



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 2013**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Keith Sutton, Chair	James G. Merrill, 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	Andre Smith	Mark Winters
Jim Martin	Rose Ann Gonzalez	Doug Thilman
Deborah Prickett	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	Edward McFarland
Susan P. Evans	Clinton Robinson	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>
Bill Fletcher	Jacqueline Ellis	Jonathan Blumberg

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair’s Comments

Chairman Sutton shared comments related to wishing everyone a happy, safe, and smooth opening for traditional calendar schools next week, recognizing the Wake Young Women’s and Wake Young Men’s Leadership Academies opening last week and Wake Young Men’s Academy for beginning in their new building; the Thompson Building where they held their dedication and ribbon cutting.

Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. Merrill shared comments related to maintenance staff wrapping up annual summer projects, seeing the Governor Morehead School and Thompson School in use by the Wake Young Women’s and Young Men’s Leadership Academies, visiting the NCSU Stem Early College High School, the opening and beginning school year for Rolesville High School, the implementation of the statewide student information system –Power School, transportation and the beginning of school for traditional calendar schools, the on-boarding of 925 employees since June, Student Due Process providing training on new policies and procedures for school administrators, welcoming students to newly magnetized schools; Green Elementary and Carroll Middle School, and new Common Core test results that will be released in October. Hesitation and warning was given not to compare prior measures to the results on the Common Core.

Board Members’ Comments

Individual Board members offered comments related to attending the re-dedication of the Thompson School Building, the Kick off to Kindergarten event at Marbles Museum, welcoming staffs back to a new school year; including the staff at the new Rolesville High School, participating in instruction at schools, attending the DPI Annual Division Meeting, attending and viewing the summit for STEM and Global Education, and attending a dinner sponsored by the Cary Chamber of Commerce.

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

- Suzanne Gordon
- Cassondra Wilson
- Toshiba Rice

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Christine Kushner made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda with the following changes: (1) move item #23 (2013-2014 Salary Schedules) from Consent to Action, (2) move item #16 (Contract with Communities in Schools of Wake County – CIS Wake) from Consent to Action. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

CONSENT ITEMS

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the Consent Items with #16 (Contract with Communities in Schools of Wake County- CIS Wake) and #23 (2013-2014 Salary Schedules) being removed and added to the Action Agenda. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

ACTION ITEMS

25. BOARD POLICY 1035: BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

Revised; First Reading

Chairman Sutton shared that the Policy Committee with assistance of the Board Attorney, drafted proposed revisions to the Code of Ethics to establish a process for addressing Board member conduct. The revisions update the policy to include the most recent ethics recommendations from the North Carolina School Boards Association. The full Board reviewed the draft revisions at the work session on August 6th after being recommended to the full Board from the Policy Committee. Based on feedback from the Board, additional revisions were made after the meeting on August 6th. Jim Martin made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. After some discussion, the Board voted 6 to 3 in favor of the motion. Susan P. Evans, Deborah Prickett, and John Tedesco casted the dissenting votes. The motion passed.

16. CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF WAKE COUNTY (CIS WAKE)

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Christine Kushner. Marvin Connelly, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services presented information to the Board regarding the CIS Wake Coaches collaborating with school personnel to provide mentoring, coaching and support to identified students and connecting the students and parents with appropriate school and community resources. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion. Chairman Sutton recused himself from the vote as he is an ex-officio member on the CIS Board of Directors.

23. 2013-2014 SALARY SCHEDULES

David Neter, Chief Business Officer presented information regarding adopting the 2013-2014 salary schedules and the impact it has on the school system. Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. After great discussion, a recommendation was made to engage teachers and principals in a process to identify specific actions that staff can take to improve working conditions in the absence of adequate pay. The conditions that employees work in are a key factor in job satisfaction. Chairman Sutton invited members of the Board to wear red as a symbol of support for the teaching force. Dr. Merrill thanked the staff for still standing and doing the work of public education. Dr. Merrill shared that staff will look at ways to address culture and environment. The Board voted 8 to 1 to approve the motion. John Tedesco casted the dissenting vote. The motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:07 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 consider confidential student information protected under G.S. 115C-402 and the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g. 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)

26. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Doug Thilman, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented the personnel report. John Tedesco made a motion to approve the personnel report. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, John Tedesco made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. Sutton, Board Chair

James G. Merrill, Superintendent

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary