

Guilford Education Alliance

Resolution in Support of Board of Education Budget Request to the Board of County Commissioners May 2008

Whereas approval of the education facilities bonds (on May 6, 2008) clearly shows citizen commitment to investing in quality schools in Guilford County and

Whereas investment in programs and students that includes both maintaining current efforts as well as creating specific efforts to improve the school environment and improve achievement of all students and

Whereas the Guilford County Board of Education has submitted a responsible budget request for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to meet current required costs and to focus on specific critical issues, to wit:

- Funding increased salaries and benefits for locally funded staff to meet actions by the State General Assembly
- Providing per pupil funding for the additional 1,294 students who will enroll in the Guilford County Schools in the next academic year
- Funding to meet increased utility/energy costs; to maintain expanded facility space; to cover increased property and pupil accident insurance costs; and to cover increased transportation fuel costs
- Funding to implement recommendations of the School Climate Task Force that will increase school social work staff, expand behavior modification programs, and add a dean of students at each high school
- Funding to increase salaries of classified staff based on living wage requirements

Whereas the Guilford County Board of Education has demonstrated good stewardship through redirection of funds to meet critical needs to employ music/art/pe teachers, reinstate the Arts Coordinator position, add reading teachers in middle and high school, and other measures;

Be it resolved that the Guilford Education Alliance, on behalf of the Citizens of Guilford County, commend and endorse the Guilford County Board of Education budget request of \$16,049,575 for the 2008 – 2009 fiscal year as a reasonable and responsible request and urge the Guilford County Board of Commissioners to approve the request in its entirety as a demonstration of its commitment to making public education for all citizens a top priority.

Approved by the Guilford Education Alliance Board of Directors, May 14, 2008.