



**HANDBOOK**  
FOR THE  
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
OF THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

**PLEASE BRING THIS HANDBOOK WITH YOU to the 3:15 p.m. meeting on June 7, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Savannah, GA.**

**Delegates will be signed in and will receive their voting instruments just before entering the assembly.**

*Last update: 5/28/19*

# Table of Contents

Agenda - Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly	Page 3
Rules/Procedures - Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly	Page 4
Minutes - 2018 Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly	Page 5
2019-2020 Proposed Changes to Legislative Positions	Page 7
Section I: Governance of Education	Page 7
Section II: The State/Local Funding Partnership	Page 10
Section III: Improving Student Achievement	Page 14
Section IV: Federal Issues	Page 17
Members - Governmental Operations Committee	Page 18
2019 Nominating Committee Report	Page 19
Members - Nominating Committee	Page 20
2019-2020 Nominees for GSBA Officers	Page 21
GSBA Board of Directors (Elected for 2020-2022 Term)	Page 22
GSBA Districts Map	Page 23
GSBA 2018-2019 Officers/District Directors	Page 23
GSBA Staff	Page 24
Form to Submit New or Amended Legislative Positions	Page 25
Notes	Page 27

The opinions expressed by program participants are not necessarily those of the  
Georgia School Boards Association

GSBA Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly  
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Savannah, Georgia  
Friday, June 7, 2019

# Agenda

3:15 p.m.	Call to Order	<i>Katrina Young</i> GSBA President
	Certification of Delegates	<i>Valarie Wilson</i> GSBA Executive Director
	Adoption of Agenda	
	Report of the Treasurer	<i>Ronnie Hopkins</i> GSBA Treasurer
	Adoption of Rules and Procedures	<i>Phil Hartley</i> GSBA General Counsel Harben, Hartley & Hawkins, LLC
	Approval of Minutes, 2018 Annual Business Meeting	
	Adoption of Proposed Legislative Positions	<i>Frank Griffin, Chair</i> GSBA Governmental Operations Committee
	Adoption of Nominating Committee Report	<i>Tom Odom, Chair</i> GSBA Nominating Committee
	Election of Officers	
	Installation of Officers	<i>Katrina Young</i> GSBA President
	Other Business	
	Closing Remarks	
	Adjourn	

Georgia School Boards Association  
Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly  
Friday, June 7, 2019  
3:15 p.m. Official Business Session

## Rules/Procedures

1. The Delegate Assembly will consist of one voting member (delegate from each local board of education). Other board members are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion of issues, but only the official delegate may make or second motions and vote.
2. The chair of the Governmental Operations Committee will explain the role of the Committee and procedures that have been followed. The chair will move the adoption section by section of the proposed 2020 GSBA Legislative Positions (no second is required since the recommendation comes from the Governmental Operations Committee). Specific items may be pulled for a separate vote upon the request of a delegate from the floor. Delegates may propose amendments or changes in the recommendations of the Governmental Operations Committee by adhering to the rules and procedures outlined below.
  - A. The president will recognize any delegate who wishes to propose a new legislative position or amend an existing legislative position if the proposal has been presented in writing to the GSBA Registrar (located at the GSBA Registration Desk) no later than noon on June 7, 2019. Forms for submitting new proposals or amendments will be available at the GSBA Registration desk. A copy is included in this handbook on page 24. There will be an opportunity for delegates to obtain assistance with drafting amendments or new positions from GSBA General Counsel from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Friday at the Registration Desk. **Please remember that as a delegate, you represent your board. Any action you take at the Delegate Assembly will be presumed to be supported by your board. Please have the support of your board when proposing amendments, deletions or new positions.**
  - B. The chair will call for a second to the motion and discussion of the motion.
  - C. If the motion receives a majority vote of all delegates present and voting, the motion passes. In calling for a vote, the chair shall call for those voting for the motion, and those voting against the motion.

### Important Reminders

- During the business meeting, please be prepared to present to the assembly any proposed new positions or amendments that were submitted by the 12:00 p.m. June 7 deadline in accordance with procedure 2A above.
- All motions must receive a majority vote of all certified delegates present and voting at the assembly in order to pass.
- Once recognized by the chair to speak, delegates are requested to give their name, and identify their local school system prior to addressing the assembly. Only certified delegates can make or second motions.
- All delegates **MUST** wear a delegate ribbon in order to be recognized from the floor of the assembly and be allowed to make a motion.

**GEORGIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly**  
**Friday, June 8, 2018**  
**Hyatt Regency Hotel, Savannah, Georgia**

President Tom Odom called the GSBA Annual Business Meeting of the Delegate Assembly to order at 3:16 p.m.

Valarie Wilson, GSBA Executive Director, certified 124 voting delegates in attendance, constituting a quorum.

President Odom provided an overview on the use of the electronic voting instruments being used at today's session. Tom Odom decided to do a hand vote since some of the electronic devices did not work.

On motion of Johnny Vines, Candler County, seconded by Samuel Brown, Turner County, the agenda was approved as presented (copy attached).

Ron Hopkins, GSBA Treasurer, presented GSBA's financial status for FY 2018, reporting that for the eleventh-month period ending May 31, 2018, GSBA's total liabilities and net assets were \$5,739,041. The delegates accepted this report as information (copy attached).

Phil Hartley, GSBA General Counsel, reviewed the Rules/Procedures provided in the Delegate Assembly Handbook. On motion of Mike Sasser, Bleckley County, seconded by Scott Sweeney, Cobb County, the Rules/Procedures were adopted as presented (copy attached).

On motion of Glennera Martin, Bulloch County, seconded by Richard Hargrove, Dodge County, the Minutes of the 2017 Delegate Assembly were approved.

Katrina Young, GSBA President Elect and member of the Rockdale County Board of Education, and Chair of the 2018 GSBA Governmental Operations Committee, reviewed the procedures for adopting the 2018-2019 GSBA Legislative Positions Recommendations of the Governmental Operations Committee.

**Section I – GOVERNANCE OF EDUCATION**

On motion of the Governmental Operations Committee, Chair, Tom Odom, the delegates approved the positions in Section I as by a majority vote.

**Section II – THE STATE/LOCAL FUNDING PARTNERSHIP**

Ginger Bailey, Jones County, made the motion to discuss a new position regarding State Health Insurance Supplement. Otha Thornton, Clarke County seconded the motion. (see attached). ***The position passed.***

Position 2.A.12 - Coleman Landers, Walton County, asked for this position to be pulled out for a discussion. It was pulled out for a separate vote but was withdrawn.

On motion of the Governmental Operations Committee Chair, Tom Odom, the delegates approved Section II by a majority vote.

**Section III – IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

On motion of the Governmental Operations Committee Chair, Tom Odom, the delegates approved the positions in Section III by a majority vote.

## **Section IV – FEDERAL ISSUES**

Two new positions were presented for this section.

Permanent Legalization of DACA, on the motion from Otha Thornton, Clarke County, seconded by Jackie Payton, Burke County. After several attempts to vote on this position, the motion failed. The count was witnessed and verified by Brian Anderson, Fayette County.

Immigration Legislation, on the motion from Otha Thornton, Clarke County, seconded by Glennera Martin, Bulloch County, the motion did not pass.

On motion of the Governmental Operations Committee Chair, Tom Odom, the delegates approved the positions in Section IV by a majority vote.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Teresa Gee Harris, Grady County, Member of the 2018 Nominating Committee, made the motion to approve the following report of the Nominating Committee. Since there were no nominations from the floor of the Delegate Assembly, the following slate of officers was elected by the delegates by a majority vote:

- President – Katrina Young, Rockdale County – Term July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019
- President Elect — Frank Griffin, Lee County -- Term July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019
- Vice President — Pat Hugley Green, Muscogee County -- Term July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Tom Odom installed the officers as per GSBA policy.

The following GSBA District Directors, elected at their District Meetings, were announced to the Delegate Assembly:

- Elaina Beeman, District 7 Director, 3-year term – July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021
- Bryan Preston, District 8 Director, 3-year term - July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021
- Elaine Wilson, District 9 Director, 3-year term - July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021
- Jack Padgett, District 10 Director, 3-year term - July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Minutes taken by Nancy McLellan, GSBA Executive Assistant

Minutes edited by Valarie Wilson, GSBA Executive Director

**Proposals to the Governmental Operations Committee  
to Amend the 2019 Legislative Positions  
(Adopted by the Delegate Assembly in Savannah, Georgia, on June 8, 2018)**

**GSBA represents the collective resolve of our members, the 180 elected boards of education. These legislative positions determine whether GSBA supports legislation, opposes it, or remains neutral. They are not necessarily issues for which we are seeking immediate legislation.**

*Members have two opportunities each year to propose additions, deletions, or amendments to the GSBA legislative positions. In February, the positions are sent to our members for review and proposed changes. The Governmental Operations Committee, a large group appointed by the GSBA President, holds an annual meeting in April to review the positions and proposals from local boards and makes its recommendations to the Delegate Assembly in June. Local boards may also propose changes to the positions directly to the Delegate Assembly. Each school board is asked to select a delegate to represent them at the annual business meeting of GSBA. The positions are adopted by these delegates.*

**I. GOVERNANCE OF EDUCATION**

**A. Local Board Authority**

**1.A.1 Statutes Limiting School Board Constitutional Authority**

GSBA supports the constitutional authority vesting exclusive control over public schools to local boards of education as the level of government closest and most responsive to the taxpayers and parents of the children being educated. GSBA opposes any legislative measures infringing on that authority.

**1.A.2 Sovereign Immunity**

GSBA strongly urges the General Assembly not to pass legislation which would waive sovereign immunity of local school systems.

**1.A.3 New position – Richmond County**

GSBA proposes that one member of a local state legislative delegation should not have the authority to prevent a local school board from carrying out its approved actions. The local state legislative delegation votes regarding the local school system should be governed by a simple majority vote.

**Rationale:**

Duly elected boards of education should be able to conduct standard business and request legislation through local delegations by simple majority vote. This would prevent local legislators with conflicts of interest or personal hesitations with approved BOE business from derailing approved actions.

## **B. Elections and Appointments**

### **1.B.1 Selection of the Georgia Board of Education and State School Superintendent**

GSBA supports the non-partisan election by popular vote of State Board of Education members by Congressional District to serve a 4-year staggered term. GSBA further supports the appointment of the State School Superintendent by the elected State Board of Education

### **1.B.2 Non-Partisan Elections for School Board Members**

GSBA supports legislation calling for the non-partisan election of local school board members.

### **1.B.3 School Board Member Qualifications**

GSBA opposes legislation that imposes qualifications to run for a position on the School Board that are greater than those qualifications imposed on other elected officials.

### **1.B.4 Written Notification of Local Legislation**

GSBA supports general legislation requiring written notification is made directly to any impacted local boards of education on local legislation altering the terms, make-up, compensation, qualifications, or organization of the elected local boards of education.

### **1.B.5 Local Governance Structure**

**GSBA opposes any change to the local governance structure of an elected local board of education that appoints the superintendent.**

## **C. Choice**

### **1.C.1 Public School Choice**

GSBA believes that public school choice plans at the local school district level may under specified conditions promote equity, innovation, accountability, increased parental involvement and overall school improvement. Furthermore, GSBA believes that any choice option should include the same accountability requirements for the uniform education of all students. However, GSBA opposes state or federal legislation mandating choice, and feels that decisions regarding choice or alternative school programs involving public schools should be the responsibility of local boards of education.

### **1.C.2 Vouchers**

GSBA is opposed to vouchers, tuition tax credits, k-12 education savings plans, or scholarships whose purpose is to allocate public funds to private schools or home study.

### **1.C.3 Accountability**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to include accountability measures in any voucher program including financial and policy transparency, performance evaluation measures, and consequences for poor performance.

### **1.C.4 Dual Enrollment - Proposed addition – Jones County**

**Dual Enrollment Cap on Credit Hours towards TCC's.**

**GSBA opposes legislation that includes counting dual enrollment credit hours toward the Technical College Certificate (TCC) hours in any “cap” for dual enrollment credit hours.**

## **Rationale:**

The Georgia General Assembly seems to be enacting rules that are in direct contradiction to the establishment of a skilled work force for Georgia. For example:

- **SB 161 (OCGA 20-4-37), signed by Governor Nathan Deal on May 11, 2011, defined “College and Career Academy” and established the Office of College and Career Transitions within the Technical College System of Georgia, with responsibility for providing oversight and support to College and Career Academies.**
- **Legislation funded the Georgia College and Career Academy Project (GCCAP) grants to support the development of College and Career Academies that serve high school students.**
- **The Alternative Graduation Plan (formally known as Senate Bill 2 – not yet funded) offers an alternate path to high school graduation. Students must successfully complete certain required high school courses and all required tests associated with them and complete any one of three technical college credential programs. These credentialed programs require from 30-70+ hours thus exceeding the 30 hour cap the Georgia General Assembly is considering.**

**This will prevent many students who intend to pursue a postsecondary education at traditional 4-year universities from participating in occupational areas of dual enrollment. Example: Architect might want to pursue Welding or Construction Technical Certificates; Doctor might want to pursue First Responder Certificate or Certified Nurse Assistant.**

**Occupational areas of dual enrollment frequently reflect highly demanded careers for Georgia and result in skills necessary to ensure Georgia continues to be the “Best State to do Business” through a quality workforce.**

## **D. Personnel**

### **1.D.1 State Leadership and Teacher Initiative**

GSBA supports the creation of a state-wide initiative to identify and recruit talented candidates into teacher and education leadership preparation programs and provide comprehensive recruitment, induction and retention strategies for all local school districts.

### **1.D.2 Teacher Preparation**

GSBA supports providing strategies for success designed to better prepare individuals for the teaching profession.

### **1.D.3 Pilot Compensation Programs**

GSBA urges the state to pilot new teacher and leader compensation programs prior to adoption to evaluate the effectiveness and viability of selected compensation scenarios.

### **1.D.4 Board Member Benefits**

GSBA supports the revision of the Georgia Code such that local boards of education can provide group medical insurance coverage for a member of the Board and the spouse and dependents of a member leaving office on or after December 31, 2006 and such board member pays the entire cost of such coverage.

### **1.D.5 Dual Enrollment Teachers**

GSBA opposes legislation that prohibits teachers who are directly employed by a high school from teaching dual enrollment courses for postsecondary partners.

### **1.D.6 Proposed addition – Clarke County**

**GSBA supports the funding of a comprehensive mentoring program for new teachers.**

#### **Rationale:**

**The Georgia Department of Education has already developed a model for high-quality induction program that supports not only retentions, but also the teacher’s growth and thereby increasing student learning. It needs to be funded.**

## ***II. THE STATE/LOCAL FUNDING PARTNERSHIP***

### **A. Taxation**

#### **2.A.1 Tax Reform**

The Georgia School Boards Association supports tax reform based upon sound data and research that will bring about a tax system that yields adequate funding, is fair, is stable, and is transparent.

#### **2.A.2 Alternative Revenue Sources**

GSBA supports an amendment to the Georgia Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to enact legislation that would allow local school systems to receive revenues from tax sources other than local property taxes, including but not limited to, a 1% local option sales tax (LOST) for general operations. Funds from this source should not supplant appropriations by the General Assembly for general operations.

#### **2.A.3 Equalization Formula**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to consider the average real estate property values, the average per capita income, percentage of students on free and reduced meals and the number of taxpayers who live near or below poverty income in determining the “wealth” of school districts for equalization purposes.

#### **2.A.4 Development Impact Fees**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to propose a constitutional amendment allowing for school board authority to levy and collect impact fees for school purposes and to pass enabling legislation.

#### **2.A.5 Road and Sales Tax Removal**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to exempt local boards of education from paying taxes on motor fuel.

#### **2.A.6 Tax Commissioners or Tax Collectors Fee**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to amend current statutes to ensure the fee paid to the county for collecting school taxes is no more than 2.5% of the taxes actually collected.

### **2.A.7 Study Committee on Local Five Mill Share**

GSBA urges an examination of the impact of the five-mill share on local school system funding.

### **2.A.8 State Tax Policy**

The GSBA urges the General Assembly to develop a state tax policy which addresses the continued erosion of the State Revenue Base through passage annually of tax exemptions from the sales and use of tax, income tax and other revenue producing state taxes.

GSBA further urges the General Assembly to place a moratorium upon subsequent introduction and passage of tax legislation which reduces the state revenue base until a tax policy can be adopted which responsibly considers the state's revenue production potential and the state's ability to adequately meet its funding obligations to each department of government.

### **2.A.9 Impact of Tax Legislation**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to recognize the impact of proposed tax legislation and/or Constitutional amendments on the state and local revenue base and to defeat any which may undermine state government services and public education.

### **2.A.10 Capital Outlay for Educational Purposes**

GSBA opposes legislation which would redefine "capital outlay projects for educational purposes" to include SPLOST expenditures for non-educationally related projects such as street, bridge, utility and similar improvements.

### **2.A.11 Exclusion of Local Sales Tax from State Sales Tax Exemptions**

GSBA supports the exclusion of local sales tax from state sales tax exemptions and urges the General Assembly to enact legislation that would modify current law and prevent future law from including local sales taxes in state sales tax exemptions.

### **2.A.12 Local Legislation to Add Use of ESPLOST**

GSBA supports a Constitutional amendment to allow local legislation to include maintenance and operations as an allowable use of the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax in that school district.

### **2.A.13 Abatements**

GSBA supports legislation that requires any abatements of school taxes be subject to the approval of the local school board.

### **2.A.14 Amendment of the Title Ad Valorem Tax (TAVT)**

GSBA supports amending the title ad valorem tax (TAVT) statute to make it more transparent, consistent, and equitable compared to the revenue received under the prior ad valorem/sales tax system.

### **2.A.15 New Position – Fulton County**

**GSBA strongly urges the General Assembly to examine legislation on annexation that provides for input from school systems that are affected. School systems often budget two to three years in advance and changes in district lines can dramatically affect school budgets. GSBA further urges that the General Assembly should consider extending the period of enactment of the changes in district lines to give systems more time to adjust their budgets.**

**Rationale:**

**School Boards should be informed of potential legislation regarding annexation in order to prepare for financial as well as other impacts.**

**B. Capital Outlay**

**2.B.1 Capital Program Flexibility/Funding**

GSBA urges maximum funding of capital outlay programs to accommodate student growth and diverse facility needs of local systems.

**2.B.2 Facility Guidelines**

GSBA urges the State Department of Education to revise facility guidelines/regulations to include additional classroom space to accommodate appropriate\_teacher/pupil ratio, instructional needs, technology needs and Pre-K classrooms. GSBA also urges the Georgia Department of Education to revise facility guidelines to more accurately reflect current building cost per square foot.

**2.B.3 Community Housing Planning and Zoning Impact on Community Education Capabilities/Goals**

GSBA supports legislation requiring that the impact of planning and zoning decisions on the school district be a factor in the decision.

**C. Personnel Funding**

**2.C.1 Funding Level**

GSBA supports the allotment and funding of local school and school district personnel at a ratio which ensures quality educational opportunities for all Georgia students.

**2.C.2 Professional and Staff Development**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to fund professional and staff development at a level which will enable certified personnel to participate in approved professional development activities every five years in order to acquire needed job-related skills.

**2.C.3 Sick and Personal Leave**

GSBA supports increased funding of sick and personal leave by the state to fully fund the cost of substitute teachers.

**2.C.4 Unemployment Compensation**

GSBA supports state funding of unemployment compensation for local school system employees.

**2.C.5 Professional Development for State Mandated Instructional Initiatives**

GSBA urges the state to fully fund the training and professional development needs associated with implementation of any state mandated instructional initiatives.

## **D. Program Funding**

### **2.D.1 Weighted FTE Funding Basis**

GSBA supports legislative proposals which appropriate funds needed for a quality basic education on a weighted FTE student cost-basis.

### **2.D.2 State Lottery**

GSBA opposes use of lottery proceeds to supplant funds for education that historically have been provided by the General Assembly.

### **2.D.3 At Risk and Remedial Summer School Programs**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to fund at risk and remedial summer school programs commensurate with the number of students scoring below grade level as defined by the Office of Student Achievement.

### **2.D.4 Funding of Non-Vocational Labs**

GSBA supports restoration of the funding for the high school non-vocational lab program.

### **2.D.5 Appropriation of Funds For Educational Resources**

GSBA urges that state funds be appropriated in the QBE formula to cover actual costs for consumable materials and supplies, replacement of instructional equipment, textbooks, and media materials, including electronic formats.

### **2.D.6 Training and Experience - Mid-Term Adjustment**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to enact legislation that would allow for mid-term adjustment on the training and experience factor for calculation of system earnings for the most current year for which data is available.

### **2.D.7 Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support Services (G-NETS)**

GSBA urges that funding for the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support Services (G-NETS) network be changed from a state grant to a per FTE earning formula basis.

### **2.D.8 Maintenance and Operation Funding**

GSBA supports increased funding for maintenance and operation as part of the total cost of education.

### **2.D.9 Legislative Impact Statements**

GSBA urges that any legislator or legislative committee proposing a bill in the General Assembly be required to attach a fiscal note detailing how consideration has been given to the bill's possible budgetary impact on local school districts and other governmental entities.

### **2.D.10 Unfunded State Requirements**

GSBA believes that any program, project or requirement mandated by state government should be funded by the state in such a manner that operation or implementation of the mandate does not impose financial or other burdens on local school districts. Any such unfunded mandate proposed by legislation should not become law.

### **2.D.11 Instructional Expenditure Control**

GSBA supports flexibility and controls at the system level which permit transfer of funds among QBE programs.

#### **2.D.12 Transportation Reimbursement**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to fund transportation costs for all students.

#### **2.D.13 Withholding Proportional Local Share**

GSBA opposes withholding QBE funds from school districts to support state approved Charter Schools.

#### **2.D.14 Fund QBE**

GSBA supports the full funding of the QBE funding formula.

### **E. Retirement**

#### **2.E.1 Health Insurance and Retirement for Non-Certified Employees**

GSBA supports state funding for employer's cost of health insurance and retirement funding for non-certified personnel with the QBE FTE formula.

#### **2.E.2 Public School Employees Retirement**

GSBA urges the General Assembly to increase Public School Employee Retirement benefits so that they are comparable to the benefits paid by TRS.

#### **2.E.3 Teacher Retirement System**

GSBA opposes legislation directing the TRS Board of Directors to adopt high-risk investments in their portfolio that may endanger the actuarial soundness of the retirement fund.

### ***III. IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT***

#### **A. Attendance**

##### **3.A.1 Compulsory Attendance - **Proposed Amendment – Richmond County****

GSBA supports compulsory enrollment in educational programs for persons ages six years to **18** years who have not graduated from high school.

##### **Rationale:**

**Georgia's Every Student Succeeds Act describes how the Georgia Department of Education will support LEAs receiving assistance under Title I, Part A in transitioning students from the middle grades into high school. The intent of this is for states to prevent students from dropping out of high school and to reengage out-of-school youth. Georgia's ESSA plan describes the responsibility of the district to transition students from middle school to postsecondary options. Increasing the compulsory age to 18 will positively impact the vision as outlined within ESSA and help schools graduate students. If students are legally able to dropout at the age of 16, the initiatives written out in ESSA cannot be accomplished because children are not required by law to attend. The state accountability system requires them to graduate or districts and schools are held accountable. This means districts and schools are held to a standard in which the compulsory attendance law doesn't align with the state accountability system.**

**Raising the compulsory age to 18 allows districts and schools two more years to graduate students and prepare them to transition into post-secondary options.**

## **B. Curriculum/Achievement**

### **3.B.1 Academic Achievement**

GSBA supports legislative initiatives to make improving student academic achievement the top priority of state education policy.

### **3.B.2. State-Local Collaboration**

GSBA supports efforts to improve student achievement through a collaborative effort between the Department of Education and local school districts in the development of a challenging and dynamic curriculum that allows for flexible instructional models to meet the needs of all students.

### **3.B.3 Authority Over Curriculum**

GSBA supports the concept that curriculum determination is the domain of state and local boards of education. GSBA thus encourages the General Assembly to resist legislative attempts to mandate curriculum.

### **3.B.4. Early Learning Initiative**

GSBA supports the creation of a statewide initiative to formalize an early learning collaborative in each county of the state.

### **3.B.5 PreK through Grade 3 Initiative**

GSBA supports the adoption of a prekindergarten through grade 3 integrated educational model for all children ages four through eight.

### **3.B.6 Dropout Prevention**

GSBA supports the development of local dropout prevention programs with state and federal assistance based on a uniform definition of dropout. GSBA further supports providing a mechanism for students to be considered graduates who earn both a GED and a workforce development skills certificate (such students are currently considered dropouts.)

### **3.B.7 Special Education Students and Graduation Rate**

GSBA encourages the Governor, Legislature and State Department of Education to adjust graduation criteria so that special education students who receive a certificate of completion will not count against Georgia's graduation rate.

### **3.B.8 High School Diplomas**

GSBA encourages the Georgia Department of Education to consider offering three high school diploma options: college prep, CTAE and special education.

### **3.B.9 Assessments Aligned to Standards**

GSBA encourages the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to develop assessments aligned to standards, as opposed to a grade-level or state defined course and provide systems the flexibility to administer those assessments if students are ready prior to the spring of each school year.

### **3.B.10 Limit Number of Assessments**

GSBA urges the state to review current student assessment requirements and to limit the number of assessments to those that are essential to monitor student learning and inform instruction.

### **3.B.11 Align Assessments with Move On When Ready**

GSBA supports the concept of giving school districts the choice of assessing students at the grade level, content area, or course for which they are taught. Middle school students taking high school courses could be assessed solely on the high school courses to eliminate double testing. Elementary and middle school students working above grade level in a content area could take the content test for the grade level they are taught to eliminate double testing.

### **3.B.12 Multiple Administrations of Assessments**

GSBA encourages the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to allow school systems the flexibility to administer the Georgia Milestones End of Grade tests multiple times during the school year in addition to the traditional spring and retest opportunities. The practice currently exists with Georgia Milestones End of Course tests. This flexibility allows students to take the tests as they complete the course content.

### **3.B.13 Career, Technical and Agricultural Education**

GSBA opposes programmatic transfer of the Career, Technical and Agricultural Education programs from the State Board of Education to the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia.

### **3.B.14 - Proposed Addition – Clarke County**

**GSBA urges the state legislature to make significant contributions to the need-based financial aid program created in 2018 by the General Assembly through House Bill 787. GSBA urges the state legislature to increase funding for the HOPE Grant Program to cover full tuition for students in the Technical College System of Georgia.**

#### **Rationale:**

**Georgia does not have a funded, comprehensive need-based financial aid program. The HOPE Scholarship and the Zell Miller Scholarship, the state’s most prominent aid programs, serve about 36 percent of students in the University System of Georgia and 8 percent of associate degree students in the technical college system. Economically disadvantaged students and students of color are even less likely to receive a scholarship. The HOPE Grant, which provides aid to certificate and diploma students in technical colleges, no longer covers full tuition. The limited reach of these programs prevents many students from entering and completing postsecondary programs.**

## **C. Non-traditional Schools**

### **3.C.1 Charter Schools**

The Georgia School Boards Association supports the concept of publicly funded charter schools that provide innovative, quality programming provided they are formed with the approval of local boards of education and are under the governance of those local school boards.

### **3.C.2 Non Public School Students - Access to Activities**

GSBA opposes legislation or any State Board of Education rule which mandates access to a public school program, activity, facility, or funding by students not enrolled in that school.

### **3.C.3 Alternative School Programs**

GSBA supports the continuing emphasis on and support for program improvement for students needing alternative schools, including expanding the programs to provide behavioral modification for elementary school students exhibiting disruptive behavior tendencies.

## ***IV. FEDERAL ISSUES***

### **4.1 Educational Program Funding**

GSBA supports efforts of the Georgia Board of Education and the State Department of Education in maintaining a strong working relationship with the U.S. Department of Education

### **4.2 Flexibility in the Use of Federal Funds**

GSBA recommends that state statutes and the Georgia Department of Education's rules and regulations governing the use of federal funds, not be stricter than federal guidelines.

### **4.3 Special Education Funding**

Fully fund Special Education at the 40% level as mandated by federal law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### **4.4 Eliminate Unnecessary Mandates and Regulations**

GSBA urges Congress to reduce unnecessary mandates and regulations on schools.

### **4.5 Support Public Education, Not Tax-Funded Vouchers**

GSBA urges Congress to reject vouchers and support legislation that improves public schools.

### **4.6 Fair Share from Federal Government In Place of Ad Valorem Taxes**

GSBA supports legislation that will require the federal government to pay its fair share in the place of ad valorem taxes for land owned by the government.

**2019**  
**GSBA Governmental Operations Committee**  
**Members**

Lamar Allen, Effingham County Schools  
Bruce Asberry, Vidalia City Schools  
Jimmy Atkins, Richmond County Schools  
Ginger Bailey, Jones County Schools  
Elaina Beeman, Rome City Schools  
Sue Brown, Coweta County Schools  
Timothy Burgess, Oconee County Schools  
Greg Davis, Clarke County Schools  
Theresa Davis, Ben Hill City Schools  
Heather Duncan, Rockdale County Schools  
Garrett Goebel, City Schools of Decatur  
Jessie Goree, Clayton County Schools  
Frank Griffin, Lee County Schools  
Teresa Harris, Grady County Schools  
Shakila Henderson-Baker, Newton County Schools  
Trudie Hill, Colquitt County Schools  
Ronald Hopkins, Jefferson City Schools  
Patricia Hugley Green, Muscogee County Schools  
Warren Lee, Valdosta City Schools  
Kristin Morrissey, Forsyth County Schools  
Mary Kay Murphy, Gwinnett County Schools  
Bryan Preston, Coffee County Schools  
Billy Shirah, Quitman County Schools  
Virginia Swint, Marion County Schools  
Gwendolyn Tucker, Warren County Schools  
Elaine Wilson, Dawson County Schools  
Fred Wilson, Houston County Schools

**GEORGIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION  
2019 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 25, 2019**

MINUTES

Chairman Tom Odom called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The following members were present and constituted a quorum:

Tom Odom, Chair, Member of Oconee County Board of Education  
Lamar Allen, District 1, Effingham County Board of Education  
Teresa Gee Hardy, District 2, Grady County Board of Education  
Ginger Swint, District 3, Marion County Board of Education  
Almond Turner, District 4, Newton County Board of Education  
Mary Kay Murphy, District 5, Gwinnett County Board of Education  
Michelle Simmons, District 6, Douglas County Board of Education  
Faith Collins, District 7, Rome City Board of Education  
Adam Lott, District 8, Coffee County Board of Education  
Elaine Wilson, District 9, Dawson County Board of Education  
Gwen Tucker, District 10, Warren County Board of Education  
Guy Dean Benson, District 11, Jefferson City Board of Education  
Fred Wilson, District 12, Houston County Board of Education  
Cornelius Ball, District 14, Turner County Board of Education

**Not Present**

Shirley Brooks, District 13, Ben Hill County Board of Education

***Staff Present***

Nancy McLellan, GSBA Administrative Assistant

Mr. Odom explained the task of the committee and reviewed the bylaws and policies concerning the Nominating Committee's role. He also reviewed the Civility in the Nominating process with the group. The committee discussed the list of questions to be posed to the candidates. Mr. Odom assigned questions to the committee members.

Interviews took place for the following positions:

President Elect

Vice President

The committee voted by verbally for the office of GSBA President Elect and selected Patricia Hugley Green for the term July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. If elected by the 2019 Delegate Assembly for this office, she will automatically assume the office of the President for the term July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

The committee voted via secret ballot for the office of Vice President and could not reach a majority decision. The committee then held a conference call to recommend Bryan Preston, Coffee County as GSBA Vice President for the term July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

These candidates will be presented by the Nominating Committee to the 2019 Delegate Assembly on June 7, 2019 in Savannah, Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Minutes taken by Nancy McLellan, GSBA Administrative Assistant

Minutes edited by Valarie Wilson, GSBA Executive Director

### **2019 GSBA Nominating Committee Members**

Tom Odom	Oconee County Schools	Chair
Lamar Allen	Effingham County Schools	District 1
Teresa Hardy	Grady County Schools	District 2
Virginia Swint	Marion County Schools	District 3
Almond Turner	Newton County Schools	District 4
Julia Bernath	Fulton County Schools	District 5
Michelle Simmons	Douglas County Schools	District 6
Faith Collins	Rome City Schools	District 7
Adam Lott	Coffee County Schools	District 8
Elaine Wilson	Dawson County Schools	District 9
Gwen Tucker	Warren County Schools	District 10
Guy Dean Benson	Jefferson City Schools	District 11
Fred Wilson	Houston County Schools	District 12
Shirley Brooks	Ben Hill County Schools	District 13
Cornelius Ball	Turner County Schools	District 14

**Georgia School Boards Association**  
**2019-2020**  
**Nominees for Officers**

**President**

**Frank Griffin** has served as a school board member of Lee County for 13 years. He has served as a Director, the Executive Vice President and the Chief Lending Officer for the Flint Community Bank in Albany, GA, since it was organized in 2006. A lifelong resident of Lee County and a graduate of the Lee County School System, Mr. Griffin is extremely proud to be part of the Lee County School System and that all three of his children are in the Lee County School System. In addition to the LCBOE, he currently serves as Trustee of the Darton College Foundation.

**President Elect**

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

**Vice President**

**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 of 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.

**Board of Directors**  
**Term of Service: FY July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022**  
**Elected at District Meetings**

**District 10**

***Jimmy Atkins, Jr.*** – District 10 Director, has served on the Richmond County Board of Education since 2005. During this time, he has served as President, Vice President and Chair of the Building/Finance Committee. He has served as the system’s Delegate for the GSBA Delegate Assembly and the NSBA Advocacy Institute (formerly the Federal Relations Network). Active in the community, Atkins serves on the board of the Boys & Girls Club and the East Central Georgia Board of Health. He is a former board member of Augusta South YMCA, the Master City Little League, Liaison to City Planning & Zoning, Liaison to the Advisory Board, RCSS PTA Member, Richmond County Citizens for Good Government, a Mason and a Shriner.

**District 11**

***Rebecca Soto*** – District 11 Director, has served on the Oglethorpe County Board of Education since 2015. She has served as Chair for three years. During her time as a BOE member, she has had the opportunity to work with PAGE on their “True Accountability” measure and travel to other parts of the state and to Texas working with other BOE members. Soto is a banker and has worked at Oconee State Bank in Watkinsville for approximately 16 years and has a strong background in finance. Born and raised in Oglethorpe County and proud graduate of its school system, she is active in her community. Soto serves as advisor on the Oconee County Extension Service FACS board, an active member of the Oglethorpe County Athletic Booster Club and recent graduate of Leadership Oglethorpe.

**District 12**

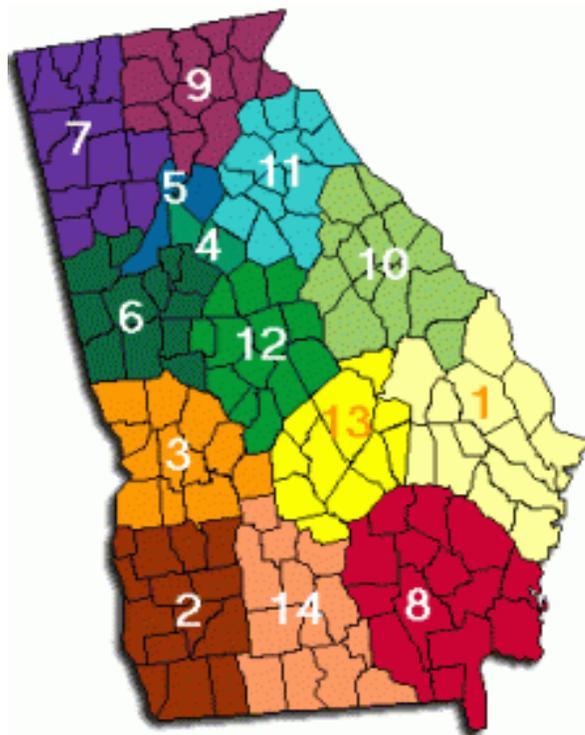
***Teresa Blackshear*** – District 12 Director, has served on the Twiggs County Board of Education since 2009. She has served as Vice Chair of the board for almost eight years, and has served as her systems delegate for the GSBA Delegate Assembly. Blackshear is an advocate for students and firmly believes that all children deserve access to a quality education. She remains committed to improving student test scores and exploring creative ways to help students learn and retain information. Blackshear is an active member of Danville Baptist Church. Her list of accomplishments includes Danville Community Fair Outreach (member), Relay for Live (2007 and 2009) and Twiggs County Leadership (2008).

**District 14**

***Cornelius Ball*** - District 14 Director, has served on the Turner County Board of Education since 2012. He is the current Vice Chair of the Board. He also serves on the GSBA Rural Education Task Force. He has a passionate drive to see school systems in South Georgia thrive. Ball has worked in both the private and public sectors in technology and process improvements.

***District 13 Meeting will take place during the Summer Conference in Savannah.***

# GSBA Districts



## Georgia School Boards Association 2018-2019 Officers

President: *Katrina Young, Rockdale County*  
President Elect: *Frank Griffin, Lee County*  
Vice President: *Pat Hugley Green, Muscogee*  
Treasurer: *Ronnie Hopkins, Jefferson City*  
Past President(s): *Tom Odom, Oconee County*  
Ex Officio Secretary: *Valarie Wilson*

## 2018-2019 District Directors

District 1: *Lamar Allen, Effingham County*  
District 2: *Teresa Harris, Grady County*  
District 3: *Kia Chambers, Muscogee County*  
District 4: *Shakila Henderson-Baker, Rockdale County*  
District 5: *Dr. Mary Kay Murphy, Gwinnett County*  
District 6: *Sue Brown, Coweta County*  
District 7: *Elaina Beeman, Rome City Schools*  
District 8: *Bryan Preston, Coffee County*  
District 9: *Elaine Wilson, Dawson County*  
District 10: *Gwen Tucker, Warren County*  
District 11: *Tom Odom, Oconee County*  
District 12: *Fred Wilson, Houston County*  
District 13: *Theresa Davis, Ben Hill County*  
District 14: *Warren Lee, Valdosta City*

## Staff

Director of Board Development: *Tony Arasi*

Risk Management Administrative Assistant:

*Mary Bailey*

Legislative Services Associate: *Scott Bierman*

Member Advocate: *Ricky Brantley*

Director of Finance: *Charlton Calhoun*

EBS Executive Assistant: *Kate Cammack*

EBS Customer Support Representative:

*Heather Chappel*

Director of Risk Management: *Cliff Cole*

Safety & Risk Control Coordinator: *David*

*Colvard*

Systems Architect Manager: *Tim Covert*

Member Engagement Specialist: *Leigh Crow*

Staff Assistant: *Donna Davis*

Director of GA Vision Project: *Stanley DeJarnett*

EBS Administrative Assistant: *Jeanne Fraizer*

Business Opportunities Manager: *Pam Harrison*

Board Member Mentor: *Sis Henry*

Staff Accountant: *Alicia Hernandez*

Risk Management Consultant: *Cliff Hood*

Strategic Planning Services & Vision Project

Manager: *Lynita Jackson*

Staff Assistant: *Charlene James-Mobley*

Communications Specialist: *Bridgett J. Johnson*

Member Advocate: *Mickey Key*

Director of Superintendent Searches: *Samuel*

*King*

Staff Accountant: *Kari Lewallen*

EBS Customer Support Representative:

*Nancy McGinnis*

EBS Training & Support Manager: *Sandra*

*McGuire*

Executive Assistant: *Nancy McLellan*

EBS Customer Support Representative: *Ashley*

*Mosby*

Director of Policy and Legislative Services:

*Angela Palm*

Director of Communications: *Justin Pauly*

Claims Examiner: *Christine Penrod*

Direct of Member Engagement: *Julie Rhame*

Business Development Manager: *Charlie Rigby*

EBS Marketing Manager: *Andy Ryff*

Board Development Specialist: *Bill Sampson*

Assistant Director of Risk Management:

*John Shore*

Claims/Risk Information Manager: *Jill Smith*

Member Advocate: *Lori Sours*

Board Member Mentor: *Turdy Sowar*

Policy Research Assistant: *Riquel Stewart*

Video Production Specialist: *Chris Triplett*

Front Office Assistant: *Tonya Tuite*

Policy Coordinator: *Sandy Vanags*

Staff Assistant: *Martha White*

Assistant Executive Director: *Mark Willis*

Staff Assistant: *Rodean Wilson*

Executive Director: *Valarie Wilson*

## Procedure/Form to Submit a New or Amended Legislative Position at the GSBA Delegate Assembly

If you have additional recommendations to the 2019 Proposed GSBA Legislative Positions on pages 7 - 17 of the Delegate Assembly Handbook, please complete a separate form for each recommendation and submit it/them by 12:00 p.m. on June 7, 2019 to a GSBA staff member at the GSBA conference registration desk.

**Need Help?** If you would like assistance in drafting your proposal, or if you just want someone to review it for clarity, GSBA General Counsel will be available to assist you on the morning of June 7. Please request assistance at the GSBA conference registration desk as early as possible in order to allow for adequate consultation before the 12:00 p.m., June 7 deadline.

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is your proposal: **(circle one)**      **NEW**                      **AMENDMENT**                      **DELETION**

If an amendment or a deletion, please indicate the position number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please state your position concisely and clearly below. This is the official wording that will be voted on by the Delegate Assembly. Look at the other proposed positions on pages 7 - 17 to use as a guide in drafting your proposal, e.g., "GSBA supports..." or "GSBA opposes..." or "GSBA recommends", etc.

---

---

---

---

---

Please state the rationale for your position. We highly recommend that you include a rationale as the Delegate Assembly will vote on your proposal based on their clear understanding of its merit and impact. We also recommend that someone be present during the Delegate Assembly who can explain your proposal when it is discussed.

---

---

---

---

Does this proposal have the support of your board? **(circle one)**                      **Yes**                      **No**

School Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

This page intentionally left blank.

