

## GSBA Board of Directors

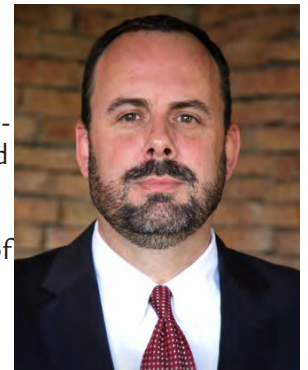
### President

**Katrina P. Young** has served on the Rockdale County Board of Education since 2007 and serves on the district's Strategic Planning Committee. Young became GSBA District 4 Director in 2011 and was elected as GSBA's President Elect in 2017. She serves on several GSBA committees, including Governmental Operations, Strategic Planning, the Executive Committee, the NSBA Presidential appointee to the Policy and Resolutions Committee and the NSBA Advocacy Institute (FRN). She also serves as a GSBA Risk Management Fund Trustee and is a mentor for new school board members. Young is a Partner and Lead Consultant with Stellar Consulting Group. A Governor Appointee to the GA Professional Standards Commission, she is active in multiple nonprofit and civic organizations, including serving on the Conyers Rockdale Council of Arts and the Economic Development Council, the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta Spark Newton Advisory Board and Main Street Porterdale Board as well as the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology Advisory Board.



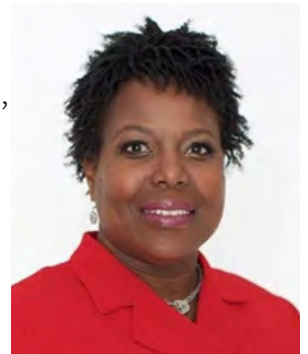
### President Elect

**Frank Griffin** is chair of the Lee County Board of Education. He began his service on the Board of Education on January 1, 2005. Mr. Griffin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Georgia Southwestern State University and a degree from the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University. Mr. Griffin is a founding organizer and director of Flint Community Bancshares, Inc., the holding company for Flint Community Bank which is located in Albany, GA. Currently, he serves as a director and the President and Chief Lending Officer for the bank. A lifelong resident of Lee County and a graduate of the Lee County School System, Mr. Griffin is extremely proud to be serving the Lee County School System and that all three of his children are in the Lee County School System. In addition to his service on the board of education, Mr. Griffin currently serves as a Trustee of the Darton State College Foundation and as co-teacher of the 12th grade Sunday School Class at Sherwood Baptist Church.



### Vice President

**Pat Hugley Green** - A Muscogee County Schools board member since 2004, Ms. Hugley Green is the current Vice Chair. She has served as Board Chair, the Chair of Audit, Finance, Property & Personnel, and as a member of their Superintendent Search Committees. She has served on the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee (GOC), the Awards Committee, the NSBA Advocacy Institute (formerly the Federal Relations Network) and as a Delegate for Muscogee County. In addition to her extensive service to her community, she has worked as an insurance professional for 25 years. Ms. Green received her master's degree in Leadership from Tennessee State University in Nashville. She is married with two children.



### Treasurer

**Ron Hopkins** became Treasurer to fill an unexpired term on January 1, 2017. He was elected to a three-year term as Treasurer in June 2017. Hopkins is a two-time GSBA past president, having served in 1998-99 and again in 2013-14. He has served on the Jefferson City Board of Education since 1979 and has been its Chair since 1989. Hopkins has served on many GSBA committees, including the Vision Project, Awards, Nominating, Strategic Planning, the Governmental Operations Committees (GOC), and the NSBA Advocacy Institute. Hopkins chairs GSBA's Workers' Compensation Fund and serves as a GSBA Risk Management Fund Trustee. He is an attorney and managing partner with Davidson, Hopkins & Alexander, PC, in Jefferson where he has been affiliated with the same law firm since 1972.



## GSBA Board of Directors

### Past President

**Thomas (Tom) Odom, Jr.** has served on the Oconee County School Board since 2013 and is their current Board Chair. Odom serves on the Board Chair Advisory Committee, the Governmental Operations Committee (GOC), Vision Project Committee, GSBA Strategic Planning Team, the Executive Committee and the NSBA Advocacy Institute (FRN). Odom is a retired teacher, coach and school principal. Active in his community, he has served in Rotary, on the Board of Directors for the Oconee County Chamber of Commerce as well as its Interim President. Odom received his undergraduate, Master and Specialist Degrees from the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Crysty, have two adult sons.



### District 1

**Lamar Allen** has served on the Effingham County Board of Education since 2004 and is the current Chairman. He serves on the GSBA Nominating Committee, and the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee (GOC) and the Board Chair Advisory Committee. He is the Legislative Liaison and is the board designee for the GSBA Delegate Assembly. A successful farmer and business owner, he is the Past President of the Rotary Club, the United Way Board and the Chamber of Commerce. He also volunteers as a middle school baseball coach and for 20 years has cooked for approximately 400 people for the Special Olympics.



### District 2

**Teresa Harris** has served as a school board member of Grady County since 2000. During that time, she has served as both Board Chair and Vice Chair. Teresa chairs the GSBA Awards Committee and serves on the GSBA Nominating, and Board Chair Advisory Committees. She also serves on the Governmental Operations Committee (GOC). A native of Grady County, Ms. Harris has a Bachelors in Elementary Education with ESOL Endorsement, a Bachelors in Exceptional Studies Education and is a retired Systems Project Consultant for the Florida Department of Revenue.



### District 3

**Kia Chambers** a Muscogee County Board Member since 2014, is a former educator and the newest GSBA District Director, having been appointed to fulfill an unexpired term of office vacated earlier this year.

Kia has served in many Leadership positions. She is the current Vice President of a women's civic organization, The Links Inc. She serves on the board for Junior League of Columbus, Historic Columbus, and Chair of the Properties Committee for Gamma Tau Omega for the local Alpha Kappa Alpha Chapter. She is an active member of the North Columbus Rotary Club and serves as the chair of *The Fred W. Kirby Educational Awards Program*. She has had the opportunity to serve students from all backgrounds and talents. Kia served as the chair of Partners in Education for the Junior League of Columbus.



## GSBA Board of Directors

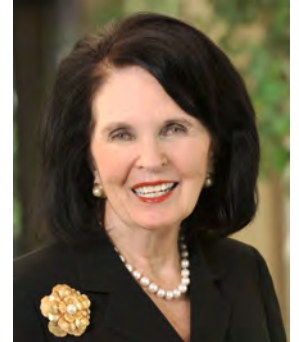
### District 4

**Shakila Henderson-Baker** was appointed by the GSBA Board of Directors to fulfill the remaining term of District 4 vacated by Katrina Young after she was elected as Vice-President of the association in 2016. She serves on the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee and the Executive Committee. A native of Covington, Mrs. Henderson-Baker began her first term on the Newton County Board of Education January 2011. She graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Fort Valley State University and holds a Master of Science Degree in Psychology and Counseling from Troy University. She is currently finishing up courses at Piedmont College in Athens to obtain her certification in Early Childhood Education. Mrs. Henderson-Baker works as a Mental Health Clinician and Behavioral Specialist. She is an active volunteer in the community as an after-school tutor and one of the Coordinators for The Young Legends teen-mentoring group. She is a Charter and current member of the Chi Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., which serves both Newton and Rockdale Counties.



### District 5

**Dr. Mary Kay Murphy** has served as GSBA District 5 Director since 2005. She is the system designee to the GSBA Delegate Assembly, is a Legislative Liaison, a member of the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee and serves on the NSBA Advocacy Institute (FRN). She has served as a member of the GSBA Executive Committee and is also a trainer with the GSBA Veteran Board Training Program. Dr. Murphy is the Development Officer at Morehouse School of Medicine. She received her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Georgia State University and her master's degree in Education and English from Emory University. She has held administrative positions at Georgia Tech, the University of Georgia, Oglethorpe University, and Morris Brown College. Dr. Murphy was elected to the Gwinnett County Board of Education in 1996 and has served as chairman four times.



### District 6

**Sue Brown** was first appointed to serve as GSBA District 6 Director to complete a one-year unexpired term in 2013. She serves on the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee, the Executive and the Board Chair Advisory Committees, and is a member of the NSBA Advocacy Institute (FRN). Brown is also a GSBA mentor for new board members. She has served on the Coweta County school board since 2005 and served as Chair in 2011. Following two years of teaching in Floyd County schools, she taught music education for 26 years in Coweta County schools. Brown also served in the system's central office during her career, and taught music for 16 years at Elm Street Elementary School before retiring in 2004.



## GSBA Board of Directors

### District 7

**Elaina Beeman** joined Rome City Schools as a board member in 2014. She has served as either a Delegate or an Alternate for the past three years representing her school district at GSBA's Delegate Assembly Meetings. Active in her community, she is currently serving as an executive board member of the House of the Children Academy. She has served as an executive member of the Rome/Floyd County Habitat for Humanity and the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce boards, and as a member of the Rome/Floyd County Planning Commission. Elaina received her Bachelor of Science Degree in 1989 from Jacksonville State University in Alabama.



### District 8

**Bryan Preston** has served on the Coffee County Board of Education since 2010. He has served as Chair and is the current Vice-Chair. Bryan serves on the GSBA Board Chair Advisory Committee, the Governmental Operations Committee (GOC), and as Delegate for Coffee County during GSBA's Delegate Assembly. A proponent of local control, he is married to Mary Preston, an Elementary classroom teacher in her 31st year as a professional educator. Mr. Preston currently serves as Chair of the Personnel Committee at the First Baptist Church in Douglas.



### District 9

**Elaine Wilson** has served on the Dawson County School Board since 2004. She has served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman during her tenure. Wilson serves on the GSBA Board Chair Advisory Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Governmental Operations Committee. Wilson was voted for a second term as GSBA District Director in 2018. She retired from Dawson County Schools after 32 years, having taught business education and serving as both the Personnel and Finance Director for a number of years. After retiring from Dawson County, Wilson joined the Human Resources Department of Forsyth County Schools as the Professional Qualifications Specialist.



### District 10

**Jack Padgett, Jr.** has served as a Richmond County Schools board member since 2007 and also served for a two-year period in 1980-82. He chairs the Finance and Building Committees and is a member of the Instruction and Student Services Committee. Mr. Padgett has served on the GSBA Governmental Operations Committee (GOC) and as Legislative Liaison. In addition to his service with GSBA and the Richmond Board of Education, he is the immediate past chair with Georgia Public Health, has been a Richmond County Public Health Member for over 25 years; Prevent Child Abuse Georgia Director; Prevent Child Abuse Augusta, CFO; Lifetime member of the RCSS PTA, and President of Roy E. Rollins Elementary School PTA.



## GSBA Board of Directors

### District 11

**Vernon Payne** was first elected GSBA District 11 Director in 1989. He chairs the GSBA Risk Management Fund Board of Trustees and serves as a member of the GSBA Workers' Compensation Fund Board of Trustees. Payne also serves as a member of the NSBA Advocacy Institute (FRN), GSBA Governmental Operations Committee, the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. He has served the Clarke County Board of Education since 1980 and has held the positions of chair, vice chair, chairman of the Property Committee and a member of the Policy Committee and SPLOST Oversight Committee.



### District 12

**Fred Wilson** has been a member of the Houston County Board of Education since January of 1995. He served as Chairman in 2003, and as Vice Chair in 2002 and again from 2013-2015 and is currently serving as Chairman since July 2015. Mr. Wilson serves on the GSBA Nominating Committee, the Governmental Operations Committee and has served as a delegate for the Houston BOE at the GSBA Delegate Assembly. Retired from the Air Force and Civil Service at Robins Air Force Base, Mr. Wilson enjoys visiting schools and reading to the students. He is very involved in his church and community and works with civic and church organizations throughout Houston County to establish long-term partnerships with district schools through the "Adopt-A-School" program.



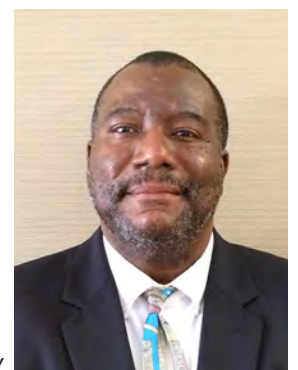
### District 13

**Theresa Davis** has served on the Ben Hill County Board of Education since 2004. She has chaired the boards policy, compensation, education, charter/IE2/Traditional committees. Theresa serves on the Governmental Operations Committee and as the Delegate for Ben Hill County BOE at the GSBA Delegate Assembly. Theresa is employed as a customer service manager at Mediacom Communications, a company she has worked for over 30 years. She is the mother of two children who both graduated from the Ben Hill County School System.



### District 14

**Warren Lee** is a retired Georgia State Trooper with 34 years of service. Lee spent most of his career in law enforcement having worked approximately four years for the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department prior to becoming a state trooper. He has served on the Valdosta City School Board for over 25 years. He has held various positions ranging from board chair to chairing numerous committees. The Valdosta City Board has appointed Lee as their delegate for GSBA's Delegate Assembly, and he also serves on the Nominating, Executive and Governmental Operations Committees. Lee is a graduate of the National Radio and Television Broadcasting School and was a broadcast announcer for several years prior to the beginning his Law Enforcement career. Lee graduated from the 55th Georgia State Patrol Trooper Academy, and the U.S. Marshall's Middle Georgia Fugitive Squad Training Academy. He received an Associate Degree from Georgia Military Academy in Criminal Justice and is currently the President of LaTaurus Productions, Inc.



## GSBA Board of Directors

### **Valarie Wilson** **GSBA Executive Director**

Mrs. Valarie Wilson joined the Georgia School Boards Association in 2015 as the fifth Executive Director of the organization.

Mrs. Wilson was elected to the school board of the City Schools of Decatur in 2002 and became the moving force behind the establishment of the College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center, acting on research that shows that early childhood education is critical to success in the K-12 years.

As Decatur City Schools Board Chair from 2005-2011, Mrs. Wilson along with the other members of the board, helped to turn around the finances of the district. Through reorganization, the district was able to move forward during the recession with no teacher furloughs or shortening of the school year.

Mrs. Wilson joined the Georgia School Boards Association in 2009 and was its president in 2012-2013. She helped create the Georgia Vision Project, an educational framework for boards that included input from board members, superintendents, teachers, teaching colleges, elected officials, parents and students. Over 80 percent of the state's school boards have agreed to support the Vision Project's recommendations.

As GSBA president, Mrs. Wilson was involved in leading the association and improving the grassroots network in influencing statewide policy. She has also served on Governor Deal's Education Advisory Board and was a member of the Decatur Education Foundation.

Mrs. Wilson was the Executive Director of the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership, Inc. and Director of the Human Services Department in Fulton County, responsible for an annual budget of \$26 million and directing programs that serve the elderly, children and youth. She has also been Director of Fulton County's Office of Aging.

In 2014, Mrs. Wilson ran for the Office of State School Superintendent.

A native of Swainsboro, Georgia, Valarie is a graduate of Clark College and completed coursework graduate studies in public administration at Troy State University. She now lives in Decatur with her husband Carter. Mrs. Wilson has one son, Nicholas.

