



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2014**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Christine Kushner, Chair	James G. Merrill, Superintendent	Karen Hamilton
Tom Benton, Vice Chair	Cathy Moore	Mark Winters
Monika Johnson-Hostler	Stella Shelton	Doug Thilman
Kevin L. Hill	David Neter	Edward McFarland
Keith Sutton	Marvin Connelly	Rose Anne Gonzalez
Jim Martin	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	Todd Wirt
Zora Felton	Clinton Robinson	Joe Desormeaux
Susan P. Evans	Jacqueline Ellis	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>
Bill Fletcher	Lloyd Gardner	Jonathan Blumberg
	Andre Smith	

Chairwoman Kushner called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair’s Comments

Chairwoman Kushner wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked staff for all of their hard work under the adverse weather conditions . Chairwoman Kushner presented Keith Sutton with a plaque for his work as the past Board Chairman.

Board Members’ Comments

Individual Board members offered comments related to meeting with the PTA, being happy to hear school choirs on the radio during the holiday season, thanking the Board for the recognition and for the plaque, thanking staff for their hard work in getting students to school safely, thanking Mr. Sutton for his leadership during his tenure as Board Chair, and visiting schools and being energized from the school visits.

Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. Merrill delivered comments related to the New Year and the Board seeing a formal announcement regarding a series of events that will be called the “Superintendent’s Direct Line”; Dr. Merrill will be visiting in five school areas along with other staff in the late afternoon and early evening hours from late January through mid-February. Dr. Merrill will be listening only and wants to hear from employees, parents, members of the business community and anyone who has a stake in the success of the school system. Employees and the public have the opportunity to share their priorities and concerns.

Dr. Merrill shared comments related to the Governor’s Teacher Advisory Committee and three teachers from Wake County being appointed to the committee, Margaret Feldman, Carol Wicker, and Rene Herrick; the committee is made up of 24 teachers from all around the state;

Dr. Merrill shared that spring is typically the season where the District gets into high gear with recruiting; it’s too early to predict accurately what effect North Carolina’s reputation will have on

enticing the best and the brightest to move to Wake County; compared to other North Carolina systems, Wake County is positioned positively however, compensation must still be addressed. Compared to other school systems nationally, the District is nervous about our ability to compete.

Dr. Merrill shared that he looks forward to joining Mr. Hill in a meeting at Meredith College's cohort of Teaching Fellows this week.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda with the following changes (1) pull from the Agenda Item #18 – Offer to Purchase and Contract: Property Near Eastern Wake County (E-46) and Item #19- Resolution: CIP 2013 Appropriation Request for Startup Design, (2) move from Consent to Action Item #10- Construction Manager at Risk Selection and Agreement: E-37 Elementary, Item #11 – Construction Manager At Risk Selection and Agreement: E-38 Elementary, and Item #12 – Construction Manager At Risk Selection and Agreement: M-13 Middle. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Amended Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT. The following persons offered public comments to the Board:

- Larry Nilles
- Cathy King

CONSENT ITEMS

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve the Consent Items. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

ACTION ITEMS

15. NAME FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN CARY (H-7)

Betty Parker, Director of Planning and Construction reviewed the following names that were proposed at the Facilities Committee Meeting on December 11, 2013, (1) Green Level High, (2) White Oak High, (3) Roberts Road High, (4) Southwest Cary High, and (5) Anderson Ridge High. The Facilities Committee considered the naming options and voted to recommend Green Level High School to the Board for approval. Susan P. Evans made a motion to approve Green Level High School as the name for the new high school in Cary (H-7). The motion was seconded by Bill Fletcher. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

16. NAME FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL IN NORTHWESTERN RALEIGH (M-8)

Betty Parker, Director of Planning and Construction reviewed the following names that were proposed at the Facilities Committee Meeting on December 11, 2013, (1) Pine Hollow Middle, (2) Sycamore Creek Middle, (3) Bartram Place Middle, (4) North Leesville Middle, and (5) Sorrells Ridge Middle. The Facilities Committee considered the naming options and voted to recommend Pine Hollow Middle to the Board for approval. Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve Pine Hollow Middle School as the name for the new middle school in Northwestern Raleigh (M-8). The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

10. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SELECTION AND AGREEMENT: E-37 ELEMENTARY

Joe Desormeaux, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities shared that pursuant to the professional services selection procedures (Policy 7265), Clancy and Theys Construction is recommended for construction of the E-37 elementary school. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board Attorney. Funding, in the amount of \$700,000, has been requested from the Wake County Board of Commissioners. The project budget includes pre-construction compensation for the Construction Manager of \$75,000. The contract only authorizes the pre-construction work. Funding from CIP 2013 will be needed to fund the construction. Staff shared that there will be a savings of approximately \$350,000 in overhead expenses. Staff requested approval contingent upon appropriation of funding by the Board of Commissioners. Keith Sutton made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

11. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SELECTION AND AGREEMENT: E-38 ELEMENTARY

Joe Desormeaux, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities shared that pursuant to the professional services selection procedures (Policy 7265), Metcon Construction Inc. is recommended for construction of the E-38 elementary school. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. Funding, in the amount of \$700,000, has been requested from the Wake County Board of Commissioners. The total project budget includes pre-construction compensation for the Construction Manager of \$75,000. The contract only authorizes the pre-construction work. Funding from CIP 2013 will be needed to fund construction. Staff shared that there will be a savings of approximately \$350,000 in overhead expenses. Staff requested approval contingent upon appropriation of funding by the Board of Commissioners. Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

12. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SELECTION AND AGREEMENT: M-13 MIDDLE

Joe Desormeaux, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities shared that pursuant to the professional services selection procedures (Policy 7265), Barnhill Contracting Company is recommended for construction of the M-13 middle school. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. Funding, in the amount of \$1,000,000, has been requested from the Wake County Board of Commissioners. The project budget includes pre-construction compensation for the Construction Manager of \$125,000. The contract only authorizes the pre construction work. Funding from CIP 2013 will be needed to fund construction. Staff shared that there will be a savings of approximately \$900,000 in overhead expenses. Staff requested approval contingent upon appropriation of funding by the Board of Commissioners. Keith Sutton made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Bill Fletcher. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

CLOSED SESSION

Keith Sutton made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:27p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) and 115C-319, to consider confidential student information protected under G.S. 115C-402 and the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve

the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3), and to establish or give instructions concerning the Board's negotiating position related to a potential acquisition of real property, as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5). The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:21 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

HUMAN RESOURCES

17. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Doug Thilman, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented the personnel report. Tom Benton made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Bill Fletcher and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, Kevin L. Hill made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Monika Johnson-Hostler and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Kushner, Board Chair

James G. Merrill, Superintendent

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary