



WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPEN MINUTES –BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 3, 2002

Board Members

Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair
Susan Parry, Vice Chair
Beverley Clark
Bill Fletcher
Jeff York
Patti Head
Amy White

Staff Members Present

Bill McNeal, Superintendent
Jo Baker
Brenda Barker
Danny Barnes
Maurice Boswell
Del Burns
Mike Burriss
Linda Isley
Cindi Jolly
Ray Massey
Toni Patterson
Janice Shearin
Stella Shelton

Board Attorney Present

Ann Majestic

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Kathryn Watson Quigg called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INFORMATION

Chairman's Comments

- Ms. Quigg attended the Women's Equity Day hosted by the League of Women Voters honoring women that are in leadership roles.
- She attended the Wake Leadership Foundation Conference at the Capital City Club.
- Woman's Leadership at St. Mary's College.
- On Friday, August 30, 2002, Bill McNeal, Patti Head, Beverley Clark, Bill Fletcher, Susan Parry, and Kathryn Quigg attended the Conference at UNC Chapel Hill on "The Resegregation on Southern Schools." Ms. Quigg made a few remarks on the conference. "I (Kathryn Quigg) along with four other members of this Board, Bill McNeal and several administrators attended the most profound and disturbing workshop I've ever attended during my tenure on the Board. It was entitled "The Resegregation of Southern Schools: A Crucial Moment in the History (and the future) of Public Schooling in America." The presenters read like a Who's Who of Educators and Researchers who have studied the effects over time of racism and segregation in our schools. Our own Ann Majestic presented some of the statistics of our systems and our successes as a result of balancing schools to the best of our ability throughout the county.

It was stated over and over that if left to the public will, schools would return and are return and are returning to segregated entities, that separate was never equal and never will be, and that minority children have a much better chance of success in integrated setting. I think one of the most disturbing statistics was that of all children scoring in the top 10% in second grade. Only 2 out of 10 minority children took advanced classes in high school where 7 out of 10 took advanced classes if they were white.

Over and over it was stressed that the public will is not there to make sure that all children are served in the setting where they can best learn. I spoke with the Charlotte Board Chair, Arthur Griffin, who voted against the current choice system at Charlotte Mecklenburg and heard his concerns about the returning segregation in his county. I spoke with Gary Orfield, Harvard Graduate School of Education and Civil Rights Project at Harvard, about the current segregated and failing public system in New York City and my fears for Wake County if we as a Board fail to be diligent in our attempts to balance the schools. He looked me straight in the eye and said our system would become a failing system to some of our children within 5 years if we allow public pressure to push us to offer only choice and stop attempting to balance the schools.

I am so proud to be a part of this Board and this system. This year we have seen higher scores in most of our schools. We have seen the same cohort of children improve every year. We not only saw our bottom students improve, but we also saw more top students achieving level 4. We saw our SAT scores take a record leap. We see our teachers and administrators work overtime and their work is paying off. While many systems are failing around the county, Wake County is flourishing. Two weeks ago, the Trustees for the Wake Education Partnership presented us with an unprecedented resolution applauding our continued mandate to keep our schools diverse. I challenge this Board to continue to be bold leaders when the public will pushes us to fail our children and take the easy way out. I challenge you to carefully review the research and see the difference this system is making for children. Sometimes it feels as if we are all alone, but the proof is in the children and their success wherever they go to school in Wake County. I thank you for being the leaders that you are and I was never so proud to be on the Board of Education than I was last Friday.”

“Voices and Choices” Update

Orange Quarles, III and Lynne Garrison, Co-chairs Voice & Choices.

Steering Committee members, James Bryan, Wanda Denning, Tony Habit, Paula Lipford, Bill McNeal, Virginia Parker, Amy White, Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Charlotte Turpin, Lucille Webb, Harvey Schmitt, Linda Coleman and Andrea Bazan-Manson. They are leading in the initiative in the community to make sure community input is considering in setting goals for beyond 2003.

This committee will gather countywide feedback on what the next Wake County Public School system goal should be. The volunteer training sessions are being conducted to train facilitators for the Voices & Choices feedback sessions in the community. The training sessions last one hour. Training sessions be will held according to the following schedule:

<i>September 9, 2002</i>	<i>12:00 Noon</i>	<i>GlaxoSmithKline</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Garner High School</i>
<i>September 10, 2002</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Capital Strategies</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Lincoln Heights Elementary</i>
<i>September 12, 2002</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Community Learning Partners</i>
<i>September 17, 2002</i>	<i>12:00 Noon</i>	<i>Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>East Wake Education Foundation</i>
<i>September 18, 2002</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Carnage Middle School</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Apex Chamber of Commerce</i>

Ms. Quigg stated that the Board Advisory Council meetings would began this month. The topics for discussion are “Three-tier school bus system” and “Should high schools have a later starting times?”

Superintendent's Report

- *Mr. McNeal reminded everyone that on Monday, September 16, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. the Wake County Public School System in conjunction with the Home Builders Association of Raleigh will hold a forum in the auditorium of the North Carolina Bar Association Building, Cary, North Carolina, for the purpose of discussing issues related to school construction site selection, student assignment, transportation, and community use of schools facilities. In addition, land developers and home builders will have an opportunity to express view points related to Board of Education polices and procedures*
- *WRAL –TV in collaboration with the News & Observer produced a program named “One Year Later, How Safe Are We?” tied to ‘9-11.’ The program will air on WRAL on September 5, 2002, 1:00 p.m.*
- *Mr. McNeal stated after discussion with several elected officials that there may be some confusion about the administration’s policy on underutilized schools. By way of clarification, the staff designated six schools as “underutilized schools” during last year’s student assignment process. The six schools—two in Raleigh, two in Cary/Apex, and two in Garner—were facing under-enrollment that threatened the future health of those schools.*

Designating those schools as “underutilized” and limiting the magnet and year-round application process from those schools’ attendance areas was never intended to be a permanent solution, but a stopgap measure while others strategies were sought. Nevertheless, the administration and the Wake County Board of Education allowed some transfers out of these areas.

The districts task is to keep all of its schools strong. The community demands that our traditional schools are healthy while offering additional options for Wake County families. It is not anticipated these schools will be designated as “underutilized” in next year’s student assignment plan. The district continues to look at all available ways of ensuring a healthy balance of traditional and magnet schools. All schools—traditional, magnet, and year-round—must continue to be the envy of the state, and our magnet schools must continue to be viable, attractive options that strengthen our school system as a whole.

RECOGNITION

2002 Education Design Showcase Award: Carnage Middle

Carnage Middle School addition and renovations project, designed by Brown Jurkowski Architectural Collaboratives (BJAC) received the 2002 Education Design Showcase award in Recognition for Outstanding Architecture and Design in Education by “School Planning and Management” magazine. The project team, consisted of Leonard King – Principal, Keith Giamportone – Architect, Larry Sherrill – Planner, and William Hartley.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- *Tom Oxholm made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add an update on the Committee Meeting schedules.*
- *Tom Oxholm also wants the board to begin a dialogue on ways it can improve communication with elected officials.*
- *Susan Parry made a motion to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Jeff York. The vote was unanimous.*

PUBLIC HEARING

- *Andrea B. Hall-parent - Requested the Board leave the current abstinence until marriage curriculum in place.*

CONSENT ITEMS

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 21, 2002 - Program Committee

June 25, 2002 - Program Committee

FACILITIES

1. Amendment To Joint Use Agreement: Rolesville Elementary And Town of Rolesville Community Park

Officials with the Town of Rolesville request an amendment to a Joint Use Agreement dated February 14, 1992, providing for the joint use of school facilities and parkland owned by the Town of Rolesville. The request provides for the release of 3,250 square feet of parkland owned by the Town from the Joint Use Agreement to allow for the construction of road improvements to serve a major new subdivision at the back of the school and town park

2. Building Continuation: PLAN 2000 (Exhibit A)

PLAN 2000 includes \$20,902,153 in start up funds for the next building program. In order to proceed with the designer selection process in a timely manner, approval of the attached list of start-up projects is requested. Upon completion of the pre-selection process, recommendations will be presented to the Board. Fiscal Implications - None at this time.

3. Design Consultant Agreement: Building Assessment And Equipment Inventory

Negotiations have been completed with Carter & Burgess, Inc., for the 2002 Building Assessment and Equipment Inventory. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the board attorney.

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Recommendations for Employment (Exhibit B)

2. Recommendations for Contract Extensions

The following central office personnel were recommended to the Board of Education for contract extension through June 30, 2004.

- *Caroletta Baker, Special Education Services*
- *Dennis Davis, Intervention/Prevention*

3. Recommendation for Administrative Appointment

- *Colin Batten, Jr., Invention Coordinator at Leesville High School, to assistant principal at Leesville Road High School.*

BOARD COMMUNITY COMMITTEE UPDATES

- *Finance Committee will conduct its first meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 at 3:30 p.m. The topic for discussion will be to search for alternate revenue sources for the school district.*

- *Community Relations Committee will have its first meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. The topic for discussion will be the role of the communication department and the review of the individual communication department plans for the upcoming year..*
- *Facilities Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 18, 2002, at 2:00 p.m. The topic for discussion will be "Equity of Facilities."*

ACTION ITEMS

FACILITIES

1. Schematic Design: Kingswood Elementary

Staff presented the schematic design documents prepared by Davis Kane Architects, P.A., for the construction of Kingswood Elementary addition and renovations. Fiscal Implications - Funding is available from the total project budget of \$8,235,195, as provided in the PLAN 2000 School Building Program..

- *Total of 27 teaching spaces.*
- *Faculty, staff, and students will relocate to Cedar Fork Elementary for the 2003-2004 school year.*
- *Building new administration spaces, student support services, CNS.*
- *Renovate existing gymnasium and physical education spaces to current program standards and building codes.*
- *Demolish buildings A,B,and E.*
- *Upgrade site vehicular traffic, pedestrian walkways, and outdoor program. Address landscaping needs.*

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.

POLICY

1. POLICY 8360 – Purchase Contract Administration

Revised; First Reading

This policy revision clarifies and removes inaccurate information from the existing policy. A reporting requirement for expenditures over \$250,000 is included.

- *Bill Fletcher ask that the "for all contracts" be deleted from the policy 8360.1*
- Amy White made a motion to approve, seconded by Bill Fletcher. The vote was unanimous.*

2. POLICY 8361 – Service Contract Administration

Revised; First Reading

The policy revision clarifies and streamlines existing policy. The revision expands the reporting requirement to include all change orders.

Amy White made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.

3. POLICY 8631 – Salary Deductions

Revised; First Reading

Language is added to the existing policy previously recommended by the board attorney.

Jeff York made a motion to approve, seconded by Bill Fletcher. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION ITEMS

PROGRAM

1. Results of SAT for Class of 2002 (Exhibit C)

SAT results were released nationwide on August 27, 2002. The attachment will summarize results for WCPSS students and compare local results to state and national results.

2. Update on NCWise Implementation

WCPSS has been participating in the initial pilot phase of NCWise and has been providing feedback to DPI so that they are aware of the unique needs of our district. Training of data managers and backups for each school has begun and hardware has been inventoried to assure compatibility with required standards.

- *NCWISE is a Student Information System database designed to track information about students, schools and districts.*
- *The benefits of NCWISE will come from taking advantage of modern technology that supports the elimination of redundant and inconsistent data; sharing of information; easy and effective communication of information; implementation of easy-to-use graphical user interfaces; easy-to-use tools to extract data for formulation tables and graphs for decision support and executive information; additional business requirements not currently supported by SIMS.*
- *The requirements for the NCWISE are summarized as three major components: school business operation: administrative supports and student service; Classroom and instructional management; accountability and decision support.*
- *All WCPSS elementary schools converted to NCWISE.*
- *Four WCPSS secondary schools: Middle Creek High School; Wake Forest—Rolesville High School; East Millbrook Middle; and Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle are on NCWISE.*
- *All remaining WCPSS Secondary Schools will be converted between September 11 and November 12, 2002.*

CLOSED SESSION

Susan Parry made a motion to go into closed session at 5:45 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 115C-319, seconded by Bill Fletcher. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kathryn Watson Quigg adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Respectfully submitted,

Elwanda K. Farrow, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair