

WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN MINUTES
February 12, 2001

Board Members Present:

Bill Fletcher, Chair
Beverley Clark
Rosa Gill
Judy Hoffman
J.C. O'Neal
Tom Oxholm
Susan Parry
Kathryn Quigg
Wray Stephens

Staff Members Present:

Karen Banks
Jo Baker
Danny Barnes
Del Burns
Mike Burriss
Linda Isley
Cindi Jolly
Ray Massey
Janice Shearin
Walt Sherlin
Jonibel Willis

Board Attorneys Present:

Ken Soo

Bill Fletcher called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance .

INFORMATION

Comments from the Chairman

Mr. Fletcher remarked that in a recent meeting with County Commissioners, the need for additional resources was mentioned, however no specific sum of money was requested, as had been misreported.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McNeal shared that the Wake Task Force on Teacher Excellence released its findings on January 30th. Sixty representatives from the business, non-profit, university and education communities led the task force chaired by Michael Patterson and Bill Burke. A report listed 20 recommendations to improve teacher quality, recruitment and retention asand professional development in Wake County. The findings will kick off a six-month series of

meeting with groups of parents, teachers, business people and university leaders to respond to the recommendations. The report and feedback will then be used to launch a comprehensive school system strategy to improve support for Wake County teachers and to ensure that children have the best teachers available to them.

RECOGNITION

PROGRAM - Art Contest

The cooperative efforts between Wake County Public School System and the Home Builders Association were recognized, as well as Wake County art teachers and students of the winning Baucom, Combs, Farmington Woods, Lincoln Heights, Olive Chapel and Lynn Road Elementary Schools.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Under Facilities, a revised Precis sheet was distributed to replace Action item #1 (Bids: Construction of Holly Ridge Elementary and Middle). Under Finance, Consent items #8 (Exclusive Beverage Vending Contract) and #9 (Exclusive Beverage Vending Agreement Revenue Distribution Plan) were pulled. Under Personnel, a revised Precis sheet was distributed to replace the Consent item Requests for Leave.

With these changes, Susan Parry made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Kathryn Quigg and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beverley Clark, chair of the Facilities Committee, reported that the committee met on February 6th to discuss a variety of topics including staff analysis of work orders being reviewed, status of heating facilities across the county, a vehicle lease agreement and bids for construction of the addition and renovations at Hunter Elementary. Bids for construction of Holly Ridge Elementary and Middle schools were not available at the time and would be shared as part of the Action agenda.

Judy Hoffman, chair of the Program Committee, reported that the committee met on February 5th for three informative presentations. She distributed the report on Special Education Programs for those not in attendance and shared highlights of the report on program growth, funding and assessment. **(Exhibit A)** Parameters for ALP Summer Academy intervention program were also presented for information. In addition, as part of the Safe Schools Student Plans presentation, students from the winning schools of Leesville Road High, Garner Senior High and Davis Drive Middle shared their recommendations with the Board.

Tom Oxholm, chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the committee met on January 25th with approximately a dozen community members to review handouts and get them up to speed on a number of budgetary issues. This same group has been invited back for a Finance Committee meeting on February 15th at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room to discuss and offer feedback on a number of issues relative to employee compensation and the Arthur Andersen report.

CONSENT ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 18, 2000 Closed Session Meeting

January 8, 2001 Board Meeting

January 22, 2001 Board Meeting

PERSONNEL

1. Recommendations for Employment

Professional List #11, 2000-2001; Other Professional List #11, 2000-2001; and Support List #11, 2000-2001. The fiscal implications include the appropriate salary and benefit costs.

2. Requests for Leave

Six requests for leave for one year to serve as a member of the state assistance teams that will be working with designated, low-performing schools mandated for assistance by the State Board of Education. See attached list.

PROGRAM

1. Athens Drive High School Field Trip to Grand Cayman Island

Students participating will be representative of grades 11-12. Approximately 16 students will participate and 2 chaperones. Students will depart from Raleigh on Friday, April 6, and return on Friday, April 13, 2001. No school will be missed, as this is Spring Break.

Purpose of the field trip is the study of marine biology, cultural anthropology, astronomy, and ecology. Cost per student will be approximately \$1,190. The total cost will be approximately \$19,040. Funding will be provided by student assessment, grant application and various fund raising events. A payment plan will be set up for those unable to pay the entire amount at once. This item was recommended for consent.

FACILITIES

1. Vehicle Leasing Agreement

General Services has negotiated a vehicle lease with Wachovia Leasing Corporation. This lease will allow Wake County Public Schools to provide safe and dependable vehicles for our staff who service and maintain our schools and office facilities. The initial lease is to replace ten (10) cargo vans and ten (10) cars. The cost for this four (4) year lease will be \$341,893.92. Fiscal Implications - Funding for the lease is available in the 2000-01 current expense budget. Also, funding has been requested in the 2001-02 budget. Recommendation for Action - Board approval was requested.

2. Bids: Hunter Elementary Addition and Renovations

Bids were received on January 11, 2001, for construction of the addition and renovations at Hunter Elementary. Bids received are over budget. The project budget will require additional funding, which is available, in the amount of \$500,000 from Phase IIIB deferred maintenance and \$81,806 from the ADA component of the 1996 State Bond Program to allow award of this project. Staff and the New Synergy Inc., recommend award of the general contract to Jacobsen Construction Inc., in the amount of \$1,774,338; plumbing contract to AJ Plumbing & Heating, Inc., in the amount of \$117,458; mechanical contract to Baker Mechanical, Inc., in the amount of \$771,800; and the electrical contract to Electrical Maintenance and Service, Inc., in the amount

of \$440,800. The total of these multi-prime bids is \$3,104,396. The only single-prime bid was \$300,275,000. Fiscal Implications - The board-approved total project budget is \$3,453,155, which is comprised of \$3,303,155 from the Phase IIIB Long-Range Building Program and \$150,000 from Phase IIIB Deferred Maintenance. The project budget will require additional funding, which is available, in the amount of \$500,000 from Phase IIIB deferred maintenance and \$81,806 from the ADA component of the 1996 State Bond Program to allow award of this project. Recommendation for Action - Board approval was requested. In clarification, Ms. Clark noted that while the bids were over budget, the scope of the project was increased to deal with some of the heating and air conditioning issues.

FINANCE

1. Authorization Forms

These authorization forms designate the persons authorized to sign vouchers for the payment of money on behalf of Cary Elementary, and Frances Lacy Elementary. Fiscal Implications: These authorization forms are required for bank records.

2. Gifts to the System

Twenty-three gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$11,836.12. Fiscal Implications: None

3. Budget Amendments and Transfers, 2000-2001

To report changes in the budget resolution for the month of December. Fiscal Implications:

Adjust State Public School Fund	+	\$ 468,410
Adjust Local Current Expense Fund	+	\$ 6,272,415
Adjust Federal Programs Fund	+	\$ 1,574,912
Adjust Capital Outlay Fund	-	\$ 940,209
Adjust Multiple Enterprise Fund	+	\$ 31,710

4. Change Order: Alliance of Professionals and Consultants, Inc.

On June 26, 2000, the Board approved a contract with Alliance of Professionals and Consultants, Inc. to provide outsourcing services such as technical DBA, applications DBA, programming and development. Estimated funding approved at that time would carry us through March 31, 2001. Fiscal Implications: Costs associated with services provided to date have allowed us to estimate additional funding needs through June 30, 2001. Funding in the amount of \$250,000 was requested. Funding is available through the Technology Services Division current expense budget. Current expense budget will be reimbursed for money spent pending approval of Phase IIIB reallocation by county commissioners.

5. Change Order CRF03: Oracle Fixed Price Contract

On June 26, 2000, the Board approved a fixed price contract with Oracle to provide consulting services required to complete implementation of the integrated Oracle applications. Fiscal Implications: A change order in the amount of \$125,600 is requested to supply development support beyond the current post-production support. Change order consists of labor cost up to 800 hours at \$157/hour. Funding is available through the Technology Services Division current expense budget. Current expense budget will be reimbursed for money spent pending approval of Phase IIIB reallocation by county commissioners.

6. Change Order: Paragon Computer Professionals, Inc.

Technology Services entered into a contract with Paragon to provide outsourcing services such as technical DBA, applications DBA, programming and development. Initial cost estimate of

services to be provided through March 31, 2001 was \$83,000. Fiscal Implications: Costs associated with services to date have allowed us to estimate additional funding needs through June 30, 2001. A change order in the amount of \$50,000 was requested. Total contract cost will be \$133,000. Funding is available through the Technology Services Division current expense budget. Current expense budget will be reimbursed for money spent pending approval of Phase IIIB reallocation by county commissioners.

7. Change Order 2: TeleConsultants, Inc.

In August 2000, we brought before the Board a contract with TeleConsultants, Inc. for consulting services. We estimated the initial amount needed to carry us through January 2001. As anticipated, additional funding was necessary to continue pre-production work in the development of internal technical documents, programs and procedures relative to Oracle in the areas of payroll, financial applications, budget and HR. Therefore, we asked the Board for approval of a change order on December 18, 2000. At that time, there were budgetary concerns that only allowed us to submit a change order to cover the cost of services through February 1, 2001. Fiscal Implications: Funding in the amount of \$300,000 was requested. Funding is available through the Technology Services Division current expense budget. Current expense budget will be reimbursed for money spent pending approval of Phase IIIB reallocation by county commissioners.

***Tom Oxholm made a motion to approve all the consent items, seconded by J.C. O'Neal.
The vote was unanimous.***

ACTION ITEMS

FACILITIES

1. Bids: Construction of Holly Ridge Elementary and Middle

Multi-prime bids were recommended as follows:

Bids for Holly Ridge Middle and Elementary were received on February 8, 2001. Staff, Cherry Huffman Architects and Doggett Architects, Inc. recommend award of the general construction contract to Centurion Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$17,425,540; mechanical contract to WATCO, Corporation in the amount of \$3,946,600; electrical contract to Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$1,994,151, and plumbing contract to Vickers & Ruth Plumbing and Heating Co., Inc. in the amount of \$1,152,243. The total of these multi-prime bids is \$24,518,534. Staff recommends that the apparent low mechanical bid submitted by Cooper Mechanical Contractors, Inc. of \$3,333,000 be declared non-responsive in accordance with N. C. General Stat. 143-128 & 129. The lowest single prime bid was \$24,710,200. Funding is available from the Total Project Budget of \$31,346,987 of which \$30,646,987 is from the PLAN 2000 School Building program project budget and \$700,000 is from the Board approved 1996 State Bond project budget.

Single-prime bid was recommended as follows:

Bids for Holly Ridge Middle and Elementary were received on February 8, 2001. Staff, Cherry Huffman Architects and Doggett Architects, Inc. recommended awarding a single-prime contract to Barnhill Contracting Company in the amount of \$24,710,200. The lowest responsive multi-prime bid was \$24,518,534. Staff recommended that the apparent low multi-prime mechanical bid submitted by Cooper Mechanical Contractors, Inc. of \$3,333,000 be declared non-responsive

in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-128 & 129. Funding is available from the Total Project Budget of \$31,346,987 of which \$30,646,987 is from the PLAN 2000 School Building program project budget and \$700,000 is from the Board approved 1996 State Bond project budget.

Beverley Clark made a motion to accept the staff recommendation for the single prime contractor. It was seconded by Judy Hoffman and the vote was unanimous.

Judy Hoffman made a motion that the Agenda be revised to move the Public Hearing for Items Not On the Agenda to before the Closed Session. Beverley Clark seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Peggy Titus introduced Julie Nau, who presented a summarized report of an updated Wake NCAE salary supplement proposal for the Board's consideration.

Beverley Clark suggested that the proposal be brought to the upcoming Finance Committee meeting on February 15th for review with regards to upcoming budget issues.

CLOSED SESSION

Kathryn Quigg made a motion at 4:55 p.m. to move into Closed Session:

To consider confidential student information protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and G.S. 115C-402;

To consider confidential information protected under G.S. 115C-319; and

To establish or instruct the Board's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the Board in negotiation of (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other materials terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract

G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (5).

The motion was seconded by Judy Hoffman and the vote was unanimous.

The Board reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

ACTION (continued)

PERSONNEL

1. Recommendations for Administrative Appointments

Pamela B. Bright, Senior Administrator of Staff Development, to Director of Training, effective date to be determined.

David Gammon, Director of Extended Learning Programs to Senior Director of Instructional Services, effective February 13, 2001.

Catherine Johnson, applicant, to principal at Garner Senior High School, effective date to be determined.

Diane Schwenker, teacher at Fuller Elementary School to assistant principal at Lockhart Elementary School, effective February 13, 2001.

Fiscal implications will include the appropriate salary and benefit costs.

J.C. O'Neal made a motion to approve, seconded by Judy Hoffman. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION ITEMS

PERSONNEL

1. Recommendation for Administrative Transfer

Adella Vodenicker, assistant principal at Joyner Elementary School to assistant principal at Olive Chapel Elementary School, effective date February 19, 2001.

FACILITIES

Due to a detailed discussion during a Facilities Committee meeting on February 6, 2000, the following item was not again reviewed.

1. 2000-2001 Budget Increase for Preventive Maintenance

Wake County Public Schools received a \$5.5 million increase in the base operating budget for 2000-2001 to fund additional maintenance and operations needs. \$750,000 was encumbered to pay for contracted cleaning services at new schools opened in 2000. The balance of the funds were equally divided among the three maintenance and operations departments. Attached is a summary of each department's planned expenditures of these funds. Fiscal Implications - The additional funds raised the base operating budget, excluding utilities and custodians, to \$18,068,340 or 1.31 percent of building replacement value. Recommendation for Action – No action requested. For information and discussion purposes only.

PROGRAM

Due to detailed discussion during a Program Committee meeting on February 5, 2001, the following items were not again reviewed.

1. Special Education Programs

Program Growth; location of programs; training efforts that support schools and teachers; student assessment and performance; and program-related applications of technology will be presented. The current budget supports the programs and initiatives as described. This item was presented for information only.

2. Parameters for ALP Summer Academy

The ALP summer academy is an intervention program of focused and targeted instruction for students in grades 3-8, based on the Standard Course of Study. Instruction is focused on the needs illustrated by the EOG, previous classroom assessments and documentation, and/or other areas indicated on each student's PEP. The ALP summer academies are designed only for students who have scored a I or II on the reading and/or math part of the EOG, grades 3-8. In schools with traditional calendars there will be 12 days of instruction between June 18 and July 12, along with four planning days. There will be three and one-half hours of instruction each day. Year-round schools will provide services during student track-out time. Each summer academy site will be staffed with one lead teacher and a team of teachers. ALP Summer Academy is supported through Goal 2003 funds. This was presented for information only.

3. Safe Schools Student Plans

As part of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant, approximately 250 students from 29 middle and high schools participated in a Safe Schools Summit linked to the Character Education Conference in September. Students listened to speakers talk about how Character Education is connected to the 40 Developmental Assets as measured on the Profiles of Student Life Survey.

Students wrote Safe School Plans for their schools which were evaluated by a panel of school officials and community members. Three school plans were given awards for outstanding merit. They were Leesville Road High (1st Place), Garner Senior High (2nd Place), and Davis Drive Middle (3rd Place). Awards included funding to implement plans. Other schools participating were Apex Middle, Carroll Middle, Daniels Middle, Dillard Drive Middle, East Cary Middle, East Garner Middle, Ligon Middle, Martin Middle, West Cary Middle, West Millbrook Middle, Zebulon Middle, Apex High, Athens Drive High, Broughton High, Cary High, East Wake High, Enloe High, Green Hope High, Millbrook High, Phillips High, Southeast Raleigh High, Wakefield High, Wake Forest-Rolesville High, and Mt. Vernon Redirection. Grant funding in the amount of \$12,000 was allocated for implementation of this program. This is presented for information only.

RECOGNITION

Lloyd Gardner, principal of Enloe High School, introduced Bobbie Wren who placed second in the North Carolina Math McKee Competition. He will return at a future Board meeting with a group being recognized for their mathematics accomplishments.

SUMMARY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wray Stephens announced that he was resigning from the Wake County Board of Education effective that evening. He noted that during his nineteen years of service, he has had the opportunity to work with a variety of professional, dedicated, competent and caring Administrative staff and Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Bill Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Maret, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Secretary

Bill Fletcher, Chairman