



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2013**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Keith Sutton, Chair	Stephen Gainey, Acting Superintendent	Marvin Connelly
Christine Kushner, Vice Chair	Cris Mulder	Joe Desormeaux
Jim Martin	David Neter	Mark Winters
Debra Goldman	Danny Barnes	
John Tedesco	Rose Anne Gonzalez	
Deborah Prickett	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	
Susan P. Evans	Andre Smith	Board Attorney Present
	Todd Wirt	Jonathan Blumberg

Chairman, Keith Sutton, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair’s Comments

- Chairman Sutton welcomed everyone to the Board’s first meeting of the year 2013.

Superintendent’s Comments

- Dr. Gainey shared that on December 12th, he had the pleasure of attending a Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Education Committee meeting with Chairman Sutton. On that same afternoon, Chairman Sutton and Dr. Gainey met with the Homebuilders Association.
- On December 21st, Dr. Gainey read to a group of students at Farmington Woods Elementary. He thanked Winston Pierce, the principal at Farmington Woods and the students.
- Dr. Gainey congratulated Zebulon Elementary School. On December 19th, there was a surprise event for the school. Zebulon Elementary was recognized as a recipient of the Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation Award that resulted in \$24,000 in musical instruments being donated to the school. The event was sponsored by Fidelity Investments. Ms. Nellie Keeley the Orchestra teacher, Ms. Karen Barnhardt, the Band Director, and the students were very excited when Dr. Gainey received the phone call,
- January is National Mentoring Month. A video showcasing a program at Barwell Elementary School was shown.

Board Members’ Comments

- Dr. Martin shared that the Athens Drive Band Director was selected to represent all of North Carolina this year at the 50th Band Directors That Make a Difference event. Dr. Martin recognized the Student Council at Enloe High School. The school celebrated its 50th Anniversary and set a goal of raising \$50,000 for a charity. The school successfully raised and gave a check of \$50,300 to Interact of Wake County. The conversations that were initiated through this activity were as significant as the dollars raised.

- Ms. Goldman wished everyone a happy new year and welcomed everyone back. Ms. Goldman thanked Dr. Martin for sharing the information regarding the donation to Interact and the work that is done with the agency.
- Mr. Tedesco wished everyone a happy new year. Mr. Tedesco announced that the Garner Education Foundation will have their Annual Cooks for Books event on January 31, 2013 at Garner TV and Appliance and encouraged his colleagues to attend. Mr. Tedesco commended Barwell Road on the presentation that was shared with the Board, when he joined the Board a few years ago, the school was of great concern for him; through great gains and support the school has made great strides. Mr. Tedesco commended the Superintendent and the Board Chairman for responding quickly to the inquiries received about safety to Wake County parents and the public in wake of the tragedy that occurred in Newtown, Connecticut.
- Mrs. Kushner wished everyone a happy new year. Mrs. Kushner thanked David Neter and Terri Kimzey for attending the District 6 Board Advisory Council Meeting in December and sharing information regarding the budget. Mrs. Kushner shared that the Student Achievement Committee would meet on Thursday, January 10th at 12:00 p.m. and invited her colleagues to attend. Mrs. Kushner thanked Lynn Road Elementary for giving her excellent coffee over the Christmas Break. The school held a fundraiser with Jubala Village Coffee. Mrs. Kushner applauded Enloe High School as well as Broughton, Panther Creek and other students from throughout the county that supported the event at Enloe.
- Mrs. Prickett wished everyone a happy new year. Mrs. Prickett shared that she was thrilled to learn about General Tata being selected for such an important position in the Governor's Cabinet, the Secretary of Transportation. Mrs. Prickett shared that his knowledge and experience and broad array of skills will be an asset to the position. Mrs. Prickett shared that General Tata brought great leadership to the school board and came to the school system with fresh, effective initiatives and provided the quality leadership to make things happen. General Tata listened to and valued parents while becoming a household word; he recognized significant gains in student achievement, garnered relationships with businesses, saved teachers' jobs, supported administration and staff members, brought new life to under-enrolled schools, worked with a divided board, and assisted in important legislation that impacted schools statewide, and wisely stretched the school system's very lean budget. Mrs. Prickett shared that Wake County School System's loss is the gain for the State. Mrs. Prickett congratulated Kiernan Shanahan on being selected to work in the Governor's Cabinet as the Secretary for Public Safety. Mrs. Prickett shared that Mr. Shanahan assisted the Wake County School System in many important cases and decisions and represented the Board well. Mr. Shanahan assisted with the re-districting efforts the Board had and many important items through the years. On Saturday, January 5th, Mrs. Prickett attended a fundraiser for homeless veterans. She saw many people in attendance who are great supporters of the Wake County Public School System. General Tata and Kiernan Shanahan were in attendance as well as House Representative Marilyn Avila and Tom Murray, Vice Chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners Phil Matthews, along with Harvey Schmitt of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. The funds that were raised will assist homeless veterans in acquiring future housing.
- Mrs. Evans shared that she enjoyed her holiday break and hoped that all of the staff, teachers, and students did as well. Mrs. Evans acknowledged the 111 Wake County educators who earned their National Board Certification in 2012. WCPSS remains the U.S. district with the most nationally certified teachers; 107 other teachers renewed their

certification. Mrs. Evans shared that in light of the tragedy in Connecticut, that she has heard from a number of families who are rightfully concerned with school safety in the county, and reassured the community that the Board, the Superintendent, and the School System's Security staff considers the safety of the students and school staff an utmost priority. Mrs. Evans thanked Dr. Gainey, Mr. Smith, and their staffs for working very hard behind the scenes for the last several weeks reviewing policies and meeting with principals. Mrs. Evans wanted families to know that it is something that is being very diligently worked on and something that the Board takes very seriously.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Sutton shared that staff requested to remove from the Consent Agenda, Item #11, Facilities, Resolution: CIP 2006 Appropriation and Reallocation Request. With no other changes to the Agenda, John Tedesco made a motion to approve the Amended Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 6 P.M.

Citizens who sign 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.

Kristen Gardner – Miss Gardner shared that she has noticed a trend in the in school suspension policy. Miss Gardner shared that she was disheartened when she learned about the policy at Broughton High School. Miss Gardner feels that it is contradictory towards the message of the school of trying to get as many people to graduate with the system in place; she said that it removes the student's opportunity to be in class and have to opportunity for an education. Miss Gardner proposed for after school detention to be a universal substitute for in school suspension.

INFORMATION ITEM

FACILITIES

6. FEED THE BIN RECYCLING ANNUAL AWARDS

FEED THE BIN is a school recycling program sponsored by Wake County Environmental Services in partnership with the Wake County Public School System. Currently 165 WCPSS schools and eight charter schools participate in the FEED THE BIN program. Since 2004, more than 9 million pounds of paper have been diverted from the Wake County landfill saving approximately 15,000 cubic yards of landfill space. Staff will provide a summary of the program and announce the winners for the 2011-2012 Top Schools in recycling. Award winners will be publicized in an article with the WCPSS e-news editions of School-Community News and The Classroom Connection. Fiscal Implications: This program is funded by Wake County Government Environmental Services. There are no revenues. Savings: Recycling 9.7 million pounds of paper is equivalent to saving: 116,400 trees, 107,541 million BTU's of purchased energy, 27,165,979 pounds of CO₂, 110,839,295 gallons of wastewater, or 15,000 cubic yards of landfill space. Recommendation for Action: None.

Christina Larkins, Conservation Coordinator from the Environmental and Grounds Department presented information to the Board. Ms. Larkins shared that WCPSS partnered with Wake

County Solid Waste Management to present an opportunity for the Wake County students to display their environmental spirit through an educational, student-driven paper recycling program. Since its inception in 2004, the program has proven to be very successful; not only in promoting recycling at school sites, but also educating students about solid waste issues.

Solid Waste's Feed the Bin Recycling Coordinator, Becky Dunston and Solid Waste Director, John Roberson presented the recycling awards for the 2011-2012 school year. Ms. Dunston shared that 165 schools were in the program last year, over 1.4 million pounds were recycled this saved approximately 2,200 cubic yards of landfill space in the county's landfills. Approximately 525 tons of Styrofoam cafeteria trays were recycled as well as 170 tons of cans and bottles were recycled. All high schools combined increased their recycling efforts in paper by 17% from the previous school year. Last year, twenty-two schools participated in the first national K-12 Keep America Beautiful Recyclable Competition that started. Partnership Elementary won a state and county title for recycling last year.

The top paper recycling achievers overall for 2011-2012 were;

- West Lake Elementary for most pounds of paper recycled in an elementary school (17,927 lbs) highest among year-round elementary schools.
- Salem Middle School for most pounds of paper recycled in a middle school (14,121 lbs.) highest among year-round middle schools.
- Millbrook High School for most pounds of paper recycled in a high school (19,665 lbs.) highest recycler of all schools combined.
- Partnership Elementary for the most recycled paper pounds per student (26.4 lbs. per student).
- East Cary Middle School for the most recycled paper pounds per student (14.3 lbs. per student).
- Knightdale High School for the most recycled paper pounds per student (9.6 lbs. per student).

Ms. Dunston thanked the students and the schools for all of their hard work and efforts in saving landfill space.

Chairman Sutton thanked Ms. Dunston and the award recipients for all that they do with the recycling program.

CONSENT ITEMS

John Tedesco made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCE

7. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION APPROVED CONTRACTS

The attached summaries are provided as information in accordance with Board Policy 8361. The summaries list all change orders, and contracts having a value greater than \$50,000 and not over \$100,000 and purchase orders in excess of \$250,000 for November 2012. Fiscal Implications: Not Applicable. Savings: Not Applicable. Recommendation for Action: Not Applicable.

8. GIFTS TO THE SYSTEM

One hundred and sixty nine gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$93,506. Fiscal Implications: Not Applicable. Savings: Not Applicable. Recommendation for Action: No Action is Required.

9. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS, 2012-2013

To report changes in the budget resulting from transactions processed during November, 2012.

Fiscal Implications:

Adjust State Public School Fund	+	\$	746,760
Adjust Local Current Expense Fund	+	\$	64,506
Adjust Federal Grants Fund - State	+	\$	2,166,034
Adjust Capital Outlay Fund	+	\$	0
Adjust Multiple Enterprise Fund	-	\$	73,895
Adjust Direct Grants Fund	+	\$	25,000
Adjust Specific Revenue Fund	+	\$	0

Net Changes + \$ 2,928,405

Savings: Not Applicable. Recommendation for Action: No action. In accordance with Budget Resolution, administration is reporting changes in appropriations.

FACILITIES

10. BIDS: WAKE YOUNG WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AT GOVERNOR MOREHEAD CAMPUS

Bids for the renovation to the Wake Young Women’s Leadership Academy at the Governor Morehead Campus were received on December 6, 2012. Staff and Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee recommend award of the single-prime contract to Harrod & Associates Constructors, Inc., in the amount of \$1,372,500. Savings: Not applicable. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$4,690,357, all of which is from CIP 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

12. CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT OF OFFER TO PURCHASE AND CONTRACT FOR SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY: CENTRAL SERVICES BUILDING (2302 NOBLE ROAD)

The Board of Education is currently under contract to surplus property to Greymont Noble, LLC, consisting of 10.01 acres of land at 2302 Noble Road, Raleigh, NC. Buyer was in the process of incorporating M/I Homes as a member of the limited liability company, when the parties notified Board Staff that they preferred that M/I Homes close on the property in its own name. M/I Homes has a strong track record of executing on site development and homebuilding in both this market and beyond. Buyer now desires to assign its rights to M/I Homes. A copy of the proposed assignment is attached hereto. Fiscal Implications: No change to contract terms. Estimated gross income to the Board of Education is \$2,249,826.94. Net income from the sale will replenish the funds from the capital budget that were set aside by Wake County to secure a portion of future lease costs of the Crossroads Administrative Building lease. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

13. AMENDMENT ONE TO GLOBAL TRANSLATION SYSTEMS, INC.

Federal and state laws require that public school systems must take steps to ensure that the parents of a child with a disability are afforded the opportunity to participate in developing their child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP). This includes arranging for an interpreter for parents whose language is other than English. We contract with Global Translation Systems, Inc. to provide interpreting services for families of students with disabilities. This contract is being increased by \$208,000 for a total contract amount of \$300,000. Initially this contract was to cover services for a partial year. We are considering a system wide approach for interpreting services. However, since this process is not yet in place this contract is being increased to provide funding for services through June 30, 2013. Fiscal Implications: Funding in the Special Education Services’ budget in the amount of \$208,000 is to be used to pay the cost of these services. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

14. AMENDMENT ONE TO I AM UNIQUE SPECIAL CARE & CASE MANAGEMENT

Our contract with I Am Unique Special Care & Case Management is being amended to add nursing services for a student that has moved into the Wake County Public School System. Nursing services is a required related service under state and federal law. To cover the cost of these additional services, this contract is being increased by \$40,000. Fiscal Implications: Funding in the Special Education Services’ budget in the amount of \$40,000 is to be used to pay the cost of these services. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

15. AMENDMENT ONE TO MAXIM HEALTHCARE SERVICES, INC.

Our contract with Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc. is being increased because we have had three (3) new students with medical needs to move into the Wake County School System. To cover the cost of nursing services for these students we are adding \$50,000 to this contract. Fiscal Implications: Funding in the Special Education Services’ budget in the amount of \$50,000 is to be used to pay the cost of these services. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

TRANSFORMATION

16. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Collaborative (#14813): Harvard University Graduate School of Education, US Department of Education, Investing in Innovation (i3)/ Central Services.
- Competitive (#14913): Lumina, Lumina Foundation Grant Programs / Central Services.
- Collaborative (#15013): Fidelity, NC Council on Economic Education, Financial Literacy Grant Program/ Central Services.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

17. RECOMMENDATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

1. Professional
2. Support

ACTION ITEM

BOARD

18. SELECTION OF SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH FIRM

The Board of Education will discuss and decide on a Superintendent Search firm. Fiscal Implications: N/A. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

John Tedesco made a motion to accept the proposal from McPherson and Jacobson. The motion was seconded by Deborah Prickett.

Ms. Goldman reiterated points she made earlier that she is not pleased with the way the RFP was handled and with the low number of responses from firms. Ms. Goldman requested that the Board meet with representation from firms in decisions like this one going forward. She has concerns that the selection was a “slam dunk” ahead of time. The firm being recommended for approval she feels has the more rounded view of the two firms. Though she is not happy with selecting a firm in this manner, she will be supporting McPherson and Jacobson.

Chairman Sutton stated that everything was done in a fair and open process, following the Board’s standard procedure of requesting proposals for service contracts. Chairman Sutton shared that the Board has a timeline that it wants to stick to and to move forward with a decision tonight.

Mr. Tedesco shared that he felt the Board was comfortable narrowing down to the final two search firms that submitted proposals. Mr. Tedesco shared he saw advantages to the McPherson group that would include the firm using educators in the process. McPherson and Jacobson was a mid-point range in cost and had more of their costs identified. Mr. Tedesco shared that McPherson and Jacobson has a better network and outreach across the country, the fact that they use educators could probably help expedite the process.

Mrs. Evans shared that she agreed with many of the remarks that Mr. Tedesco made. She was pleased with the McPherson and Jacobson proposal as well as the North Carolina School Boards Association proposal. Mrs. Evans noted that the Board received a lot of pressure in recent months to curtail costs. She finds pros and cons to both groups but wants the community to be aware that the Board is looking at spending \$45,000 plus for McPherson and Jacobson and \$20,000 with the NCSBA. Both organizations provided long lists of previous districts where they had placed superintendents successfully. Mrs. Evans shared that she is more inclined to support the NCSBA in trying to be prudent with the school system’s dollars.

Mrs. Prickett shared that Ms. Goldman made a good point about the number of search firms that actually responded; only four were submitted. During the last superintendent search, many more proposals came in. Mrs. Prickett shared that for the school system, a national focus would be a good thing.

The Board returned to the motion of approving the firm McPherson and Jacobson with the Board voting 4 to 4 with Debra Goldman, John Tedesco, Keith Sutton, and Deborah Prickett voting “yes” and Jim Martin, Christine Kushner, Susan P. Evans, and Kevin L. Hill voting “no”. The motion failed.

Jim Martin made a motion to accept the proposal from the North Carolina School Boards Association. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans.

Mrs. Kushner noted to Ms. Goldman that she came into the process open-minded toward all of the search firm proposals. It was difficult at the end. Like Mrs. Evans, she would be comfortable with either of the search firms but leans towards the School Boards Association in the transparency that they can give the Board.

Dr. Martin shared that in the package given to the Board by the NCSBA, they have clearly said and gave indication of how they will do a national search. It is the Board's expectation that it is NCSBA's expectation to do an exhaustive national search.

The Board returned to the motion of approving the North Carolina School Boards Association with the Board voting 4 to 4 with Jim Martin, Christine Kushner, Susan P. Evans, and Kevin L. Hill voting "yes" and Debra Goldman, John Tedesco, Keith Sutton, and Deborah Prickett voting "no". The motion failed.

Chairman Sutton called for a ten minute recess at 6:29 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 6:42 p.m.

Chairman Sutton stated that while he feels that the Board is a bit handicapped with eight members, it underscores the importance of the Board's need to get the important work done of filling the vacant board seat. In the spirit of trying to move the issue forward and stay on track with the process and not delay this issue any further, John Tedesco made a motion for the Board to accept the proposal from McPherson and Jacobson. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman.

Mrs. Evans shared that she was well pleased with the proposal from McPherson and Jacobson and she can support that firm if it gets the process moving and the Board can reach consensus.

The Board voted 7 to 1 on the proposal from McPherson and Jacobson, with Kevin L. Hill casting the dissenting vote. McPherson and Jacobson will be the Board's search firm for the process of selecting the next superintendent.

CLOSED SESSION

Debra Goldman made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:45 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) and 115C-319 and to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3). The motion was seconded by John Tedesco. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board returned to Open Session.

ACTION ITEMS

HUMAN RESOURCES

19. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

John Tedesco made a motion to approve the following Administrative Appointments:

- (1). Karen Hamilton, Senior Director for Counseling and Student Services to Assistant Superintendent for Special Education Services effective 2/1/13.
- (2). Martha McCaskill, Retiree to Interim Principal at East Wake School of Arts, Education, and Global Studies effective 1/9/13 – 2/28/13,
- (3). Christopher Bradford, Assistant Principal at Wendell Middle School to 2012-2013 Converted Assistant Principal position at Enloe High School effective TBD – 6/28/13.
- (4). Melissa Bunn, Student Support Team Coordinator for Counseling and Student Services to Assistant Principal at Holly Ridge Elementary School effective 1/9/13.
- (5). Rebecca Fescina, Teacher Assistant at Poe Elementary School to Assistant Principal at Longview School effective 1/14/13.
- (6). Gia Hoke, Teacher at Carnage Middle School to 2012-2013 Converted Assistant Principal position 50% Instructional Resource Teacher position 50% at Apex Middle School effective 1/14/13 – 6/28/13.
- (7). Craig T. Matthews, Retiree to Interim Assistant Principal at Harris Creek Elementary School effective 1/9/13 – 2/28/13.
- (8). Brandon Thomas, Teacher at Lead Mine Elementary School to 2012-2013 Converted Assistant Principal position at Durant Road Elementary School effective 1/14/13 – 6/28/13.

The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The motion was unanimously approved.

20. ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER(S)

John Tedesco made a motion to approve the Administrative Transfers. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The motion was unanimously approved.

FACILITIES

21. REPORT ON SETTLEMENT OF KEITH PRICE AND WIFE, CHRISTINE F. PRICE, CONDEMNATION ACTION: WILBURN ELEMENTARY

On January 19, 2010, the Board authorized a Resolution and Order of Condemnation for acquisition of necessary easements along the property of Keith Price and wife, Christine F. Price associated with the renovation of Wilburn Elementary. The Parties have now settled all matters in controversy between them, and the Board shall pay the sum of \$27,575 to Keith Price and wife, Christine F. Price as full, adequate and final compensation for the property interests taken. Attached is a copy of the final Consent Judgment. Fiscal Implications: Board shall compensate Price in the total amount of \$27,575 from funds available in the project budget within CIP 2006. Savings: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Jim Martin made a motion to authorize settlement. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The motion was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Kevin L. Hill, the Board returned to Closed Session at 7:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board returned to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business before the Board, Debra Goldman made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. Sutton, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

Stephen Gainey, Acting Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary