



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 24, 2012**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Kevin L. Hill	Superintendent Anthony J. Tata	Andre Smith
Keith Sutton	Judy Pepler	Jacqueline Ellis
Jim Martin	Cathy Moore	Sylvia Wilkins
Debra Goldman	Cris Mulder	Stephen Gainey
John Tedesco	David Neter	Lisa Grillo
Deborah Prickett	Don Haydon	Marvin Connelly
Susan P. Evans	Danny Barnes	Joe Desormeaux
Christine Kushner	Lloyd Gardner	Mark Winters
	Kevin Hobbs	
	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	<b><u>Board Attorney Present</u></b>
	Julye Mizelle	Ann Majestic

Chairman, Kevin L. Hill, called the meeting to order at 5:54 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Chair's Comments**

- Chairman Hill recognized and congratulated school board counsel, Ann Majestic, for being the recipient of the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award, an honor that was given to her on Friday, April 20, 2012 in Boston by the National School Board Association Council of School Attorneys. On behalf of the Board of Education, Chairman Hill thanked her for her years of service.
- Chairman Hill, several board members, and Superintendent Tata had the opportunity to attend the reception at the N.C. Bar Association to recognize the Teacher of the Year semi-finalists. Chairman Hill shared that it was an honor and a privilege to attend the reception and be able to address the semi-finalists. He congratulated the twenty-four semi-finalists.
- Chairman Hill thanked the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the Annual Inter-City Visit to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where several board members and the superintendent had the opportunity to attend on scholarships. Chairman Hill shared that the inter-city visits are nice because progressive things can be seen that other cities and school systems are doing.
- Chairman Hill turned the gavel over to the vice-chair to run the meeting for the remainder of the evening.

**Superintendent's Comments**

- Superintendent Tata seconded Chairman Hill's comments about Ms. Majestic and the Teacher of the Year Finalists. The finalists include:
  - Kristel Behrend, Lake Myra Elementary,
  - Ellie Bentler, Reedy Creek Elementary,
  - Molly Bostic, Heritage High,
  - Lauren Brooks, Enloe Magnet High,

- Meher Daruwalla, Fuller Magnet Elementary,
- Wanda Harte, Ballentine Elementary,
- Betsy Lane, Hodge Road Elementary,
- Kristin McCormick, Cary High,
- Brandon Mize, Salem Elementary,
- Helen Pettiford, Sanderson High,
- Charlotte Roberts, Jeffreys Grove Elementary,
- J. Stuart Vickery, Jr., Martin Middle

On May 17, 2012 at the Teacher of Year Banquet, one finalist will be selected.

- Superintendent Tata announced that he was excited to have Coach K speak to students at the PNC Arena as a part of the Ticket to Reading Rewards Program.
- Mr. Tata congratulated Salem Middle School students Erik Salgado and Andy Hoang for winning the National School Scrabble Championship. The top prize was \$10,000 and the students appeared on “Jimmy Kimmel Live”. They are the first repeat winners; they won as 10 year olds in 2009.
- The Wake Young Women’s Leadership Academy is hosting its first community event. Nationally known author Hailey Kilpatrick will speak to a group of parents and daughters about how to navigate adolescent challenges with confidence. Over 400 middle school girls will attend. The event will take place on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 7:00p.m. at Broughton High School’s auditorium.
- Centennial Campus Magnet Middle School is holding its Risk Fest; working with USDA Risk Management Agency and other partners. Students will have hands-on lessons in managing energy, water, human resources, and climate change.
- Eleven Wake County teachers have been named as Kenan Fellows. The teachers will spend five weeks in the summer with university, industry, and professional mentors where they will use summer research to create lessons adapted to their teaching subjects. Superintendent Tata congratulated the following teachers,
  - Priscilla Chappell of Enloe High School,
  - Catherine Hart of Green Hope High School,
  - Jasmine Hart of Sanderson High School,
  - Carrie Horton of Wake NC State STEM Early College High School,
  - Danielle McCaslin of Mills Park Elementary,
  - Whitney Masterson of Wakefield High School,
  - Tammy Matthews of Lincoln Heights Elementary School,
  - Erica Speaks of Durant Road Middle School,
  - Julie-Anne Thomasch of Green Hope High School,
  - Mark Townley of Holly Springs High School, and
  - Michelle Woods of Centennial Campus Middle School
- Superintendent Tata congratulated Melba Spivey and Patty Carr, who were honored by the North Carolina Association of Gifted and Talented and were nominated by their peers. Melba Spivey, North Garner Middle, 2012 Wake County AIG Teacher of the Year and Patty Carr, WCPSS K-12 Coordinating Teacher, 2012 Wake County Administrator of the Year.
- Superintendent Tata shared that the student assignment Choice Round 2 results will be completed and available to parents on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff will update the board on the results at a later date.

## Board Members' Comments

- Mrs. Kushner thanked the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce for an excellent trip with the Inter-City visit to Pittsburgh. The trip created a great perspective. Mrs. Kushner encouraged the Board to read and review the Brookings Institute Report that was recently released. The report shows that as a county, Wake County has fairly restrictive zoning with affordable housing, and yet, the county has a lower than expected achievement gap and opportunities for students to have an equitable education.

Mrs. Kushner shared that she had the opportunity to visit Brooks Elementary for their Community Reads Day as well as a great presentation on physics at Moore Square Middle School. She also attended a sobering presentation at Athens Drive High School on making smart driving decisions.

- Mrs. Evans shared that she also attended the Pittsburgh Inter-Visit sponsored by the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. It was an exciting opportunity to hear from the former Mayor of Pittsburgh and how he re-invented a dying city through vision.

Mrs. Evans acknowledged three seniors at Apex High School that took it upon themselves to have a fundraising event back in January on behalf of the Jimmy V Foundation. The students coordinated and conducted the fundraising event, the Peak City Gala of Hope. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the students presented a check for \$30,000 to the Jimmy V Foundation.

Mrs. Evans shared that she appreciated Superintendent Tata, Mrs. Pepler, and Mrs. Anderson-Powell, accompanying her on April 12<sup>th</sup> to a meeting with families in the Mills Park area. The parents requested the meeting surrounding issues that they were having with their choice assignment plan results. The staff spoke with the parents extensively about previous re-assignments in the area; the feedback from the group was that it was important to them to stay together as a neighborhood cohort. Mrs. Evans shared that the western area of Cary and Apex are still very stressed with capacity.

- Mrs. Prickett shared that on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, she had a Board Advisory Council Meeting where a new president and secretary were elected for the 2012-13 school year, Sandy Kiserow will be Chair and Janis Lawrence will be the secretary. The meeting was well attended and included Boy Scout Troop 352. The boy scouts wanted to attend a community meeting as a part of their merit badge process for the Citizens in the Community badge. During the meeting, the scouts participated in small group discussions about needs in District 7 and shared their input with the large group which included seeing more enrichment and elective opportunities at the middle and high school levels, support for the marching band, and expressed concerns over the costs that families or booster clubs incur in order to support the marching band. Mrs. Prickett gave special thanks to Susan Pullium and James Overman for attending the meeting. Mrs. Pullium provided assignment updates and answered many questions. Parent comments about Mrs. Pullium's presentation were highly complimentary.

Mrs. Prickett also shared that she attended a conference that was held in Charlotte during the week of April 16<sup>th</sup> for the North Carolina Center for After-School Programs (NC CAP). Sponsors included the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the City of Charlotte, Burroughs Wellcome,

Time Warner Cable, Microsoft, Best Buy, and the U.S. Tennis Association. The U.S. Tennis Association is getting involved in after-school programs in Charlotte giving students opportunities to branch out and try new sports. There were approximately 600 people in attendance at the conference. Speakers at the conference included Charlotte Mayor, Anthony Fox and Speaker of the House, Tom Tillis. Various mayors attended throughout the state.

Mrs. Prickett congratulated Teacher of the Year finalist, Charlotte Roberts, from Jeffreys Grove Elementary School in District 7 and all of the finalists. Mrs. Prickett also shared that she enjoyed participating in the Wake County Mayor's Association April meeting along with other school board members. She thanked Jackie Holcombe, Morrisville Mayor, for coordinating the meeting.

- Mr. Tedesco congratulated and thanked Ann Majestic for all of her hard work. Mr. Tedesco made a brief note of caution to his colleagues who sighted the Brookings Institute Report; which is something that people should review, but should also not be analyzed with a snapshot sound bite or an overall statement. Mr. Tedesco stated that the report is compared against the other 100 largest urban districts; most of the districts are municipal-based districts in smaller geographic areas and less differential in economic integration in the communities that it's comparing it against.
- Ms. Goldman congratulated the Teacher of the Year semi-finalists and shared that it was nice to attend the reception. Ms. Goldman requested that Chairman Hill continue to be aware of the Board's policies and the audience as well regarding outbursts, respect, and demeanor during the Board's meetings. Ms. Goldman shared that it is important for the board to listen to the comments being made by parents regarding the assignment plan. As she travels the state, overwhelmingly she is hearing positive feedback about Wake County and what has happened in schools in the last few years and the leadership of Superintendent Tata.
- Dr. Martin congratulated students from Washington Elementary School for receiving the City of Raleigh Youth Environmental Award. The students began fund raising to replace trees that were uprooted and damaged from the recent tornado. The school will receive \$500. Dr. Martin thanked Trees Across Raleigh for assisting. Dr. Martin attended the mock crash at Athens Drive High School along with Mrs. Kushner and thanked the Sherriff and Judge Rader for attending . He encouraged staff to think about a regular rotation of conducting mock crashes throughout high schools.

Dr. Martin shared that he had a productive BAC meeting earlier in the day on the topic of differentiated instruction. Dr. Martin challenged the Board that as they move forward thinking about achievement issues, that they really focus on differentiated instruction and understand the complexities of differentiation.

Dr. Martin shared that he wanted families and parents to know that he is listening to the issues regarding transportation and assignment. He looks forward to the updates given by staff regarding the progress, but he formally requested that the Board receive access to the firm data (excel spreadsheets). The Board needs a hard look at the data to understand the implications to the assignment process so that wise decisions can be made going forward.

- Mr. Sutton thanked Honeywell and NASA for bringing a science space to Moore Square Middle School. He and Mrs. Kushner attended the event last week. Mr. Sutton shared that

he attended an appreciation breakfast for Knightdale area principals hosted by the Knightdale Chamber of Commerce and Duke Healthcare Systems earlier in the day.

On Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Sutton participated in the Ticket to Reading Rewards Program at PNC arena. The program is geared toward middle school students and brings incentives to students to read more books. The program began at the start of the school year with staff identifying ten schools that were challenged with reading scores and began working with the students during the course of the year. The program culminated on Monday with an event at the PNC arena with Coach K from Duke to speak to the students. A video of the event was shared. Mr. Sutton thanked O. Temple Sloan, CEO of General Parts and WCPSS staff for making the opportunity available. On Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Coach Gottfried from N.C. State will work with middle school coaches; providing a basketball clinic.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Sutton moved item #12, Board Policy 6203: Transfer of School Assignment from Consent to Action; added an Information Item from the Work Session; Student Assignment Update, and removed item #17, Student Assignment Plan Staff Recommendations for Plan Modification from the meeting agenda.

John Tedesco made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. 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.*

- **Karen Meier** - Ms. Meier shared that in using the information that was provided on the Wake County Public School System website, her family made a conscious choice to live where they live because of the reputation of the schools in the immediate area; had she been fully aware of the new choice school assignment program, she does not think that they would have moved to Wake County. Under the choice program, buyers cannot identify what schools their children will be attending until after the purchase is made. Ms. Meier urged the Board to consider not implementing the choice assignment plan or re-align the plan for a more friendly system for the 2012-13 school year.
- **Elie Serraino** – Ms. Serraino shared that she is unhappy and disappointed with the choice selection assignment plan. Her family selected the closest middle school to her home, which was an option on their choice list, but ended up being placed on the waiting list. Ms. Serraino shared that her child has been assigned to a year-round school 8 miles away from home and stated that most of the issues that have happened with the assignment plan have happened to her family. Ms. Serraino shared that the assignment plan has negatively affected the Carpenter Village community.
- **Maria Reier** – Ms. Reier shared that four years ago, she and 200 other parents from her community joined together to request that their community attend neighborhood schools. The group attended every meeting and public forum wearing green; speaker after speaker asking for neighborhood schools. Ms. Reier went on to share that in the spring of 2010, the Board listened and agreed, Carpenter’s base middle school was changed to Davis Drive,

which guaranteed their seats; in addition, the Board publicly promised to look out for their students again when the time came for the new assignment plan. The Choice Plan that the board has put into place has taken away the guaranteed seats at the neighborhood school that was just allocated to them. Ms. Reier went on to say that the choice plan split their neighborhood into four different middle schools, with the majority of the students being bused 90 minutes a day to East Cary Middle School. Ms. Reier shared that her neighborhood did not receive what they asked for with neighborhood schools.

- **Lynn Edmonds** – Ms. Edmonds highlighted one of the recommendations Great Schools in Wake suggested for finding a better way to assignment in Wake County; re-define nodes. Ms. Edmonds shared that nodes (small geographic areas) have been used for approximately 20 years in Wake County and are still used to assign students even within the new choice plan. Ms. Edmonds stated that regardless of what methodology the board supports for assignment, and regardless of any assignment plan implemented, the node data needs to be continually evaluated and updated to reflect where students are located. Great Schools in Wake encourages the board to review the existing nodes and create smaller and more logical nodes based on 2010 Census data.
- **Anne Sherron** – Ms. Sherron shared that the choice plan personifies the rocks, pebbles, and the sand in the glass. Ms. Sherron stated that the old student assignment plan stopped at the pebbles because that plan assigned students by node. Now, all students are the sand in choice plan. The burden of the assignment plan has been shifted from the people in the high growth and economically disadvantaged areas of the county to the poorly timed newcomers and the perceived unlucky people who did not receive their first choice. Both plans have assigned students to a school they do not want, have split neighborhoods, and placed families being on different calendars; the inherent problems are all the same. Ms. Sherron shared that the process was not started in the right place. The board should have begun with the magnet review and solidified magnet school roles. Second, should have been a facilities utilization review, third should have been the need and impact of special programs and where they should be located, fourth, the transfer policy should have been reviewed and relaxed, fifth, a stay-where-you-start policy should have been developed to address stability, then a student assignment plan could have been designed with optimal and unique learning environments in every school. Ms. Sherron stated that its time to look at what's been learned and start designing a hybrid plan that gives students a base assignment, more magnet and calendar attractive choices, a relaxed transfer option, and stability.
- **Lou Tapper** – Mr. Tapper thanked Mr. Tata for the positive work that he's done over the past year. As an outside observer, Mr. Tapper shared that it seems that the school board is driven more by emotional politics than what is good for children. Mr. Tapper shared that children have to be the number one priority, but the board's decisions cannot create an undue hardship for parents. The current Choice Assignment Plan is better than the last plan as it gives parents choice. Mr. Tapper requested that the Board keep politics and personal agendas out of school management and do what is right for the students of Wake County.
- **Stephany Enders** – Ms. Enders shared that the Brookings Institution is one of the oldest and most respected non-profit public policy organizations whose mission is to conduct high quality, independent research and based on the research, provide innovative, practical recommendations. Ms. Enders shared that the Brookings Institution has been consistently ranked as the most influential, most-quoted, and most-trusted think tank and is quoted almost equally by both democratic and republication members of Congress. After comparing more than 84,000 schools in 2010-2011; the Institute found that nationally,

lower-income students attended schools that score significantly lower than their middle and high-income peers. The institute reported that in areas with relatively high areas of economic segregation, these schools exhibit the highest test score gaps between lower-income students and their middle and high-income peers. However, Raleigh, was specifically named for having achieved a much lower than expected gap between low-income and other students. Ms. Enders shared that the researcher proposes that Raleigh's history of a socio-economic diversity policy is the reason. They also show that other research finds that the quality of schooling is enormously important to both test scores and future economic success. They reference a large number of studies done by economists and have found that student exposure to high quality schools measured by test scores, peer effects, and teacher quality substantially increases the probability of economic success later in life. Ms. Enders stated that using data from Charlotte, the Institute found that lower-income students, who won admission via lottery to higher scoring schools, perform significantly better. Ms. Enders stated that with education being the key to independence, opportunity, and economic success, we need to provide a high quality education for all of Wake County students, not just the middle and high income students. Ms. Enders stated that the Board needs to move forward and bring socio-economic diversity back to policy 6200. Research from multiple non-partisan institutions shows that lower-income student performances are not masked by their peers; they are brought up.

- **Beth Graff** – Ms. Graff shared that the current assignment plan is not a choice plan. When she first logged on to the plan she was presented with 5 elementary school choices. She figured she would get into Mills Park Elementary School as she is only 1.1 miles from the school. She was shocked when she received her third choice, Alston Ridge. Later she found out that Mills Park and Highcroft didn't have any seats available. Ms. Graff shared that it seems as though the choice was made for her before she even logged on to the system. Ms. Graff asked why parents are being presented with choices that aren't really choices. Ms. Graff stated that she should not be told that she has five different choices, when only one school has any capacity. Base schools should be brought back.
- **Ellen Nightengale** – Ms. Nightengale shared that if you read the City of Raleigh's website its list of accolades is impressive. The Triangle is listed as America's fifth most-educated area; Raleigh has been listed among the 10 Best Cities for Raising a Family; fifth on the list of Can-Do Cities; America's Top-Ten Places to Re-Locate; First on Forbes' list of Best Places for Businesses and Careers, the second-fastest Growing Metro Region, and the American City with the Best Quality of Life. Raleigh has the fastest-growing demographic of teens 15 and under, and has been named #1 in Public Schools by the Great Schools.Org. Ms. Nightengale stated that the aforementioned award committees may be surprised to find that lifelong residents cannot get a seat at their neighborhood schools, where is space for the newcomer? Contrary to reports being given, that most people are happy with the new plan, what she hears is that most people are scared to give up any seat that they have to risk a less favorable seat or no seat at all. Ms. Nightengale went on to state that Wake County is one of the wealthiest and most-educated counties in the state, but still have not figured out supply and demand within the unique culture of the city. Time and money are being spent on assignment when it should be focused on achievement. As a mother of an unassigned child, she is frustrated, but as a citizen of Wake County, she is embarrassed. Ms. Nightengale implored the board to return to an addressed-based student assignment plan and provide choice through established and new magnet options, and return to a plan that will welcome

newcomers, values healthy diverse schools, and well set record highs for student achievement.

- **Taravia Maynard** – Ms. Maynard shared that there is a board policy listed as Staff and Community Relations, Board Policy 2520. In the policy, it encourages parents, staff, and the community to have a co-existing interest in student success. Parents are encouraged to visit and observe schools to see operations. Ms. Maynard shared that she has been trying for the past couple of weeks to get the policy implemented. Ms. Maynard stated that the policy is not being implemented or used at every school in the county; certain schools determine whether or not parents are allowed to observe and visit the school. Ms. Maynard shared that if it's a policy for the entire county, she expects it to be enforced throughout the county equally. Ms. Maynard does not know what the next steps are in getting the policy enforced.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

John Tedesco made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **FINANCE**

#### **6. AUDIT COMMITTEE / SELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

In 2006-2007, the Board of Education established an Audit Committee to assist in the selection process of an independent audit firm and to review the annual financial audit including the audit findings and recommendations. Policy 8810 establishes criteria for the selection of the Committee members and the term of service. The Board received a list of nominees for the Committee and reviewed the candidates in preparation for the selection of the members. Fiscal Implications: None. Savings: N/A. Recommendation for Action: Selection of new Audit Committee members by the Board of Education.

### **FACILITIES**

#### **7. BIDS: PRINT SHOP RENOVATIONS**

Bids were received on April 5, 2012 for the renovations necessitated by the relocation of the Print Shop from the Noble Road site to Rock Quarry Road. Staff and Gurel Architecture, Inc., recommend award of the single-prime contract to W. C. Construction Company, LLC, in the amount of \$392,723. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the 2011-2012 operating budget. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

#### **8. BIDS: CUSTODIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SERVICE AGREEMENTS**

Bids were received on March 15, 2012 for contract custodial services at 10 schools. A Service Agreement (SA) is for services other than construction or repair. The total award of these contracts are \$580,881.61. Staff recommends award of the two contracts identified on the attachment with a term of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Savings: None. Fiscal Implications: Funding is included in the 2012-2013 budget request. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

#### **9. MASTER JOB ORDER CONTRACT FOR MOVING SERVICES**

Bids were received on April 10, 2012 for furniture moving services at various schools involved in the building program. Staff recommends award of Master Job Order Contracts to the four lowest and most responsible bidders: All American Relocation, Inc., B. Cameron



& Cameron, Inc., Hilldrup Companies, Inc., and McCollister's Transportation Systems, Inc. The selected firms will execute the attached standard form of agreement. These agreements are for work from May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2014. Fiscal Implications: The actual fee will be calculated for individual projects using the bid unit prices, and funded by the specific project needing the services. Savings: Not Applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## **SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

### **10. MILLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL TRIP TO SPAIN**

Students will have an opportunity to assess the culture of Spain during an eleven day educational learning trip.

- Participants will be students who are taking Spanish or who have taken Spanish within the last year, four parent chaperones, three MHS staff (Grundstein, Hernandez, Drew), and one tour guide.
- Students will engage in conversations, experience a wide range of artistic traditions, unique cuisine, and through first-hand experience have an understanding/appreciation for the values and culture of an international community.
- Students will not miss any instructional time; trip will take place during Spring Break of 2013. The group will depart RDU on March 28, 2013 to Malaga, Spain and while there tour Granada, Seville, Cordoba, Madrid, and Barcelona before returning home on April 7, 2013.

Fiscal Implications: Cost is approximately \$3,300 per student, and includes all transportation, accommodations, two meals a day during the trip, all scheduled activities and excursions, and insurance coverage. Trip is considered optional; students will be charged for the cost of the trip. Savings: N/A. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## **TRANSFORMATION**

### **11. GRANT PROPOSALS**

- Competitive (#19812): Evan-Moor Educational Publishers, Principal Appreciation Grant Program / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#19912): First Book, First Book Grant Program / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#20012): North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, Agricultural Education Program Improvement Grant / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#20112): Project Learning Tree® (PLT), American Forest Foundation Grant Program / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#20212): Goldenrod Research Corporation, Youth Touch Grant / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#20312): US Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Programs Grant / Central Services.
- Competitive (#20412): State Farm, State Farm Youth Advisory Service-Learning Projects / Individual Schools.
- Competitive (#20512): Samsung, Samsung 2012 Grant Program / Individual Schools.

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

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **13. RECOMMENDATION FOR EMPLOYMENT**

- A. Professional
- B. Support

### **14. REQUEST FOR LEAVE(S)**

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

### **TRANSFORAMTION**

#### **STUDENT ASSIGNMENT UPDATE**

Judy Pepler, Chief of Transformation and Staff, shared that there was a request to review preliminary survey questions. A cross-sectional group of staff met and reviewed a preliminary list of questions that they intend to ask parents regarding their experience with the student assignment plan. Staff hopes to put the policy out for comment on the website and through surveys from May 15<sup>th</sup> until June 15<sup>th</sup> to give a full month of parent feedback. The preliminary list of questions and topic areas were shared with the board; first around the selection process, communications, and parent motivations for participating; the overall satisfaction with the process, and what might have been the motivation for not making a selection. Staff welcomes any feedback from the Board on additional questions that they may want staff to ask.

Board members inquired if there would be a scale for parents to rate on. Mrs. Pepler shared that a staff member from Data and Accountability would put together the format.

Mrs. Pepler recommended that the other issues that were on the work session be moved to the May 1<sup>st</sup> work session so that a more robust conversation can be had on the issues. Vice Chairman Sutton clarified that on May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Board will have data and that the update on Student Assignment will be the first item discussed.

Mrs. Kushner requested an update on Richland Creek, Abbotts Creek, the unassigned students, and the waitlists. Mrs. Pepler shared that staff has run the magnet and proximity wait lists from round one and are currently running the proximity choice algorithm for round two. All unassigned students will be assigned to a school by the end of the day Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, as will all students that have pre-registered but not participated in choice.

Mr. Tedesco asked what staff's recommendation would be regarding Richland Creek and Abbotts Creek? Mrs. Pepler shared that after reviewing the preliminary numbers from round one and what staff has seen so far in round two, staff's likely recommendation to the board next week will be to delay opening Abbotts Creek by one year and to move forward with opening Richland Creek.

Mrs. Prickett shared her concern of opening both Richland Creek and Abbotts Creek with mobile units as well as opening the Panther Creek 9<sup>th</sup> grade center using mobile units. Mrs. Pepler shared that Wake County has opened other ninth grade centers in mobile units and has been successful. Mrs. Prickett stated that since there is choice being offered, the board may start to see things pan out in a different way. One of the issues at play with Abbotts Creek is that it is a modular campus and it does not have a permanent building yet in a bond measure.

Mr. Tedesco requested that staff take advantage of the choice data moving forward to re-evaluate

perspective needs in the community as new bond assumptions are discussed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **FACILITIES**

#### **15. NAMING OF LEESVILLE ROAD HIGH SCHOOL EAST BUILDING FOR RICHARD J. MURPHY**

The Leesville High School Parent Teacher Student Association, the Pride Athletic Club, and the school staff request that the East Building, constructed in 2003, be named in honor of former principal Richard J. Murphy. Mr. Murphy served the Raleigh City School System and the Wake County Public School System for thirty-six years as a teacher, administrator, and educator. He was selected as principal of the new Leesville Road High when it opened in 1993 and served with distinction there until 2004. More detailed information is provided in the attached letter. In accordance with Board of Education policy 2571, it is appropriate to name the Leesville Road High East Building in honor of Richard J. Murphy, in recognition of his long and dedicated leadership and public service. Fiscal Implications: The cost of any plaque or sign will be funded from private sources. Savings: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Don Haydon, Chief Facilities and Operations Officer presented information to the Board. Tom Dixon, Principal of Leesville Road High School, shared that the recognition is not one that Richard would have sought, it was his nature to recognize the achievement of others, while deflecting attention from himself. The Murphy Building will stand as a testament to Richard's focus on excellence at every level. He was competitive in every aspect of his life; but what he really strove to do was for his students and faculty to get the best he had to offer, for each of them to find success.

Mrs. Prickett thanked Mr. Dixon for his attendance and for doing a great job at Leesville Road High School. Debra Prickett made a motion to approve the naming of Leesville Road High School East Building for Richard J. Murphy. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved.

Pat Murphy, Richard Murphy's brother, shared that the family is touched by the honor of naming the East Building after Richard. What struck him the most when they had the memorial service were the countless people from the school system who came; teachers, principals, etc. Students who had been taught by Richard during his career attended the memorial service which spoke most to the impact Richard Murphy had on students. Mr. Murphy thanked everyone who came together to make the naming of the building happen. Mr. Murphy also thanked the Board for the honor.

The Board recessed at 7:21 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 7:31 p.m.

Kevin L. Hill stated that there was agreement amongst the Board to pull the Audit Committee Selection from the Consent Agenda, which was not done at the start of the meeting. Kevin L. Hill made a motion to reconsider the Audit Committee Selection as a part of the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to postpone the Audit Committee Selection from the April 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to the May 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to remove transfer appeal hearings from the Closed Session agenda as there were none to hear. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **TRANSFORMATION**

### **16. PROPOSED CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) HIGH SCHOOL**

Staff proposes the establishment of a high school partnership between the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) and Wake Tech Community College (WTCC) to offer students dual enrollment opportunities in technical programs that lead to a *Career and College Promise* certificate or diploma. Fiscal Implications: Initial funding has been set aside in the 2012-2013 budget. Savings: N/A. Recommendation for Action: Approval from the Board of Education to plan for and establish a CTE High School for the 2014-2015 school year.

Ann Dishong, Director of School Innovation, shared information with the Board. John Tedesco made a motion to approve the concept only of the proposed career and technical high school. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman.

Mrs. Prickett asked staff to clarify the funding for the proposed school. Mrs. Dishong shared that initially, staff looked at a 2013-2014 opening. Early start-up funding was set aside for the early hires that may have been needed to start the school. Mrs. Prickett then asked if the CTE high school had been discussed further with the County Commissioners. Superintendent Tata shared that he had one brief conversation with two Commissioners discussing the capital aspect of the proposal and how the school system might proceed. Superintendent Tata clarified that staff is requesting approval of the idea; staff still has work to do regarding funding. The Board will be involved at every step moving forward.

The motion was unanimously approved.

## **BOARD**

### **18. SEEK CHANGE IN LOCAL LEGISLATION TO CHANGE THE TIMING OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

At its January 10th work session, the Board agreed to pursue a change in local legislation to shift the Board's organizational meeting so that it aligns with the board election cycle. The chair and board attorney have learned that the Board needs to take formal action at its regular meeting to ask the local delegation to introduce the necessary legislation.

By way of background, the original legislation that merged the two school systems, Chapter 717 of the 1975 Session Laws, did not specify the timing of the organizational meeting. As a result of the general statute originally applied, i.e., "no later than 60 days after the swearing in of members following election or appointment and as often thereafter as the board shall determine appropriate." In 1984, an amendment to the local legislation was passed, Chapter 952 of the 1983 Session Laws, that inserted new language that set the time of the organizational meeting as "In June of July of each year." Fiscal Implications: None.

Savings: N/A. Recommendation for Action: The Board will need to decide whether it seeks to revert to the general statute or propose a specific time for the organizational meeting, e.g., the first meeting of the board in December of each year.

Board Attorney, Ann Majestic, clarified that the précis indicates that the Board needs to make a decision about what its asking for; whether asking for reverting to the State Statute, which sets the organizational meeting within sixty days of the election of new board members or swearing in of new board members, which provides some flexibility, or whether the Board wants to set it the first business meeting in December or something more definite.

If the Board went with the former (the statute), the Board could set in policy that it would be the first business meeting of December, if that is not the best choice, it gives the Board flexibility to set it within the sixty-day framework.

Mrs. Majestic clarified that the request is an amendment to an amendment and suggested that the Board defer to the General Assembly. Chairman Hill recommended that the Board tie the organizational meetings to state statute.

Kevin L. Hill made a motion that the Board of Education direct counsel to draft a letter to the local delegation and ask the delegation to have the Board of Education go back to the original legislation and remain with state statute. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **12. BOARD POLICY 6203: TRANSFER OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT**

*Revised; Second Reading*

Board Policy 6203 was last revised in 2010. Since that time the school district has implemented a new Proximity Choice Selection Plan. The Board of Education discussed Policy 6203 in a work session held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 and approved First Reading at its Board Meeting on March 27, 2012 with the Board referring the policy to the Policy Committee.

The Policy Committee met on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, and proposes the attached changes to the policy. Fiscal Implications: None at this time. Savings: N/A. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Judy Pepler, Chief of Transformation and Staff, shared that changes that were made in the work session were highlighted in yellow (See attachment A).

Jim Martin thanked the Policy Committee for their work on the policy and made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan P. Evans.

Mrs. Kushner shared that under D1, staff needed to include the wording “business days” . John Tedesco requested that in Section A & E staff needed to include the wording “10 business days”. The motion was unanimously approved with the changes that were made by Mrs. Kushner and Mr. Tedesco.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Debra Goldman made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:54 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6) and 115C-319, 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), 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 motion was unanimously approved.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:16 p.m. on a motion by Kevin L. Hill, seconded by John Tedesco. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ACTION ITEMS CONT’D**

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**19. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)**

- John Tedesco made a motion to approve the following Administrative Appointment(s):
- (1). Karen Sindors, Applicant to Principal at Lufkin Road Middle School effective July 1, 2012.
  - (2). Michele Fagan, Director of “Race to the Top” in Academics Department to Senior Director of State and Federal Programs in Academics Department effective TBD.
  - (3). Samantha Hunt, Teacher at Poe Elementary to Assistant Principal at Pleasant Union Elementary School effective 5/7/12 – 6/29/12.
  - (4). Bradford Shackelford, Retiree to Interim Assistant Principal at Knightdale High School effective 5/1/12 – 6/29/12.
  - (5). Teresa Van Acker, Applicant to Assistant Principal at Poe Elementary School effective 5/17/12 – 6/29/12.

The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved.

**20. RECOMEMNDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER(S)**

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

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to return to Closed Session at 8:17 p.m. The motion was seconded by Debra Goldman. The motion was unanimously approved. Debra Goldman made a motion to return to Open Session at 9:04 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before the Board, Debra Goldman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan P. Evans. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kevin L. Hill, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

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Anthony J. Tata, Superintendent, WCPSS

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Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary