



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
August 6, 2013**

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

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at approximately 5:14 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Sutton introduced Judge Fred G. Morrison, Jr., Senior Administrative Law Judge who administered the Oath of Office to Dr. James G. Merrill. Elizabeth Merrill and Barrett Cheek participated in the Swearing In Ceremony. Dr. Merrill gave remarks. Chairman Sutton recognized Dr. Carolyn Morrison, former Board Member and educator, and Wray Stephens, former Board Member.

The Board recessed at 5:24 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 5:59 p.m.

Chair’s Comments

Chairman Sutton delivered comments related to welcoming everyone to the meeting and welcoming Dr. Merrill to the table and to the Wake County Public School System. Chairman Sutton recognized the Board Members from Alamance County that attended Dr. Merrill’s Swearing In Ceremony. Chairman Sutton shared that District 1 Board Member, Tom Benton was not in attendance as he was travelling abroad.

Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. Merrill shared that he was proud, honored, and pleased to be on board and in the Superintendent’s seat at the table.

Board Members’ Comments

Individual Board members offered their congratulations and words of welcome to Dr. Merrill and thanked Deputy Superintendent, Cathy Moore for her leadership during the time of transition.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda with the following changes: (1) remove Consent Agenda item #21 (Athens Public Library 2013-2014 Service Agreement), (2) remove Action Agenda item #25 (Name for New High School in Cary (H-7)), (3) remove Action Agenda item #26 (Name for New High School in Southeastern Wake County/Garner Area (H-8)), (4) remove Consent Agenda item #18 (Contract with Communities in Schools of Wake County (CIS-

Wake). The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT. The following persons offered public comment to the Board:

- Eric Weller
- Cyndi Edgington
- Jenny Ross
- Rebecca Risner
- Louis Powell
- Gayle Sabol
- Paul Barth
- Larry Nilles

CONSENT ITEMS

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill and approved by the Board unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

27. CONSIDERATION OF NAME CHANGE FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN APEX: CURRENTLY WEST APEX HIGH

Betty Parker, Director of Planning and Construction presented information to the Board recommending that West Apex High School be named Friendship-Apex High School. Susan P. Evans made a motion to rename the current West Apex High School to Apex-Friendship High School. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. After some discussion, Deborah Prickett made a motion to keep the current school name of West Apex High School. Jonathan Blumberg Board Attorney, stated that the new motion by Mrs. Prickett was out of order. After continued discussion, the board returned to the motion by Susan P. Evans to rename the current West Apex High School to Apex-Friendship High School. The Board voted 5 to 3 in favor of the motion. Deborah Prickett, John Tedesco, and Bill Fletcher casted the dissenting votes. The motion passed. The name of the school will be Apex-Friendship High School.

28. DRIVER'S EDUCATION PROGRAM FEE INCREASE

Cathy Moore, Deputy Superintendent for School Performance, presented information to the Board regarding WCPSS implementing an increase in the driver's education program fee from \$45 to \$55 beginning with registration in August 2013 and beyond. John Tedesco made a motion to approve with a provision for a fee waiver for those with financial hardship; following the waivers that WCPSS has in place for free and reduced lunch status designation. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

CLOSED SESSION

John Tedesco made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:02 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) and 115C-319, to consult with the Board of Education attorney and 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 Bill Fletcher. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:33 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS (CONTINUED)

29. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Doug Thilman, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the personnel report. John Tedesco made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Bill Fletcher. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

30. OFFER TO PURCHASE AND CONTRACT IN EAST RALEIGH, NEAR E-40

Joe Desormeaux, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Betty Parker Director of Planning and Construction presented the Offer to Purchase and Contract to the Board. Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

31. OFFER TO PURCHASE AND CONTRACT- NORTHWESTERN RALEIGH NEAR M-8

Joe Desormeaux, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Betty Parker Director of Planning and Construction presented the Offer to Purchase and Contract to the Board. Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by John Tedesco. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, John Tedesco made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin and approved unanimously by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. Sutton, Board Chair

James G. Merrill, Superintendent

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary