



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
June 16, 2009**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Rosa Gill, Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	David Holdzkom
Kevin L. Hill, Vice Chair	Terri Cobb	Ann Hooker
Beverley Clark	Danny Barnes	Julye Mizelle
Eleanor Goettee	Kathy Chontos	David Neter
Patti Head	Joe Desormeaux	Andre Smith
Anne McLaurin	Chuck Dulaney	Bev White
Horace Tart	Michael Evans	Mark Winters
	Stephen Gainey	
	Lloyd Gardner	<u>Board Attorney</u>
	Donna Hargens	Ann Majestic
	Don Haydon	

Chair Rosa Gill called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Gill turned the gavel over to Superintendent Del Burns to preside over the election of the Board Chair for the upcoming year. Dr. Burns explained the procedure for the election of the Board Chair at the Annual Meeting.

Anne McLaurin made a motion to nominate Kevin L. Hill as Chair of the Wake County Board of Education. Rosa Gill made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Anne McLaurin. The motion was unanimously approved. Patti Head made a motion to elect Kevin L. Hill as Chair of the Wake County Board of Education by acclamation, seconded by Anne McLaurin. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hill asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Patti Head made a motion to nominate Horace Tart as Vice Chair of the Wake County Board of Education. Rosa Gill made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Patti Head. The motion was unanimously approved. Rosa Gill made a motion to elect Horace Tart Vice Chair of the Wake County Board of Education by acclamation, seconded by Anne McLaurin. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hill stated that he was grateful for the privilege and looks forward to serving as chair for the coming year. Mr. Hill stated that his commitment is to work closely with his fellow board members, always remembering that their responsibility is to help provide the best of educational opportunities for all children in Wake County.

To recognize Ms. Gill for her years of service, the board members added a resolution in her honor to the Board Meeting Agenda. The resolution read,

WHEREAS, Rosa U. Gill has served the children of Wake County as a member of the Wake County Board of Education since 1999, and as its Chair for the last two years; and

WHEREAS, during that time Rosa U. Gill has been a dedicated member of the Wake County Board of Education, committed to a thoughtful process, willing to address difficult issues by involving and listening to others, and unfailingly focused on the success of every child; and

WHEREAS, Rosa U. Gill's service as a Board member continues her history of support for Wake County students and citizens as an educator, volunteer, and public servant; and

WHEREAS, Rosa U. Gill has been named as the successor to Dan Blue in serving the citizens of District 33 in the North Carolina House of Representatives, and has therefore, announced her intention to resign her seat on the Wake County Board of Education; now,

RESOLVED, that the Wake County Board of Education heartily thanks Rosa U. Gill for her service and wishes her well as she accepts her new responsibilities to the State of North Carolina, and respectfully encourages her to continue her life's work of bringing educational opportunities to every child.

Approved and adopted this 16th day of June.

Lori Millberg, District 1

Horace Tart, District 2

Kevin L. Hill, District 3

Anne McLaurin, District 5

Beverley Clark, District 6

Patti Head, District 7

Ron Margiotta, District 8

Eleanor Goettee, District 9

Del Burns, Superintendent

Ms. Gill thanked Mr. Hill and the Board of Education. She made the following statement: *"Serving on the Wake County Board of Education has been my pleasure. While I am extremely honored to be able to serve our citizens as their representative in the North Carolina House, I have felt the same honor and pride in serving as a representative on the Board of Education. During my 9 1/2 years on the Board of Education, I have developed many relationships that I truly value and will honestly miss. It is impossible to work alongside dedicated people such as yourselves, day in and day out, and not develop genuine respect and admiration for the work that you do."*

During this timeframe, I have witnessed changes in both members of the Board and staff. I have seen many very knowledgeable, devoted individuals pass through the Board room. But never before have had I had more faith in this Board of Education and the staff than I do at this time. I know how dedicated and committed this Board is to ensuring every child receives a quality education. I have seen, first hand, how seriously you take the decisions that you must make. I know how hard you work to sort through data and information, and just how much you worry about making the right decisions for children. While we sometimes approach issues from different points-of-view, which is what we should do as elected officials, we always come together on behalf of the children and make the right decisions.

During the last year, through my work with the North Carolina School Board Association, I have learned a great deal, but one of the most important things I have learned is just how exemplary this Board is. Because we do get so involved in our work, and see ourselves through the eyes of other Boards throughout the state and nation, we have done a great job of which each of you should be very proud.

I am very proud to have been a part of this Board, and this experience will definitely have a positive impact on my life going forward. You have taught me so much about the importance of collaboration, communication, listening to the concerns of others, and seeking commitment to a course of action for improved student performance. You will always mean a great deal to me and I will carry what I have learned with me.

Dr. Burns, thank you for everything that you do every day for our children. Your passion for providing every child a quality education shows in everything you do. We, the citizens of Wake County, are extremely fortunate to have you and the dedicated team that you have brought together to lead Wake County School. Again, as I look around the state and around the nation, I know just how extremely fortunate we are.

You and your staff are always there to support our children and this Board in our efforts to support the children. You recognize the importance of a district vision and know how to generate enthusiasm towards common instructional goals. On behalf of the approximately 140,000 students of Wake County Public Schools, I extend my sincere thanks.

I also want to thank our principals, teachers, and support staff who are on the frontline everyday. The work that you do to support learning and teaching does not go unnoticed. This Board recognizes and appreciates everything you do. Your role is so critical. You are touching the future through the children that you work with everyday. Don't doubt the influence you have. You make a positive difference everyday.

As I close, I want to thank everyone for the support they have given me in my role as Chair. While it has been difficult at times, I have always appreciated the relentless support of Board members and staff. While my location will change, my vision of ensuring that all children receive the education they need and deserve will not change. The difference is I will have the opportunity to advocate for children not just in Wake County, but all across the state, which is extremely important to me. Because of my experiences with this Board, my expectations for others and myself will be high. While I will not attend Board meetings, I will continue to be Wake County Public Schools strongest advocate. Thanks to you and thanks to the citizens of Wake County for allowing me to have this wonderful opportunity.”

ELECTION OF BOARD ATTORNEY

Patti Head made a motion to re-appoint the firm of Tharrington-Smith as the Board's legal counsel, seconded by Anne McLaurin. The motion was unanimously approved.

SUMMARY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no further announcements to be made.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, Patti Head made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting, seconded by Anne McLaurin. The motion was unanimously approved. The Annual Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary