



## WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINTUES

May 27, 2008

Board Members Present	Staff Members Present	
Beverley Clark, Vice Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	
Eleanor Goettee	Terri Cobb	
Patti Head	Chuck Dulaney	
Kevin L. Hill	Michael Evans	
Ron Margiotta		
Lori Millberg		<b>Board Attorney Present</b>
Horace Tart		Ann Majestic

Vice Chair Beverley Clark called the meeting to order at 11:57 a.m. Ms. Clark stated that a quorum was present.

### APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Patti Head made a motion to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The vote was unanimous.

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to go into Closed Session at 12:00 p.m. to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) due to litigation involving WAKE CARES, et al. vs. Wake County Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Patti Head. The Board voted 5 to 1 with Kevin L. Hill, Horace Tart, Patti Head, Lori Millberg, and Eleanor Goettee voting “yes”, and Ron Margiotta voting “no”. The motion passed.

The Board returned to Open Session at 1:50 p.m. The Board directed the Board attorney to respond to the appeal and provide an amicus brief. Chuck Dulaney, Assistant Superintendent of Growth and Planning, reviewed and clarified the process for going forward. Mr. Dulaney stated that staff sent two sets of letters to approximately 7,700 families. Letters went to the parents of students not currently in WCPSS who are pre-registered for next year or, are currently in WCPSS, but were impacted by reassignment or changing levels from elementary school to middle school.

All families that might be impacted by moving from a traditional calendar this school year to a year-round calendar next school year received an individually designed letter that informed them specifically on what their traditional calendar alternative was and then directed the family to contact staff if they wanted to be assigned to a traditional calendar alternative.

A second letter went out after the North Carolina Court of Appeals ruling so that staff could clarify to all the families that the Board of Education still wanted to extend the option of requesting a traditional calendar assignment for next year.

To date, approximately 1,000 families have requested a traditional calendar option for 2008-2009, with all students being placed in the traditional calendar option. Staff has still not

heard from a set of students. However, the letter that they received said “if we don’t hear from you, we assume that you want to attend the year round or modified calendar school.” Mr. Dulaney stated that parents have until June 1 to respond to staff. If parents ask for a traditional calendar assignment prior to June 1, staff will place them in the assignment as indicated in the letter that they received. Parents need to sign the form saying that they’re requesting a traditional calendar assignment for next year and staff will make the placement.

The Stay issued by the N.C. Supreme Court creates an unknown quantity for new students arriving for enrollment next year. Mr. Dulaney stated that approximately one quarter of the students coming will be assigned to year-round and modified calendar schools. Mr. Dulaney stated that staff will need to institute a process for the families that arrive. At this time, staff will institute a process which will be completed based on the process done last year, until some determination is made by the Supreme Court.

If the N. C. Supreme Court makes the decision not to hear the appeal of the Court of Appeals ruling, then staff will assume that new students are assigned to their base school whether it is traditional, year-round, or modified calendar. If the NC Supreme Court does decide to hear the appeal of the Court of Appeals ruling, then staff will continue with the consent process for any family that presents themselves to a school for registration for next year.

Mr. Dulaney shared that staff will report to the Board after June 1 to give an update on how many families have requested the traditional calendar option based upon letters that were previously mailed.

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve any new families coming into the Wake County Public School System will have to give their consent to attend a year-round school if the base school is on a year-round calendar until the N.C. Supreme Court makes a ruling. The motion was seconded by Ron Margiotta. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business coming before the Board, Ron Margiotta made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Patti Head. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rosa U. Gill, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

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Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

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Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary