



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 18, 2013**

<b><u>Board Members Present</u></b>	<b><u>Staff Members Present</u></b>	
Keith Sutton, Chair	Cathy Moore, Interim Superintendent	Todd Wirt
Christine Kushner, Vice Chair	Cathy Moore	Marvin Connelly
Tom Benton	Stella Shelton	Karen Hamilton
John Tedesco	David Neter	Joe Desormeaux
Kevin L. Hill	Danny Barnes	Mark Winters
Jim Martin	Rose Ann Gonzalez	Lloyd Gardner
Deborah Prickett	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	Andre Smith
Susan P. Evans	Clinton Robinson	<b><u>Board Attorney Present</u></b>
Bill Fletcher	Jacqueline Ellis	Jonathan Blumberg

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Chair’s Comments**

Chairman Sutton delivered comments related to the end of school, graduations, welcoming interim superintendent Cathy Moore, and the departure of Dr. Stephen Gainey. Chairman Sutton thanked the Board of Commissioners for approving the Wake County Public School System budget request. Chairman Sutton presented Dr. Gainey with a plaque for his dedication and outstanding leadership to the Wake County Public School System as Interim Superintendent. Chairman Sutton shared that it appears that there was a breach of confidentiality of information shared in Closed Session by the Board of Education inasmuch, the Chairman requested that the Policy Committee along with legal counsel, review the Board’s ethics policy and look at taking steps to provide some measure of accountability for Board members to ensure that an act like this does not occur again.

**Superintendent’s Comments**

Interim Superintendent, Ms. Moore delivered comments related to thanking the Board for the privilege to serve as Interim Superintendent, congratulating and thanking Dr. Gainey for his service as Interim Superintendent in Wake County and his new role in Randolph County, reminding everyone of year round schools closing and opening, and thanking staff, parents, and students who participated in twenty-five graduation ceremonies recently.

**Board Members’ Comments**

Individual Board members offered comments related to thanking Dr. Gainey for his service to the county, thanking Ms. Moore for being willing to serve as Interim Superintendent, for being invited to the Responsive to Instruction training, congratulating all graduates, and recognizing the two students who had perfect attendance throughout their thirteen years of schooling in Wake County Public Schools.

**APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA**

Chairman Sutton added the Appointment of the Superintendent of the Wake County Public School System as an Action Item. Christine Kushner 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.*

- **Heather Elliott**
- **Vickie Adamson**
- **Aaron Thornton**
- **Fernando Martinez**
- **Patty Williams**

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **6. TASK FORCE FOR CREATING SAFER SCHOOLS IN WAKE COUNTY**

Sherriff Donnie Harrison and Captain Al White presented the fifteen recommendations and the work from the Task Force for Creating Safer Schools in Wake County. Committee members in attendance were recognized. Sherriff Harrison suggested the option of the Board looking at establishing its own School Police Department. Board members shared comments.

### **7. NAME FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY IN CARY (H-7)**

Betty Parker, Director for Planning and Construction presented the following proposed names for consideration; Green Level High School, White Oak High School, Roberts Road High School, and Southwest Cary High School. The Board shared comments and staff clarified information on the process of obtaining names for new schools. Chairman Sutton requested that staff bring the item back to the Board as a work session item on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and then vote on the name at the first meeting in August.

### **8. NAME FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY IN SOUTHEASTERN GARNER (H- 8)**

Betty Parker, Director for Planning and Construction presented the following proposed names for consideration; Southern Garner High School, Clifford Road High School, Cade Springs High School and Buffaloe High School. The Board shared comments and had discussion regarding the proposed names. Chairman Sutton requested that the staff bring the item back to the Board as a work session item on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and then vote on the name at the first meeting in August.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. Jim Martin made note that in Consent Item #24, WCPSS's tuition that is charged for out of county students drops by nearly \$100 from last year. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

## **ACTION ITMES**

### **27. ADOPTION OF THE 2013-2014 ANNUAL BALANCED BUDGET RESOLUTION**

David Neter, Chief Business Officer presented the 2013-2014 Annual Balanced Budget Resolution to the Board. Susan P. Evans made a motion to approve the 2013-2014 Annual Balanced Budget Resolution. The motion was seconded by Deborah Prickett. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**28. TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT BUS DRIVER ATTENDANCE BONUS**

Bob Snidemiller, Senior Director for Transportation presented the Transportation Department Bus Driver Attendance Bonus initiative to the Board. All bus drivers, permanent substitute bus drivers, and bus driver team leads who meet the qualifications will be eligible for the bonus. Christine Kushner made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**29. NEW BUS DRIVER REFERRAL INCENTIVE**

Bob Snidemiller, Senior Director for Transportation presented the New Bus Driver Referral Incentive of a \$100 referral bonus to any current WCPSS bus driver referring a candidate that becomes a fully licensed bus driver with the district. Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**30. OFFER TO PURCHASE AND CONTRACT FOR SALE OF 80.802 ACRES OF SURPLUS PROPERTY: FORESTVILLE ROAD**

Betty Parker, Director for Planning and Construction presented the offer to the Board. Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. After some discussion, the Board voted 6 to 3, with Deborah Prickett, John Tedesco, and Bill Fletcher casting the dissenting votes. The motion passed.

Chairman Sutton recognized Danny Barnes, Eastern Area Superintendent who will be retiring at the end of June. Chairman Sutton congratulated and thanked Mr. Barnes for his thirty-five years of service to the county.

**31. APPOINTMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve Dr. James G. Merrill as the Superintendent of Wake County Public Schools. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. After some discussion from the Board, the Board voted 7 to 2, with Deborah Prickett and John Tedesco casting the dissenting votes. The motion passed. Chairman Sutton welcomed Dr. James G. Merrill as the new Superintendent of the Wake County Public School System.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Kevin L. Hill made a motion at 7:36 p.m. to go into Closed Session 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 Bill Fletcher. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:10 p.m.

**ACTION ITEM(S) CONTINUED**

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

Doug Thilman presented the personnel information. John Tedesco made a motion to approve the Administrative Appointments. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. Bill Fletcher recused himself from the vote for personal reasons. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before the Board, John Tedesco made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Keith A. Sutton, Board Chair

---

Cathy Q. Moore, Interim Superintendent

---

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary