

**Board Highlights**  
**August 14, 2013**

The Gates County Board of Education met to discuss Shared Services as outlined in NC General Statutes 115C and 153A between the County of Gates and the Gates County School Board.

The Gates County Board of Education held a Special Meeting on August 14, 2013 in the Conference Room at the Gates County Board of Education Office at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman G. Douglas Lilley welcomed visitors and staff.

Mr. Ray Felton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Items**

Attendees were invited to take part in a meal provided by the Child Nutrition Department before commencing the discussion.

Dr. Williams began by giving prominence to the fact that Gates County Schools' graduation rate currently tops 90%, which is higher than the North Carolina state average. He emphasized that the attributes to education have an effect on where it all begins, with preschool and continuing on throughout high school. Dr. Williams stated that when students obtain a diploma from Gates County High School they become productive citizens and ultimately add value to the community. He stressed the importance of being innovative and then went on to articulate that to be efficient and productive, we all must share things. With that, Dr. Williams turned the presentation over to the Gates County Manager, Mr. Jon Mendenhall.

Mr. Mendenhall presented a Power Point Presentation and guided everyone through a handout on the Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Gates and the Gates County School Board regarding Shared Services. (Please see the document titled "MOA-Shared Services" on the Gates County Website under "News from the Desk of the Superintendent")

Topics of the presentation included Appendices A through H:

- A. Interoperable Radio System
- B. Sanitary Sewer Function
- C. Solid Waste Function
- D. Information Technology Function
- E. Law Enforcement (School Resource office & Security) Function
- F. Co-Mission Co-Location Function
- G. Consolidated Adult & Youth Programming
- H. Emergency Management Coordination & Cooperation

Much discussion ensued on these Appendices between board members and county commissioners. The many benefits were focused upon pertaining to cost effectiveness, efficiency and safety.

Mr. Mendenhall pointed out that the architecture of the Shared Services Agreement from a County standpoint is set up so it will be dynamic over time. The Appendices can be revised, added to and/or deleted without affecting the structure. He went on to explain how the general fund is under immense pressure and ADM money is in jeopardy as well with regard to the views of Raleigh and the government. Mr. Mendenhall accented that sharing services means leveraging resources. He indicated that Appendices A through H are all operational and support the environment of schools that may be lacking in funding.

**Approval Items**

The Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Gates and the Gates County School Board for the Provision of Shared Services was discussed and the decision was made to implement the agreement.