

# WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## OPEN MINUTES –BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday, January 6, 2004**

<b>Board Members Present</b>	<b>Staff Members Present</b>	
<i>Susan Parry, Chair</i>	<i>Superintendent McNeal</i>	Jonibel Willis
<i>Patti Head, Vice Chair</i>	Jo Baker	Beverly White
Bill Fletcher	Del Burns	Donna Hargens
Rosa Gill	Luther Cherry	Danny Barnes
Beverley Clark	Cindi Jolly	
Carol Parker	Michael Evans	
Amy White	Donald Haydon	
Ron Margiotta	Ann Hooker	
Kathryn Watson Quigg	Linda Isley	
	Toni Patterson	<b><u>Board Attorney Present</u></b>
	Maurice Boswell	<i>Ann Majestic</i>
	Janice Shearin	
	Julye Mizelle	

*Susan Parry called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.*

### INFORMATION

#### Chairman's Comments

- ❑ *Chairwoman Parry reported on the on-going discussion about the bell schedules. The Board will not be making input from the any changes at this time but will be getting input from the Board Advisory Councils.*

#### Superintendent's Report

- ❑ *Superintendent McNeal announced that as part of the National Safe Schools Grant, the district has produced a half hour special with Carolina News Channel 14 about how the system is working to prevent and respond to violence. The program will air on Channel 14 on Monday, January 12, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, January 14, 8:30 p.m.; Friday, January 16, 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, January 17, 7:00 p.m.*
- ❑ *Dropout rate for Wake County has declined from 1,019 from 2001-2002 to 791 in 2002-2003. The high school dropout rate has declined 3.5% in 2001-2002 to 2.6% in 2002-2003. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the dropout rate has declined.*

#### MAYORS' TASK FORCE PRESENTATION *(Exhibit A)*

*The members of the Mayors' Task Force on School Assignment gave a presentation to the Board of Education. Organized and co-chaired by the mayors of Apex, Cary, and Garner, the Mayors' Task Force on School Assignment was a 33-member citizen group that began meeting monthly in November 2002 to articulate, prioritize, and work with the Wake County Public School System to positively and effectively resolve the most critical school assignment issues. The work of the Task Force has culminated in this final report, which presents specific recommendations to enhance the equality of and maximize the effectiveness of the Wake County Public School System's assignment program.*

#### APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

*Beverley Clark made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to pull from the Action Agenda-Facilities Schematic Design: Martin Middle Addition and Renovations.*

*Patti Head made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add to the Consent Agenda the Approval of Closed Session Minutes as well as approved for the amended December 16, 2003 open meeting minutes.*

*Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the amended meeting agenda, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.*

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

***Cynthia Matson, Member of the Mayors' Task Force and Assignment By Choice President.*** Please accept the recommendations from the members of the Mayors' Task Force on long-term planning in Wake County.

***R. Suresh. Parent/Member Mayor's Task Force.*** Please adopt the recommendations from the members of the Mayor's Task Force.

*At the board's December meeting, the board voted to amend the Healthful Living Education curriculum. This portion of the board's public hearing is to receive public comments on the pros and cons of the amended Healthful Living Education: Encouraging Healthy Choices curriculum.*

*Attached is a list of people that are "In Favor" of the Policy change. [\(Exhibit B\)](#)*

*Lawrence Davis*

*Tracie Griggs*

*Beth Burrus*

*Alder Thorton*

*Tom Vande Guctle*

*Sarah Harden*

*Pam Rigsby (no show)*

*Lynda McConnel (no show)*

*John McConnel (no show)*

*Attached is a list of people that "Opposed" changes to the current Policy. [\(Exhibit C\)](#)*

*Connie Doutho*

*Dev Munn*

*Ian Palmquist*

*Ricardo Perez*

*Gailya Gahr Paliga*

*Kim Hanchett*

*Vicki Gerig*

*Robin Allen*

*Janet Palmquist*

*Lisa Sharp*

*John Sarratt*

*Camille Smith (no show)*

*Erin Tracy*

*Jill Keel*

*Todd Morman*

*Jack McKinney*

*Ruth Bromer*

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

*Rosa Gill made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 16, 2003 – Open Meeting

December 16, 2003 – Open Meeting

May 6, 2003-Closed Session

May 20, 2003-Closed Session

June 3, 2003-Closed Session

June 17, 2003-Closed Session

August 5, 2003-Closed Session

August 19, 2003-Closed Session

September 2, 2003-Closed Session

October 8, 2003-Closed Session

## **FACILITIES**

### **1. RESOLUTION: FUNDING FOR PLAN 2000 SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM**

Resolution requests an appropriation from the restricted fund balance to Apex Elementary in the amount of \$45,556. These are privately contributed funds that were closed into restricted fund balance at fiscal year end June 30, 2003, that must be allocated to the new fiscal year 2003-2004 budget. Fiscal Implications: Total of this appropriation request is \$45,556. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

### **2. RESOLUTION: LEAD MINE ELEMENTARY ROOF REPLACEMENT**

Bids for the roof replacement of all steep slope roof areas at Lead Mine Elementary were received on December 4, 2003. Staff and Rooftop Systems Engineers, P.C. recommend award of the single-prime contract to Metal Roofing Corp. in the amount of \$436,850. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$500,000, of which \$450,000 is from the PLAN 2000 School Building Program, \$50,000 is from PLAN 2000 Deferred Maintenance. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## **PROGRAM**

### **1. GRANT PROPOSALS**

Competitive (#831): Best Buy Children's Foundation, Teach / Wake Forest Rolesville High School. Competitive (#832): State Library of North Carolina, School Library Collection / Fuller Elementary School. Competitive (#833): North Carolina Association of Science Teachers / Fuquay-Varina High School. Competitive (#834): North Carolina Bluebird Society, Inc. / Fuquay-Varina High School. Competitive (#835): North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources / Fuquay-Varina High School. Competitive (#836): Wal-Mart Foundation, Environmental Project / Fuquay-Varina High School. Competitive (#837): Laura Bush Foundation, Literacy / Middle Creek Elementary School. Any required cash and/or in-kind matching contributions vary by grant program. Board approval is requested.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT *(Exhibit D)***

## **ACTION ITEMS**

## **FACILITIES**

### **1. SCHEMATIC DESIGN: CARY HIGH ADDITION AND RENOVATIONS**

Staff will present the schematic design documents prepared by Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee PA for the construction of Cary High addition and renovations. Demolish auditorium. Construct new classroom building, auditorium and support spaces. Renovations and site upgrades. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$21,063,691, of which \$1,276,290 is from the PLAN 2000 start up funds and \$19,787,401 is from the PLAN 2004 School Building. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

*Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.*

## **FINANCE**

### **1. PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES AND ADDITION OF BUS DRIVERS**

To approve purchase of twenty-five school buses and addition of twenty-five bus drivers to accommodate growth and the student assignment plan. A recent assessment revealed the thirty buses already on order for the 2004-2005 school year are insufficient to meet the demands of growth and opening seven new schools. Past fiscal decisions to delay purchase of school buses have created an untenable situation, which must be immediately addressed if students are expected to be transported

safely and on time. Fiscal Implications: A total of \$1,787,643 is required (\$1,575,000 capital outlay and \$212,643 driver cost).

*Kathryn Watson Quigg made a motion to approve, seconded by Amy White. The vote was unanimous.*

**Break 6:20 p.m.**

**Reconvened 6:35 p.m.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS**

*Seventeen students will be recognized as Spotlight on Students award winners.*

*Chelsea Davis, Hodge Road Elementary*

*David Hong, Leesville Road Middle*

*Colin Loftin, Apex Middle*

*Sarah Young, Fuquay-Varina High*

*Katie Bottomley, Combs Elementary*

*Jocelyn Mondaca, Kingswood Elementary*

*Carole Edwards, Middle Creek High*

*Jack Tomick, Weatherstone Elementary*

*Christine A. Corrmier, Pleasant Union Elementary*

*William Stephenson, IV, Wakefield Elementary*

*Katelyn Litalien, Leesville Road High*

*James Hinton, Poe Montessori Elementary*

*Tyler Tankard, Penny Road Elementary*

*Yanery Rogel, Wilburn Elementary*

*Prince Bonsu, Lacy Elementary*

*Kristin D. Wright, Powell Magnet Elementary*

## **PROGRAM**

### **1. POLICY REVISION, SECOND READING**

At the December 16 meeting, a new policy, # 5121, was added to the agenda by a board member and approved for first reading. Subsequently, Policy # 5120 was revised by some board members based on the discussion at the December meeting. This revision is attached and labeled Draft 1. Staff has prepared a separate revision of Policy #5120 (Draft 2) that is intended to address concerns raised by board members and to incorporate state law and SBE Standard Course of Study. The staff revision limits sex education instruction to those topics listed in the SBE “Healthful Living Curriculum.” This change would require modifications to the high school healthful living elective, Healthful Living II, and would move and alter the emphasis of the units on diversity and tolerance in the current 7-9 curriculum. This draft would avoid potential problems in the interpretation and implementation of the December 16 proposed policy and the new Draft 1. Fiscal Implications-None. Recommendation for Action-Staff recommends adoption of Draft 2 of Policy 5120.

- ❑ *Amy White made a motion to accept draft 2 of revised Policy 5120, seconded by Rosa Gill. Ms. White stated that the Board is united on many things. Most important is this Board believes in academic excellence for all students. The Board wants all students to excel and to achieve grade level competencies. Unintended pregnancies or infection with sexually transmitted diseases clearly would be an obstacle in the path towards academic excellence for any student. Premature engagement in any type of sexual behavior can kill. It can kill hopes and it can kill dreams. In previous discussions and again in the discussion today, this Board conveyed its unity behind the abstinence until marriage program a program that is in and of itself comprehensive. The December 16 reading of Policy 5121, were have been made to place the proposed policy under “Healthful Living Education, Policy 5120.” Changes have been made to clarify that when the subject of sexual engagement by students arises in schools, instruction to students shared be consistent with the policy. Ms. White thanked the staff for preparing draft 2 of policy 5120 and more specifically for acknowledging the need to incorporate state law. Draft 2 requires that our students be educated on sex. With this curriculum, the students will a have thorough and comprehensive informative program pertaining to sex education. Current medically accurate information about sexually transmitted diseases and accurate statistics about contraceptives is to*

*be provided. Strategies for dealing with peer pressure and skills for remaining or becoming abstinent are required. This policy addresses WCPSS desire for good goes health and well being of all of our students.*

- ❑ *Ron Margiotta offered a friendly amendment to draft 2. He would like to reinstate the language in paragraph 1, sentence 2, “teaching healthful living,” delete “offering sex education instruction,” and keep “in grades k-12.”*
- ❑ *Rosa Gill didn’t accept Mr. Margiotta’s friendly amendment.*
- ❑ *Mr. Margiotta then made a motion not to approve draft 2.*
- ❑ *Kathryn Watson Quigg addressed the Board with her concerns about this policy change. She believes this issue comes down to Choice. Wake County prides itself on the ability to offer choice for people. We offer magnets that offer leadership skills; magnets that offer opportunities to perfect the creative talents that are God-given, magnets that offer involved technology opportunities as well as academies that offer medical training, construction skills, and schools that offer different calendars. People like to have choices and although everyone doesn’t always get to have their first choice, people still like choices. Offering a comprehensive sex education elective, offered that choice to those who wanted it. This policy eliminates the choice of an elective, which is exactly that, an elective. This course doesn’t infringe on the rights of those who don’t want the course. The AUM curriculum is still adhered to in the Healthy Living courses and parents even have the opportunity to withdraw students from those courses during the few days a year that sex education is taught without any penalty to the child. What was done last year honored all parents and students; those who wanted an AUM curriculum, those who wanted an elective and those who didn’t. What this policy does is push through an agenda that doesn’t honor or respect differences. Ms. Quigg that she supports education not ignorance. To make good decision as an adult, the more education one has on a subject, the better the decision making. This policy promotes ignorance. She is not in support of a policy change.*
- ❑ *Ron Margiotta made a motion to amend the original motion by deleting “offering sex education instruction” to read “when teaching healthful living in grades k-12,” seconded by Patti Head.*
- ❑ *The BOE continued to discuss the wording in draft 2 and the interpretation. Legal counsel, Ann Majestic, clarified that in the Healthful Living Curriculum when teaching sex education, our state DPI and legislation clearly identifies those items in the curriculum that deal with sex education and when teaching those items, this policy would apply.*
- ❑ *After lengthy discussion, the board voted on the amended motion. The vote was 4 to 4 with Susan Parry breaking the tie. Board members “in favor” of this motion were Bill Fletcher, Ron Margiotta, Patti Head, and Amy White; and board members that “opposed” the amended motion were Carol Parker, Kathryn Watson Quigg, Beverley Clark, Rosa Gill, and Susan Parry.*
- ❑ *The original motion was on the table to accept draft 2-Policy 5120 of the Healthful Living Education Curriculum. The vote was 5 to 3 with board members Rosa Gill, Carol Parker, Patti Head, Ron Margiotta, and Bill Fletcher “in favor” of this motion and board members Amy White, Kathryn Watson Quigg, and Beverley Clark “opposed” this motion. Amy White asked that the minutes reflect that she approves and supports draft 2 but wanted the language “teaching healthful living” included in the policy; thus resulting in her “no” vote.*

*Bill Fletcher made a motion to prohibit reconsideration of this issue for a period of 6 months, seconded Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.*

### **CLOSED SESSION**

*Amy White made a motion to go into closed session at 7:40 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 115C-319, seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.*

### **ACTION ITEMS (cont'd.)**

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

#### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS**

*Ron Margiotta made a motion to approve Carla Jernigan, assistant principal at Green Hope High School, to principal at Reedy Creek Middle School, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous.*

*Ron Margiotta made a motion to approve Elaine L. Hanzer, assistant principal at Athens Drive High School, to principal at Wake Forest –Rolesville Middle School, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous.*

*Ron Marigotta made a motion to approve Rodney Stanton, assistant principal at Lincoln Heights Elementary School, to principal at Cary Elementary School, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business, Susan Parry adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

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Elwanda K. Farrow, Recording Secretary

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Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

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Susan Parry, Chair