCC of PTAs Council Meeting Minutes

## Call to order

A meeting of the Guilford County Council of PTAs board was held on May 13, 2021 and called to order at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

## In attendance

Mildred O. Poole, President; Victoria Vample, VP1; Paula Jarrell, VP 2; LaTashia Moore, Treasurer; Eric Townsend, Secretary; Debbie Sivret, chair of the Awards Committee; Byron Gladden, Member At Large; B.J. Levette, Member At Large; Jacqui Hawkins, chair of the Nominating Committee; Linda Wilson, Co-Director of the Department of Community & Business Partnerships for Guilford County Schools; Masishai Woodbury, Co-Director of the Department of Community & Business Partnerships for Guilford County Schools; Linda Welborn, Guilford County Board of Education Member

## Change in Agenda

Mildred O. Poole announces a change to the agenda for the introductions of Dr. Linda Wilson and Masishai Woodbury from the Department of Community & Business Partnerships for Guilford County Schools. She shared that Dr. Wilson has been identified as the liaison for Superintendent Sharon Contreras at GCCPTA meetings. Mildred Poole also shared that Board of Education elected official Linda Welborn will serve as the board's liaison and that Linda Welborn will soon join the meeting.

## Social & Emotional Learning

Victoria Vample led the social & emotional learning moment by encouraging attendees to practice recognizing emotions and to consider logging emotions throughout the day to better understand how you respond in various situations. "Sometimes you need to take a minute to breathe and think through things before you respond."

## Approval of Minutes

The board voted unanimously to approve meeting minutes from April 8, 2021, after Debbie Sivret moved to approve and Victoria Vample seconded. No corrections or amendments were put forward.

## Treasurer's Report

The balance in GCCPTA's bank account as of April 30 was \$2,413.33. Credits to the account include a refund of \$43.80, dues from Northern Middle School and Erwin Montessori. Southeast Guilford Middle School accidentally sent their state dues to the GCCPTA, LaTashia Moore reported. Debits were charges to GoDaddy (\$19.99) for the website and a bank service charge of \$4.00. A check for \$32.00 was also paid on behalf of Southeast Middle.

LaTashia Moore reported that nine PTAs had joined the GCCPTA in May following a letter from GCS Superintendent Sharon Contreras to the schools and that additional funds would be reflected in the next

month's report. Dr. Linda Wilson replied to the observation that schools were not contacted directly by Sharon Contreras, but instead were messaged on her behalf. Dr. Linda Wilson asked for the minutes to reflect that.

LaTashia Moore asked for the board's preference in how her report was presented at meetings. Debbie Sivret said it makes sense to continue with current formats in listing deposits based on total amount submitted to the bank – not by individual checks. BJ Levette moved to approve the treasurer's report and Debbie Sivret seconded. The report was unanimously approved.

### **Selection of an Educator Representative**

Mildred O. Poole nominated Jamie Yi, an adaptive curriculum teacher at Southeast Guilford Middle School, to serve as the education representative on the GCCPTA through June 30, 2021. Yi has two children who attend Summerfield Elementary where she is a member of the PTA. In response to a question from Byron Gladden, Mildred Poole shared that she reached out to Jamie Yi after no one from the board offered nominations earlier in the spring. LaTashia Moore seconded the nomination and the board unanimously approved Jamie Yi's selection to serve as an educator representative to the council.

### **Board Reports**

- B.J. Levette, a member of the Advocacy Committee, reported that the Guilford County Association of Educators had requested the GCCPTAs support for the budget passed by the Guilford County Board of Education now before the Guilford County Board of Commissioners. B.J. Levette said he told the GCAE representative that the GCCPTA would encourage members to be advocates and contact the commission about the budget, but that the GCCPTA would not take a position on the budget itself. He said he told the representative the GCCPTA would be happy to forward GCAE contact information to anyone with questions.
- Paula Jarrell, as chair of the S.P.I.C.E. Grants program, requested time at the upcoming annual awards program to present checks (both bank and ceremonial) to recipients of the SPICE grants. Debbie Sivret suggested the checks be presented when ballots were being collected and counted as part of the elections.
- Mildred O. Poole shared information on the upcoming election on behalf of Jacqui Hawkins, who had previously left the meeting.
- Debbie Sivret, as chair of the Awards Committee, acknowledged and thanked Felicia Andrews, Christy Bryson, Paula Jarrell, and Jacqui Hawkins for their assistance. More than 60 people had registered to attend the awards program and at least 10 schools had submitted nominations for at least one award. Debbie Sivret said she was organizing the run of show and would share a finalized program with the full board once it was completed. Paula Jarrell and Eric Townsend both volunteered to assist with presenting the awards. LaTashia Moore stated that the awards program had a budget of \$1,600 and Debbie Sivret replied that the program would fall well within budget. Mildred O. Poole shared with GCCPTA board members that a few extra coffee mugs – gifts for volunteers from GCS earlier in the spring – were available to the council board as sponsors of the Guilford County School Volunteer Appreciation Week.

## New Business

- Mildred O. Poole stated that two requests for a special meeting had been received. Since the May 13 meeting had already been scheduled, she suggested a conversation take place on both requests by Paula Jarrell and LaTashia Moore.
- Paula Jarrell shared that an earlier conversation with Mildred Poole addressed her questions.
- LaTashia Moore stated that she was good with her question.
- Mildred O. Poole sought board input for a scheduled June 10 board meeting. She suggested the board meeting be used as an “old board/new board” discussion where incoming and outgoing officers recap the year and share ideas for the following year. Several board members expressed interest in the nature of the meeting and both Paula Jarrell and Debbie Sivret suggested contacting the Boy Scouts to secure a meeting space large enough to facility social distance for an in-person gathering.

## Additional Information

- Mildred O. Poole shared that two nominations had been received for the Sandy Carmany Award to be presented on May 27.
- Dr. Linda Wilson shared that she had yet to hear from the policy director for Guilford County Schools about whether a school employee can serve as president or treasurer of the GCCPTA.
- LaTashia Moore confirmed for Debbie Sivret that any nominees for treasurer to serve in 2021-22 will be made from the floor and should have advanced knowledge of his or her nomination.
- Jamie Yi, approved as the educator representative on the GCCPTA, introduced herself to the board as a special education teacher at Southwest Guilford Middle School. She expressed excitement about her new role and asked board members to help teach her.

## Events

- May 27 is the annual awards ceremony and election for 2021-22 GCCPTA executive officers.
- June 10 is the next scheduled GCCPTA board meeting, which will be focused on the transition in leadership based on the outcomes of the May 27 election.

## Adjournment

Victoria Vample motioned to adjourn the meeting and Paula Jarrell seconded.

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Secretary

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Date of approval