



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2010**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Ron Margiotta, Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	Don Haydon
Debra Goldman, Vice Chair	Terri Cobb	David Holdzkom
Kevin L. Hill	Danny Barnes	Ann Hooker
Anne McLaurin	Kathy Chontos	Julye Mizelle
Chris Malone	Marvin Connelly	Cathy Moore
Carolyn Morrison	Joe Desormeaux	David Neter
Deborah Prickett	Chuck Dulaney	Andre Smith
John Tedesco	Michael Evans	Mark Winters
Keith Sutton	Stephen Gainey	
	Lloyd Gardner	<u>Board Attorney</u>
	Donna Hargens	Ann Majestic

Chair Ron Margiotta called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair's Comments

- Mr. Margiotta shared that most enjoyed the holiday season and that little was going on at schools in the past few weeks.
- Mr. Margiotta requested that the Board approve two additional Ad Hoc Committees. Both committees will address many concerns of the public.

➤ **Economically Disadvantaged Student Achievement Task Force**

1. The committee will work with the Superintendent and Administrative staff to review and evaluate current Board policies regarding student discipline, suspensions, and recommend changes that will positively impact the learning environment and maximize individual student educational performance.
2. The committee will review the EOG/EOC test scores, specifically the lagging performance of minority and economically disadvantaged subgroups, with the intent of identifying and recommending ways to improve them.
3. The committee will also review WCPSS graduation rates, specifically the performance of minority and economically disadvantaged subgroups, with the intent of identifying and recommending ways to improve such.

The committee will continue their charge until recommendations have been implemented and substantial positive results have been demonstrated. Beyond these, additional charges may be incorporated into the committee.

All Board members assigned to the committee will be named at a later date, volunteers are appreciated.

➤ **Student Assignment Advisory Committee**

1. The committee will be charged to review the present three-year assignment plan that went into effect and to go beyond and look for long-term assignment plans.
2. The committee will interact with the Growth Management staff and will be involved in gathering of information and making recommendations back to the Board.

All Board members assigned to the committee will be named at a later date, volunteers are appreciated. Citizens of Wake County will serve as members of the committee.

Mr. Margiotta reiterated that these committees will not be known as standing committees.

Superintendent's Comments

- Dr. Burns shared that, for the second year in a row, WCPSS had 197 educators earn National Board Certification. WCPSS had 96 elementary school teachers, 48 middle school teachers, 51 high school teachers, and 2 Special Education Services teachers earn National Board Certification this year. The schools that had the largest number of teachers earning National Board Certification include:
 - Green Hope High with 7 teachers,
 - Athens Drive High and Salem Middle with 6 teachers, and
 - Cary High School, Southeast Raleigh High School, Holly Ridge Middle, Cedar Fork Elementary, and Millbrook Elementary with 5 teachers.WCPSS is second in the nation and number one in the state in the total number of teachers who have earned National Board Certification. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards reports that they have certified a total of 1,702 WCPSS teachers, which is an outstanding accomplishment. Dr. Burns congratulated and thanked each of the 197 teachers who recently received certification.
- Heritage Middle School, Davis Drive Middle School, and Middle Creek High School received the Recognized American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Model Program designation. The RAMP designation is awarded to schools that align with the criteria set in the ASCA National Model. These schools were recognized along with 35 other schools from 16 states for making an exemplary commitment to comprehensive school counseling programs. These schools are now among the 250 schools across the nation that received the RAMP designation since the program's inception.
- Tenth grade students at Garner Magnet High School will present the results of their work on the IB Personal Project. The Personal Project is the culmination of the 5-year IB Middle Years Programme. Students investigate a question of their choosing, present the project to a panel of evaluators, and share findings with the school community. Student projects will be displayed at the Personal Project Showcase, an all-day event to be held in the school's media center on January 8th. Parents and the community are welcome to attend.
- Students at Carnage Middle School have recently partnered with the students at North Salem Middle School in North Salem, Massachusetts to assist the students in

- establishing a Botany Club. The students and staff at Carnage have developed outlines, lessons, and various other types of information for the students at North Salem to use. This information has been communicated through online videos, emails, and online conferencing.
- Education summits have recently been used by principals at schools in the Wakefield and Wake Forest communities to bring community leaders together, examine area student needs, and design solutions to meet student needs. In the Wakefield community, five schools have been working together. Leaders from Forest Pines Elementary, North Forest Pines Elementary, Wakefield Elementary, Wakefield Middle, and Wakefield High have held a series of meetings that began in September. Principals from Wake Forest-Rolesville High, Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle, Wake Forest Elementary, Heritage Elementary, Heritage Middle, and Jones Dairy Elementary held their first summit meeting with community leaders in November. Dr. Burns thanked the principals at each of the schools and the community for their commitment to the worthwhile activity.
 - WCPSS Magnet Programs staff is providing information about schools and providing tours for K-8 parents considering elementary or middle school magnet options. Information sessions are scheduled from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5th at Davis Drive Elementary School and Thursday, January 7th at Brassfield Elementary School. All WCPSS magnet middle and elementary schools will be there to answer questions that families may have about their programs. Open House sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, January 19th with school-wide tours at each magnet school starting at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. This opportunity will allow parents to visit and tour magnet schools, getting a first hand look at school locations and facilities, as well as, receive additional information about programs. Magnet school applications may be submitted online from February 1st through February 21st.
 - Eighth grade poets at Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School presented original poems at the 101 Café in downtown Raleigh on Friday, December 11th. Poet-in-Residence, Mimi Herman, worked with the 8th grade language arts classes. Each poem was presented before other students and spectators. The collection of student poetry will be published in a book available for public viewing at the school's media center, the Magnet Resource Center, and other public outlets.
 - Julie Abdella, Coordinating Teacher for Literacy and Cathy Horne, Senior Administrator for K-5 Science, presented at the NC Science Teacher Association State Conference on November 20, 2009. Their session was entitled, "Flip the Script: Integrating Science and Content Writing". Positive outcomes of using science notebooks as pre-writing for an assignment in content writing were described. They also introduced using a flip camera to engage students in revision of their science writing.
 - Sherri Miller, Senior Administrator for Special Education Literacy, recently presented at the North Carolina Exceptional Children's Conference in Greensboro. The topic of the session was "Adolescent Literacy: Wake County's Response."
 - The spirit of the holidays was alive and well in most of the schools. Daniels Middle School donated money and food to the North Raleigh Ministries for distribution. Ligon Middle School collected gently used shoes for families in desperate need, for Shoes-4-Souls, a local non-profit organization. Ligon and West Millbrook students

collected food for the Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina. Centennial Campus Magnet Middle collected canned goods and toiletries for the Urban Ministries. The Carroll Middle School Student Council gathered supplies to help meet the needs of families at the Interfaith Shelter. A group of students from West Lake Middle School hosted a holiday party for children in the Easter Seals UCP Charlie Gaddy Children's Center, a Wake County Developmental Day Care Center. The students planned and supplied the entire party, including planning, snacks, presents, games, and crafts. Dr. Burns shared that while these activities help others, they are also effective tools for teaching students about character education. Dr. Burns congratulated and thanked all of the schools that participated in activities of this nature.

- Three bilingual social workers from Banks Road Elementary, assisted with translations and deliveries for families receiving holiday assistance at Banks Road Elementary School. This was completed on their own time outside of the work day. The program was pulled together by the community churches, the PTA, faculty and community agencies. Through the initiative, 130 students and 53 families received food, clothing, and other items that address basic needs.
- Dr. Burns thanked the many WCPSS volunteers that are in schools everyday. As of December 7, 2009, there are 32,730 total volunteers in the volunteer database. Dr. Burns shared that approximately 20-40 volunteer applications are received each day by the WCPSS Volunteer System. Dr. Burns thanked the community for the valuable support of the teaching and learning that occurs every day in classrooms throughout the district.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Margiotta shared that there was a revision of the December 15th Committee of the Whole Minutes. Mr. Margiotta requested that the Board adopt the revision "*K-8 students*" rather than "*K-7 students*" in the Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes.

Mr. Margiotta requested that Consent Agenda Item Human Resources be adjusted. Human Resources had an adjustment pertaining to the departure of an employee. The item was placed at the Board Table for approval under the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Margiotta added an item to Closed Session from the Board Attorney; to consider confidential student information protected under G.S. 115C-402 and the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g (and) to preserve the attorney-client privilege.

Mr. Margiotta also requested to add the two new Board Ad Hoc Committees to the Action Agenda.

Dr. Burns requested to pull the items related to changes in policies from the Action Agenda. Keith Sutton reiterated and sought clarification that Items 19-52 from the Policy Agenda were being pulled from the agenda.

Deborah Prickett requested to add an item pertaining to Year Round Calendar Choices to the Action Agenda.

Board Members' Comments

Dr. Morrison shared that she saw the movie, The Blind Side during the Christmas break and encouraged Board member to see it. She reflected on how the movie was a great example of what you can do with a student who has lots of parent and school support.

Mr. Tedesco shared that prior to the holidays and since the holidays, he had the opportunity to visit some schools. Mr. Tedesco thanked the staff at Sanderson for sharing their PLT time with him. He also thanked Garner High School for sharing time with him as well. Mr. Tedesco thanked the parents and community for sharing time with him at Combs Elementary on Monday, January 4, 2010. He has enjoyed all of his experiences.

Dr. McLaurin reminded students and parents that if they are sick, to please stay at home. While attendance is important, it is also important to stay at home if you are not well.

Deborah Prickett made a motion to add the following resolution to the Action Agenda: *"We strongly oppose the mandatory assignments of students to year-round calendar schools and support calendar choice for all families. Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, there will be no mandatory year-round assignments. Every effort will be made to accommodate families into the calendar of their choice, whether it is year-round or traditional, at a school within proximity of their residence. We will no longer deny calendar applications based on socio-economic status. We will use each and every seat efficiently."* The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman.

The Board made a Roll Call vote to add the resolution to the Action Agenda. The roll call was as follows: Anne McLaurin voted "no", John Tedesco voted "no", Kevin L. Hill voted "no", Debra Goldman voted "yes", Chris Malone voted "yes", Deborah Prickett voted "yes", Keith Sutton voted "no", and Carolyn Morrison voted "no". Chairman Ron Margiotta requested a tally of the votes and voted "yes".

Keith Sutton made a motion to adopt the Amended Agenda with corrections. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion to adopt the Amended Agenda was unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION

6. 2008-2009 SCHOOL RECYCLING AWARDS

The Feed-The-Bin School Recycling Program is funded by Wake County, and conducted in partnership with the Wake County Public School System. The principle objective of the Program is to create new generations of life-long recyclers by working with elementary, middle, and high school students throughout the year to promote the environmental and financial benefits associated with diverting wastes from the landfill through recycling. In March 2009, the Feed-The-Bin Program received the American Forest and Paper Associations School Recycling Award. This award is a highly coveted honor, and the Feed-The-Bin Program was selected from 120 applicants across 36 states. Currently, the program is promoted and maintained in 157 schools. Each year Feed-The-Bin Program staff recognize schools that demonstrated outstanding paper recycling performance. The 2008-09 award recipients are as follows: Highest Total Pounds of Recycled Paper: Leesville Rd. High School (28,141 pounds). Highest Pounds of Recycled Paper per Student: Partnership Elementary School (26.8 pounds per student). Largest

Increase in Paper Recycling (from the previous school year): Morrisville Elementary School (from 2,556 pounds to 6,586 pounds). Outstanding Recycling Coordinator: Anita Hynus, Musical Arts Teacher/Junior National Honors Society Coordinator, Martin Middle School. Fiscal implications: None. Recommendation for action: For information only.

Don Haydon shared that in 2004, Wake County and the Wake County Public School System entered into a partnership focused on recycling called Feed-the-Bin. The collaborative effort is focused not only on the collection and recycling of paper in the schools, but also on educating students about the values of recycling. What began as a pilot program in 25 schools has been expanded to 157 schools.

Sneha Atwal, the Director of the Environmental Health and Safety Department shared that her department provides services and manages programs that ensure that the school district is in compliance with environmental regulations and that it maintains a high level of commitment to preserving natural resources.

A few years ago, the county formalized the Environmental Stewardship Program which addresses the county's conservation efforts in three areas; land, air, and water. Programs are developed in each of the areas to educate and engage students and staff in the action of better utilizing natural resources.

Wake County Feed-the-Bin Staff shared highlights of the program and recognized success stories of 2009 with Board members. Wake County Staff members included Rebecca Dunston, Chrissie Koroivui, and Liani Yirka. Brent Henry with Cooperative Extension presented the following awards:

- Highest Total Pounds of Recycled Paper: Leesville Road High School (28,141 pounds)
- Highest Pounds of Recycled Paper per student: Partnership Elementary School (26.8 pounds per student)
- Largest Increase in Paper Recycling (from the previous school year): Morrisville Elementary School (from 2,556 pounds to 6,586 pounds)
- Outstanding Recycling Coordinator: Anita Hynus, Musical Arts Teacher/ Junior National Honors Society Coordinator, Martin Middle School.

Mr. Henry thanked that school staff, students, and the Board of Education.

7. MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

Board Policy 7260 addresses Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Participation in Construction Contracts. This policy requires staff to actively seek and identify MBEs and to monitor participation in the school system's construction contracting program. The goal established by the Board is 10% participation. The Facilities Design and Construction Department exceeds this goal. Staff will recognize three Construction Management firms that have contributed to exceeding the goal for minority and women owned construction firms. Barnhill Contracting Company will be recognized for its 39% MBE participation effort at River Bend Elementary, Balfour Beatty Construction for 38% at Cary High, and Clancy & Theys Construction Company for 28% at Herbert

Akins Road Elementary. Fiscal implications: None. Recommendation for action: For information only.

Don Haydon shared that Board Policy 7260 addresses Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation in construction contracts and states that Board Policy is to provide MBEs equal opportunity to participate in the construction program. To prohibit discrimination in contracting in concert with other agencies to seek qualified MBE firms and offer them the opportunity to participate. To not provide information to MBE firms that is not available to other firms. To not increase the cost of construction, and to establish a goal of 10% MBE participation in construction projects.

Minority Business Enterprise Program Coordinator Tammie Hall, shared that the MBE Program has worked closely with the county's construction manager firms to ensure equal access to opportunity with construction projects. Ms. Hall shared that in general the county's construction manager projects to date have garnered final participation by MBE firms of 17% and above.

Ms. Hall provided special recognition to construction manager firms that have exceeded the goal with 25% participation and above. Firms included, Balfour Beatty Construction Company who completed Cary High School with 38% participation rate; Barnhill Contracting Company who completed River Bend Elementary School with 39% participation rate; Clancy and Theys Construction Company who completed Herbert Akins Elementary School with 28% participation rate.

Ms. Hall recognized those that have partnered with the county and they include, North Carolina Historically Underutilized Business Office, North Carolina MWBE Coordinators Network, and the United Minority Contractors of North Carolina.

Ms. Hall announced that on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. at Southeast Raleigh High School the Annual MWBE Expo will be held. Mr. Margiotta thanked Ms. Hall for what has been accomplished.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT – 4 P.M.

Citizens who signed up to address the board during public comment will be called on in priority order first for items on the agenda and then for items not on the agenda. Each individual speaker will be allowed three minutes for remarks. Issues or concerns involving personnel matters are not appropriate for this public comment setting. After 30 minutes of public comment, any speakers remaining will be recognized at the end of the agenda for their comments.

- **Anne Sherron**– Ms. Sherron shared several questions regarding the contract for Special Legal Interim Counsel, Thomas Farr for legal services. Ms. Sherron shared questions regarding the proposed resolution on calendar choices Ms. Sherron asked the Board what would be the impact on facilities and transportation if the Board voted on the resolution. Ms. Sherron urged the Board to table the resolution until full research has been completed.
- **Patricia Pilarinos**– Ms. Pilarinos shared her thoughts regarding spending \$50,000 of scarce taxpayer resources. Ms. Pilarinos shared that this is not the highest and best

use of taxpayer dollars. Ms. Pilarinos requested that the Board make better and wiser use of taxpayer dollars and invest, as promised, in the children, not in legal money pits.

- **Duncan Munn** – Mr. Munn shared that the Wake County taxpayers can not be assured that the very limited resources are being utilized in the most effective way when the Board does not utilize a public bidding process for securing legal services. Mr. Munn shared that there is no substitute for an open public process for keeping the customers (citizens) of Wake County informed about the products and services that customers are paying for. Mr. Munn shared that the purchase of legal services is one of the first substantive decisions to be made by the Board. Acting in this manner sets a bad precedent and will ultimately hurt its credibility and support of future actions.
- **Perry Woods** – Mr. Woods shared that he is confident that the Board's predecessors before the last bond was passed made a fiscal decision of making schools year-round. Mr. Woods shared that there are costs associated with ending mandatory year-round assignments. Mr. Woods shared that it would be irresponsible to pass the resolution without defining the cost to the public prior to adoption. Mr. Woods encouraged the Board that before they rush into a major policy change, that the Board explore the costs and inform the public.
- **Rhonda Curtright** – Ms. Curtright shared that four-track year round better utilizes space and saves multi-millions of dollars on construction, land purchases, and operating costs. Ms. Curtright requested that the Board be fiscally responsible by getting the most education for every dollar and representing the interest of taxpayers and all citizens of Wake County.
- **Lisa Boneham** – Ms. Boneham congratulated the new board members who ran on the platform of family-friendly policies. Ms. Boneham shared her feelings regarding the conversions of the Leesville campus schools, which was against the wishes of the community. Ms. Boneham shared that she would love to have the Leesville campuses operating on a traditional calendar so that all families can have calendar continuity to have more family time together.
- **Vann Langston** – Mr. Langston spoke to the Board on behalf of the original Board of the High Five Regional Partnership for High School Excellence. Mr. Langston went on to share that High Five is a five year organization that was founded in 2004 as a public-private collaborative funded at the \$2.5 million level by Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC Foundation, Capitol Broadcasting/Fletcher Foundation, the News and Observer, Progress Energy Foundation, and SAS; other partners include five Triangle school systems: Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools, Durham Public Schools, Johnston County Schools, Orange County Schools, and Wake County Public Schools. Mr. Langston shared that the Board of High Five focused on the serious problem of too many children failing to graduate and that the Triangle schools needed to become more competitive on the world stage. Mr. Langston shared that in order to change how well schools worked for children, High Five determined that developing professional learning communities in all schools was to be the key strategy. Mr. Langston shared that over the past 5 years, High Five trained over 13,000 teachers, administrators, and school board members in an effort to build capacity in the five school districts and their communities to better serve all the children. Mr. Langston shared that the Board of Directors recognizes that the

implementation of PLTs needs further discussion across the county and offered to continue the discussion with the Board at a later time.

- **Russell Capps** – Mr. Capps shared his support of the new Board. Mr. Capps shared that he sees evidence that the new Board is doing what they said that they would do. Mr. Capps shared his support of freedom of choice when it comes to attending a year-round school. Mr. Capps urged the Board to stand firmly for things they believe in and promised the people. Mr. Capps asked for all individuals to treat each other with respect and decorum.
- **Larry Schug** - Mr. Schug congratulated the new Board members. Mr. Schug shared his concerns of helping students who need academic support and spending money in the correct places not in busing students, but in hiring teachers. Mr. Schug shared that the Board should be held responsible for what goes on from this day forward and shared his thoughts on how taxpayer money is being spent.
- **Donna Williams** – Ms. Williams requested that the Board look at the human side of busing. Ms. Williams shared her concerns of family members who are unable to support their students who attend a school far from home. Ms. Williams requested that the Board look at the emotional support of children as they go forward.
- **Louise Lee** – Ms. Lee shared that her issue is mandatory year-round (being forced to attend a year-round school), not just year-round schools. Ms. Lee reminded the Board that any information that is received from her, staff, or anyone in the room is being scrutinized, that hidden factors are being looked at, and that the information is researched. Ms. Lee stated that the citizens and parents that were opposed to mandatory year-round were told that the bond was about money for new schools. Ms. Lee shared her concern regarding some minorities being ignored, pushed around, or taken advantage of in regards to mandatory year-rounds. Ms. Lee shared that minorities that were polled in earlier years opposed year-round schools or thought that they should be optional.
- **Ann Overton** – Ms. Overton shared urban examples of the community school concept in which schools partner with different businesses and civic groups to offer a wide range of resources. Ms. Overton stated that she is encouraged that the new school board members are looking at these types of programs which can help close the achievement gap, however, the programs exist in a few schools within cities and usually operate outside of the school system. The initiatives require generous funding and a great deal of financial and administrative planning and infrastructure to start and maintain. Ms. Overton encouraged the Board to look closely at the programs and see how they would best fit in the current system.
- **Carol Vidales** – Ms. Vidales shared concerns regarding diversity and what it means. She stated that diversity is not just the color of your skin. Ms. Vidales shared that as a school system, the focus should be on giving students the best tools to be able to go out and survive in the world and marketplace in life.

The Board reached consensus that the remaining Public Comment Speakers would be heard at the end of the Board Meeting Agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

Keith Sutton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Chris Malone. The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Burns requested to pull Consent Agenda item #15, EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES PRESCRIPTIVE INSTRUCTION READING AND MATHEMATICS SOFTWARE LICENSES and place it on the next agenda as an Action Item for Board Members to hear information. The Board reached consensus and the item was pulled.

9. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2009	-	Committee of the Whole Minutes
December 15, 2009	-	Closed Session Meeting Minutes

FINANCE

10. AUTHORIZATION FORMS

These authorization forms designate the persons authorized to sign vouchers for the payment of money on behalf of Wake County Public Schools. Fiscal Implications: These authorization forms are required for bank records. Recommendation for Action: Approval of Authorization Forms

FACILITIES

11. RE-APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR LEESVILLE ROAD WIDENING

On December 1, 2009, the Board approved a resolution directing, in part, that any contract previously authorized under Policy 8361 by the Board that has not been issued or signed, as of the date of that resolution, must be re-approved by the Board. On October 20, 2009, the Board approved an amendment to the agreement between the City of Raleigh and the Board dated May 1, 2008. This amendment extends the road improvements along Leesville Road from Sycamore Creek to I-540. Currently, the existing agreement states that City Council approval is required for both change orders above \$1,000, and change orders greater than 10% of the total bid cost. This amendment, which was proposed by the City, states that only change orders greater than 10% of the total bid cost require City Council approval. Fiscal implications: None. Recommendation for action: Board approval is requested.

12. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: CARY ELEMENTARY

In August 2003, the Board of Education (“Board”), in exchange for consideration, conveyed 1.9 acres of land to the Town of Cary (“Town”) containing the former Cary Elementary School building, which land is bounded by Dry Avenue and Kildaire Farm Road. The Town has completed and approved plans for the renovation of the former school for use as the Cary Community Arts Center. The renovation design includes expansion of the building toward Board property, which will require several easements, and an encroachment agreement between the Board and Town. During construction, it will be necessary to reroute the carpool drop-off & pick-up route. Board and Town staffs and consultants, together with the Cary Elementary Principal, have collaborated to analyze the impacts to Board property and to the operation of Cary Elementary School, and have identified solutions that will safely minimize adverse impacts and limit liability

to the extent reasonably possible. The terms and conditions of the Interlocal Agreement implement the solutions identified, contain an agreement to negotiate the terms and conditions of the necessary easements and encroachment agreement, and contain an agreement to negotiate a joint use agreement related to shared parking on Board property. Approval of the easements and encroachment agreement are contained in a separate precis on this agenda. Upon completion of construction, in approximately 17 months, the traffic flows will return to current patterns. A copy of the Interlocal Agreement and illustrative map depicting the revised queuing patterns are attached. Fiscal implications: In accordance with the Encroachment Agreement precis on the current agenda, the Board will be compensated \$24,277.50 for the conveyance of the real property interests described hereinabove. Recommendation for action: Board approval is requested.

13. ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT, PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT: CARY ELEMENTARY

In August 2003, the Board of Education (“Board”), in exchange for consideration, conveyed 1.9 acres of land to the Town of Cary (“Town”) containing the former Cary Elementary School building, which land is bounded by Dry Avenue and Kildaire Farm Road. The Town has completed and approved plans for the renovation of the former school for use as the Cary Community Arts Center. The renovation design includes expansion of the building toward Board property, which will require several easements between the Board and Town. The Town desires to obtain from the Board a temporary construction easement affecting an area of 1,894 square feet, a permanent public utility easement affecting an area of 3,752 square feet, and an encroachment agreement affecting an area of 414 square feet. Once construction is completed, the encroachment agreement, public utility easement, and temporary construction agreement will not interfere with the Wake County Public School’s present or future use of the property. A copy of the temporary construction easement, permanent public utility easement, encroachment agreement, and illustrative map depicting the areas in question are attached. Fiscal implications: Board will be compensated \$24,277.50 for the conveyance of the real property interests described hereinabove. Recommendation for action: Board approval is requested.

14. CHANGE ORDER NO. 1: PURCHASE OF 5 MODULAR BUILDINGS

Board approval is requested for Change Order No. 1 to Comark Building Systems, Inc., for their General Construction contract for construction, purchase, and delivery of 5 eight-classroom modular buildings at various locations in Wake County. This change order, a reduction in the amount of \$145,000, is a credit for wall and roofing specification deficiencies. Fiscal implications: \$29,000 will be credited back to the Mobile Classroom Relocation and Leasing project budget and \$116,000 to the 9th Grade Center project budget. Recommendation for action: Board approval is requested.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

15. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES PRESCRIPTIVE INSTRUCTION READING AND MATHEMATICS SOFTWARE LICENSES

Prescriptive Instruction is a web-based elementary reading and mathematics computer resource for use with students in grades 3-5 who are below grade level proficiency. Students complete a short mathematics or reading assessment activity that identifies their

need for further instruction. The program then offers automated individualized instruction, targeting the assessed student needs. Licenses allow access to *Prescriptive Instruction* at home as well as at school. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available in the Disadvantaged Student Support Funding budget in the amount of \$110,775 to pay the cost of 3,500 software licenses. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

16. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Collaboration (#006010): National Science Foundation, Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering / NC State University with Brentwood Elementary School and Athens Drive High School.
- Collaboration (#006110): National Institutes of Health, NIH Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research (RC1) / NC State University with Brentwood Elementary School.
- Entitlement (#006210): US Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Title VIII Impact Aid / Central Services.
- Competitive (#006310): HHGregg, Community Grant Program / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#006410): NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund, A+ Fit School Designation and Grant Initiative / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#006510): General Mills Foundation, Champions for Healthy Kids Grant / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#006610): US Department of Agriculture, NC Department of Public Instruction, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) / Individual Schools.

Fiscal Implications: Any required cash and/or in-kind matching contributions vary by grant program. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

HUMAN RESOURCES

17. RECOMMENDATION FOR EMPLOYEMENT

- a. Professional
- b. Support

ACTION ITEMS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

18. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Competitive (#005410): American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, US Department of Education, NC Department of Public Instruction, Race to the Top / Central Services.

Fiscal Implications: Any required cash and/or in-kind matching contributions vary by grant program. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Dr. Burns shared that the Race to the Top Competitive Grant is applied for by states. It is anticipated that 8-10 states may receive the funding. The state of North Carolina has been working on the grant for some time and at a feverish pace. Dr. Burns shared that Dr. Wright will present information that is not complete because the grant application is not complete. The submission date is January 19, 2010. A component of the application

requires that LEA's of the state, have their Board of Education and the NCAE representative approve the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in the grant.

Dr. Wright shared that all of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants in the education arena have four key reform areas that they focus on. Those areas are; (1) adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace, and compete in the global economy, (2) building data systems that measure student growth and success and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction, (3) recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are most needed, and (4) turning around our lowest achieving schools.

The Race to the Top Grant is being funded by \$4.35 billion from the federal government. Based on population projections, North Carolina is projected to receive between \$200-\$400 million. Dr. Wright shared that LEA's funding is based on Title I formula funding and that Wake County could receive between \$3million - \$4 million (*Whatever award the state receives, they are required to award at least 50% of what they receive to LEA's*). If the state is awarded the grant, the funds that Wake County might receive would be available for a 4-year period.

The one sole funding priority for the Race to the Top application is a comprehensive approach to education reform. The three target areas include, (1) increase student achievement, (2) to decrease achievement gaps across sub groups, and (3) to increase graduation rates and have students prepared to enter the workforce or go on to college.

Dr. Wright shared that there is a competitive preference priority where additional points are awarded for states that choose to participate, where there is an emphasis on the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) curriculum. Dr. Wright shared that there is additional invitational priorities; states that choose to take advantage of the invitational priorities receive no additional points towards the application for potential selection.

Dr. Wright shared that each application is based on 500 points; 485 if applicants choose not to participate in the competitive priority. Dr. Wright stated that 13% of the state's application points come from LEA participation, there is the expectation that all LEA's will want to participate. In order for an LEA to receive funding, the LEA has to be willing to submit to the MOU at the application time.

Applications for phase I are due on January 19, 2010. Dr. Wright shared that if North Carolina is funded in Phase I, funding status should be available during the Spring of 2010.

Dr. Burns provided some clarification of the application process and what has been shared regarding the grant application.

John Tedesco made a motion to approve, seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion to approve the grant was unanimously approved.

The Board recessed at 4:55 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 5:21 p.m.

John Tedesco made a motion to approve and establish two Ad Hoc Committees, the Economically Disadvantaged Student Achievement Task Force and the Student Assignment Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman.

Board members clarified the process of appointing citizens to the newly established Committees and shared comments. The motion to establish the Ad Hoc Committees was unanimously approved.

Deborah Prickett made a motion to approve the following resolution regarding calendar choices, *“We strongly oppose the mandatory assignments of students to year-round calendar schools and support calendar choice for all families. Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, there will be no mandatory year-round assignments. Every effort will be made to accommodate families into the calendar of their choice, whether it is year-round or traditional, at a school within proximity of their residence. We will no longer deny calendar applications based on socio-economic status. We will use each and every seat efficiently.”* The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman.

Mr. Margiotta questioned *“proximity of residence”*. Mrs. Prickett shared that the Board would use the same wording from Board Policy 7125 in regards to proximity.

Mr. Sutton shared concerns regarding the resolution coming before the survey and the processes that the Board put into place regarding data collection. He also shared concerns about the resolution going against current policies regarding assignment. Mrs. Prickett made the following statement, *“Once the results of the parent survey are completed and analyzed, we will better be able to determine the calendar demands of families throughout Wake County and make any necessary adjustments. The survey isn’t to determine if we’re having mandatory year-rounds, but where and how many application year-round schools the communities are requesting for future planning purposes. We’re doing away with mandatory year-rounds as stated in this resolution, and will be bringing back or adding choice.”*

Board members questioned how many seats will be lost with carrying out the resolution and Board members questioned the definition of mandatory year-round in regards to the resolution. Board members also shared comments of parents being given a choice of attending year-round.

The Board took at break at 5:34 p.m. and then decided to go into Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION

Chris Malone made a motion to go into Closed Session at 5:35 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) and 115C-319 and to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the Board in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3). The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion to go into Closed Session was unanimously approved.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:09 p.m.

RECOGNITION

53. SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS – 6 P.M.

Twenty-three students will be recognized as Spotlight on Students award winners. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None.

Karen Hamilton presented 23 students for the Spotlight on Students award. Mr. Margiotta shared that the students serve as role models who have demonstrated outstanding character and are an inspiration to everyone. Mr. Margiotta congratulated all of the students.

The Board recessed at 6:35 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 6:55 p.m.

The Board returned to the discussion of the Resolution for Calendar Choices. Board members expressed their concerns and shared comments regarding the resolution.

It was requested that the superintendent clarify the Wake County Public School System's definition of mandatory year-round. Dr. Burns shared that the word "mandatory" is key and then gave his definition of mandatory year-round, as the county does not have a definition. Dr. Burns shared that his view is the same as "mandatory" traditional assignment. It is an assignment that is made by the Board, whether to one calendar or another, or one school or another.

Board members requested clarification of the sentence, "*We will no longer deny calendar applications based on socio-economic status.*" What it will mean, and if this will lead to "have and have not schools.

Dr. Burns shared that the focus on comparability of schools in terms of socio-economic status in policy 6200 is part of the equation. The application process for year-round schools is one component and the assignment process to year-round schools is another component. Dr. Burns shared that there is an inter-play with the two elements.

Mr. Dulaney shared that, "*the question is not a matter of denying based upon an individual student's socio-economic status, because we don't use individual student data in making any decisions. Staff does give priority in the current selection criteria to nodes or schools that benefit the entire system.*" Several examples were given to the Board. Mr. Dulaney stated that there are issues when people make decisions about calendars. Mr. Dulaney stated that staff does not pre-judge the reasons for individuals making their decisions, nor do they look at individual family characteristics. Mr. Dulaney did note however, that there are priorities in the application process that looks at both the crowding and the percentage of low income families residing in nodes and schools to which the nodes are assigned as decisions are made.

After several comments from Board members regarding calendar choices and the resolution, Chris Malone made a motion to move to the question. The Board voted by Roll Call; Anne McLaurin voted "no", John Tedesco voted "yes", Kevin L. Hill voted "no", Debra Goldman voted "yes", Chris Malone voted "yes", Deborah Prickett voted "yes", Keith Sutton voted "no", Carolyn Morrison voted "no", Chairman Ron

Margiotta voted “yes”. The motion to approve the resolution regarding Calendar Choices was approved.

Debra Goldman made a Parliamentary inquiry regarding staff opening an option period. Dr. Burns stated that implementation of the resolution will require analysis by the staff and that staff will have to address the matter of capacity when it is reached at a school. Dr. Burns requested time for staff to review, but that staff could do it. The Board clarified that the survey will continue to go forward.

Mr. Margiotta asked for clarification as to why #19, Proposed Terms of Engagement as Interim Special Legal Counsel was placed under Policy, which was removed from the Agenda earlier. Mr. Margiotta stated that he would look into calling a Special Meeting to address the Agenda item of the Proposed Terms of engagement of the Interim Special Legal Counsel as his obligation was to bring a contract back to the Board by the January 5th Board Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

HUMAN RESOURCES

54.RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve the following Administrative Appointments:

- (1). Jane Currin, Retiree to Interim Principal at Durant Road Middle School effective January 6, 2010 through February 6, 2010.
- (2). Brian Gwynn, In-School Suspension Coordinator at Dillard Drive Middle School to Assistant Principal at Apex Middle School effective February 1, 2010.
- (3). Betty Liverman, Teacher at Moore Square Middle School to Assistant Principal at Fox Road Elementary School effective January 6, 2010.
- (4). Melissa Thomas, Teacher at Wakefield High School to Assistant Principal at Sanderson High School effective January 16, 2010.

The motion was seconded by Keith Sutton. The motion to approve the Administrative Appointments was unanimously approved.

Deborah Prickett made a motion to add #19, Proposed Terms of Engagement as Interim Special Legal Counsel back to the Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The vote was taken by Roll Call. The Roll Call was as follows: Carolyn Morrison voted “no”, Keith Sutton voted “yes”, Deborah Prickett voted “yes”, Chris Malone voted “yes”, Debra Goldman voted “yes”, Kevin L. Hill voted “no”, John Tedesco voted “yes”, and Anne McLaurin voted “no”. The motion to add #19, Proposed Terms of Engagement as Interim Special Legal Counsel failed to pass.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Jill Ray** - Ms. Ray spoke to the Board regarding diversity and shared that the Board should act slowly when it comes to community schools. The Board should widen its perception of community and neighborhood so that every child can be included.
- **Sharon Eckard** – Ms. Eckard shared that she supports magnet programs and firmly believes that the program provides many opportunities. Ms. Eckard stated that successful magnet schools are community schools. Ms. Eckard shared her thoughts

regarding the resolutions that have been passed without any fiscal analysis of their impact to the taxpayer, the details of the new board's concepts, how the concepts will be implemented or funded.

- **Susan Evans** – Ms. Evans pleaded to the Board to be patient and to investigate the whole scenario that's best for Wake County students. Ms. Evans shared her thoughts regarding the decisions that the newly-elected Board members are making currently. Ms. Evans shared that she is very worried about the future of the Wake County Public School System. Ms. Evans requested that the Board do more investigation, to do more thoughtful discussion, and to follow proper procedure.
- **Chris Frey**- Mr. Frey shared his thoughts regarding the resolution being passed. Mr. Frey stated that the resolution was ad hoc, that there was no public notice regarding the resolution until the Board meeting. Mr. Frey requested that the Board not do ad hoc motions and undermine the democratic process.
- **Lettice Rhodes** – Ms. Rhodes shared that dismantling WCPSS diversity policy would cause the schools to re-segregate. Ms. Rhodes shared graduation rates from other urban school districts that use the community schools model throughout the country and stated that Wake County had the highest graduation rate among urban schools districts.
- **Adrienne Lumpkin** – Ms. Lumpkin shared that she is very concerned about the graduation rates that are sited for low-income students and African-American males in particular. Ms. Lumpkin stated that a 57.4% graduation rate for African-American males is unacceptable and must be addressed however, isolating poor and children of color by virtue of their street address is not a formula for success. Ms. Lumpkin shared that academic achievement is just one measure of a school system's success. Ms. Lumpkin stated that we should not seek diversity in our schools for diversity's sake, but because it makes our children more intelligent, empathic, and more employable.
- **Matthew Brown** – Mr. Brown shared that there is a right way and a wrong way to do anything. Mr. Brown said that we cannot afford to tear up what we have until there is something better to take its place. Mr. Brown requested that the Board not do anything that would give satisfaction to those who are expecting the Board to fail.
- **Graeme Peterson** – Mr. Peterson shared that the diversity in schools prepares him for the real world. Mr. Peterson shared that diversity needs to be a major factor in all school assignments. Mr. Peterson shared that in depth discussions are needed as well as feedback in order to make good decisions.
- **Todd Poston** – Mr. Poston shared that he is concerned about the initial dealings of the school board. Mr. Poston shared that policies which under-minds diversity in public education pose real economic risks. He also shared that the Board's decision-making should be based on quantitative financial facts. Mr. Poston requested that the Board use the Wake County Public School staff and other resources available to make fact-based decisions. Mr. Poston requested that the Board perform thoughtful and quantitative due diligence to examine the ramifications of high level statements. He also requested that the Board assess how policy changes will be perceived by the global community.
- **William Griffis, Jr.** – Mr. Griffis shared his concerns about the diversity policy. Mr. Griffis stated that by ending the diversity policy, great programs and bonds will be

broken and disrupted at all schools. Mr. Griffis stressed that schools need diversity to be equal as well as magnet programs.

- **Matthew Overby** – Mr. Overby thanked the new Board members and the chair for hitting the ground running. Mr. Overby stated that it was time to move forward on moving towards a community-based school system, which would strengthen local communities, increase parental involvement, and lower costs.
- **Priscilla Tutu**- Ms. Tutu shared that she is a magnet student at Enloe High School. Ms. Tutu shared Enloe has a certain magnetic pull, a pull that comes with a diverse school. Ms. Tutu shared that diversity was an attraction for her to attend Enloe. Ms. Tutu requested that the Board not limit or deprive schools the opportunity to interact with individuals of diverse mind sets, religion, background, and ethics.
- **Kierra Rush** – Ms. Rush shared that being able to attend Enloe which is a very diverse school has been exposed to a wide variety of classes and people that have helped her become more open-minded. Ms. Rush shared that keeping the diversity policy is one of the most beneficial assets any school can offer to its students. Ms. Rush stated that diversity can help students be more versatile when exploring and choosing career options, preparing for college, and growing into a more well rounded person.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, Chris Malone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Margiotta, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary