



WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2007



Board Members Present	Staff Members Present	
Rosa Gill, Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	Don Haydon
Beverley Clark, Vice Chair	Terri Cobb	David Holdzkom
Patti Head	Marvin Connelly	Ann Hooker
Horace Tart	Danny Barnes	Julye Mizelle
Carol Parker	Maurice Boswell	David Neter
Lori Millberg	Kathy Chontos	Jonibel Willis
Eleanor Goettee	Chuck Dulaney	Mark Winters
Susan Parry	Michael Evans	
	Lloyd Gardner	Board Attorney
	Donna Hargens	Ann Majestic

Chair Rosa Gill called the meeting to order at 2:57 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INFORMATION

Chair's Comments

- I hope everyone was able to take advantage of the holiday by getting well deserved rest. We have been extremely busy lately and have a number of activities coming up.
- August 27 was the first day of school for our traditional calendar schools. Dr. Burns will speak on this in more detail, but I want to thank our principals and school staffs for a job well done.
- This year was a very good opening for the children of Wake County Public Schools due to the hard work of many dedicated staff members.
- Since our last meeting, the Board of Education met with the Raleigh City Council. This meeting occurred on August 28 at Carroll Middle School. The topics included:
 1. The impact of growth,
 2. The status of construction and renovation projects in the school building program,
 3. Information on the topics generated by the Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee, and
 4. The opportunity to discuss other topics of common interest to both Boards.
- I want to thank Mayor Meeker and the Raleigh City Council for this opportunity. It was an outstanding meeting and truly beneficial for both Boards. The feedback I have received has been extremely positive. I also want to thank the central office staff for their help in preparing this event as well as the staff at Carroll Middle School.

- I look forward to the two upcoming meetings with the elected officials in the other municipalities within Wake County. The first meeting will be held on September 24 at Crossroads II in Cary. The second meeting will be held on September 25 at Knightdale High School. Both meetings will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A light dinner will be served. I have no doubt that these meetings will be equally as productive as the meeting with the Raleigh City Council.
- Thank you to those Board members who attended the Raleigh Chamber Retreat on August 22 in Pinehurst. The topic for the meeting was “Cultivating Prosperity.” Dr. Burns provided the group with information related to the Curriculum Management Audit. I participated on a panel along with Commissioner Tony Gurley, Representative Jennifer Weiss, Senator Richard Stephenson, and Mayor Pro Tem Jim West. I felt the meeting went very well and was extremely informative.
- Thank you to Board members for their work on the Performance Goals. We spent many hours going through the performance goals, and I feel we did a very thorough job! As a result, we did provide Dr. Burns with a well deserved one year extension on his contract. We appreciate and recognize Dr. Burns’ hard work and dedication to the vision of “every child graduating on time, prepared for the future.” We value the work he has done in aligning the goals and refocusing our efforts on teaching and learning. Thank you to Dr. Burns for an outstanding year. Without a doubt, we know that we are fortunate in Wake County to have one of the best superintendents in the nation.
- The Board of Education will have a work session on Thursday, September 6, 2007, at Crossroads II from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Board members should have received a draft agenda for this meeting. I am pleased to say that Dr. Phil Boyle will be the facilitator for this meeting. We will check with the School Board’s Association to see if it is possible for us to receive credit for this session. From this work session, we may determine that an additional work session is needed before our next scheduled work session on October 23.
- Registration for the 2008 National School Board Association Conference is now open. The conference will be held in Orlando, Florida. Housing will open on October 2. You must be registered before you can reserve a room.

Superintendent’s Comments

- Thank you Chair Gill and Board members for the kind comments. I thank you for your support and confidence. It’s been a challenging first year, and I am truly looking forward to the coming year.
- As you know, traditional schools started back on Monday, August 27. I am pleased to report that the 2007-2008 opening was extremely smooth, in fact, as smooth as I have seen. As the Superintendent’s Leadership Team and I visited schools, it was obvious that a great deal of hard work and preparation had taken place, including preparing classrooms and lessons, providing parents with information, and conducting open houses. I want to thank all the departments within central services for their work in supporting the schools.

- The Transportation Department reported that there are 874 buses on the road. We are still in need of approximately 60 drivers, but have 42 in training class right now, more applicants are ready to start training right away. Thank you to Human Resources. In the meantime, Eddy Adams is covering routes with other staff; no route has been left uncovered. At this point, we feel very good about where we are in meeting transportation needs. I want to thank Eddy Adams and the Transportation Department for their work during the last few weeks for the overwhelming task they have performed. They have done an outstanding job.
- The Coalition of Concerned Citizens for African American Children held a “Back-To-School” session for parents on August 25. Staff presented information including a “Back-To-School” booklet prepared by Ann Hooker. I did attend this session along with Jonibel Willis, Ann Hooker, Darryl Fisher, and Marvin Connelly. I want to thank staff for their involvement with this project. It really does make a difference for our children and their parents.
- Approximately 60 Wake County students recently completed the 2007 session of the Governor’s School. A complete listing can be found on the DPI website. The Governor’s School is the oldest statewide summer residential program for academically or intellectually gifted high school students in the nation. The Governor’s School is held on two North Carolina campuses: Salem College in Winston-Salem and Meredith College in Raleigh. It is open to rising seniors only, with exceptions made for rising juniors in the performing and visual arts area. Congratulations to these students for their commitment and hard work in completing this six-week program.
- The annual K-12 Healthful Living staff members were involved in training on August 24 at Wakefield High School. Over 340 teachers were in attendance. In addition, 14 different community partners were also in attendance to support our teachers and to provide them with information related to student health and/or physical activity. The opening announcements highlighted Dr. Howard Lee’s speech from the administrator’s opening session in which he addressed the obesity epidemic and the importance of Healthful Living education and sound nutritional choices.
- More than 70 students from 22 Wake County Public Schools just completed several weeks of full day practices to prepare for the Broadway Series South production of the student performance of Les Miserables. The production is being coordinated by Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler, Senior Director for Arts Education. Performances will be held on September 28 and 29 at Memorial Auditorium. We are excited about this opportunity for our students and look forward to the performances. We hope to see many of you in attendance at these performances.
- Holly Springs High School has recently earned national and state awards for its yearbook and school newspaper. The school’s yearbook was a silver medalist, earning a National Award from the Columbia Scholastic Media Association in a statewide competition in the small schools division for schools with fewer than 1,000 students. Congratulations to Robin Ann Apicella, the schools’ yearbook advisor, Jenni Hall-Lewis, the newspaper advisor, Luther Johnson,

the principal at Holly Springs High School, and all the Holly Springs staff and students for a job well done.

- The Social Work Staff has taken the initiative to create the *Regional Hispanic Team*. The purpose of this team is to utilize the knowledge of the Spanish-speaking social workers by making their language and cultural competency skills available to their non-Spanish speaking colleagues. I want to thank the Social Work Staff for their determination in seeking new methods to support our students and their families.
- The Academically Gifted Department recently conducted a series of Professional Development activities. The major focus was on instructional strategies that support differentiation. One hundred seventeen teachers from Fuquay High School participated as a team in this training on August 21 and August 22. This is extremely exciting and we appreciate the AG department for making this training available.
- The North Carolina Alliance for Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (NCAAHPERD) recently named its State winners to be honored at their annual conference in November. I am pleased to announce that Wake County has two state winners: Katie Caggia from Olive Chapel will be recognized as the North Carolina Elementary Physical Educator of the Year, and Timber Drive Elementary School will be recognized as the K-12 Program of the Year. Congratulations to Ms. Caggia and to Timber Drive Elementary.

Board Comments

- Carol Parker attended the Forest Pines/ North Forest Pines ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, August 22. It was a terrific turnout with hundreds of parents. Ms. Parker thanked the principals, Freda Cole, and Chris McCabe for all that they have done.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Head requested to have the wording reflect the date of September 4, 2007, on the Policy Action Items, as they were handled during Committee of the Whole.

Ms. Parker requested that the Board of Education Work Session Minutes from May 23, 2007, be moved to action.

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Lori Millberg. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION ITEMS

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

1. CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AUDIT REPORT

In the Superintendent's mid-year report delivered to the Board of Education on January 23, 2007, Dr. Burns called for a curriculum management audit of the Wake County Public School System. The contract to do an audit was approved by the Board of Education on February 6, 2007.

Since the WCPSS is committed to continuous improvement, the system elected to engage Phi Delta Kappa, to conduct an audit of the curriculum. Each year we engage external auditors to examine our financial position and internal control. This is the first time that we have ever independently audited our core business- teaching and learning. Recommendations from the audit will help guide our efforts to move from good to great and to prepare our students for the more rigorous standards of the future.

Dr. Rosanne Stripling, the lead auditor for the Curriculum Management Audit, will present the audit report to the School Board. Fiscal Implications: Contract approved by the Board on February 6, 2007. Future implications to be determined. Recommendation for Action: This item is for information.

Dr. Burns outlined the reasons for having a curriculum management audit conducted. Dr. Burns stated that *“we needed to ensure that we were doing what we needed to do to support teaching. We needed to know where we could improve against high academic standards. We needed to know where, with all of our strengths as a successful school system, we are falling short. We needed an independent comprehensive review of our current state, measured objectively against standards the very high standards we wish to attain for all students. The findings before you today are an outgrowth of that willingness to stare into the mirror, and see our school system clearly. What we expected, and what we received, was a detailed accounting of where we fall short of our own high standards. This independent audit clearly shows the Wake County Public School System, and our community itself, has some profound choices to make. We are a good school system, but if we are going to improve, we must do more than just talk about moving from good to great, we must change. Our employees are working hard, we are doing things right, this audit will help us ask the very difficult question that naturally follows... are we doing the right things?”*

Dr. Stripling will go through the audit findings and the recommendations. Before she does, the following will be happening in the upcoming week.:

- *Our staff is reviewing the audit report now.*
- *Principals and administrators will be meeting tomorrow to discuss it.*
- *We will be coming back to the next Board meeting, September 18, to talk about a framework that we’re developing for reviewing and responding to the administrative actions related to these recommendations.*

Our school system can not coast on past success. We cannot allow complacency to determine the future of our students. I am not willing to let our schools stay on a plateau. This audit is not the end of a process of deep reflection; instead it is the beginning of a process of change. This audit can inform and guide our efforts systemically in order to take our schools systematically to a new level of performance. As an educator and superintendent, I cannot think of anything more exciting than this effort. We now have an explicit chart. It shows the shoals, it shows the submerged dangers, and it shows the markers for us to stay on course. I am confident that there is nothing in the way of the Wake County Public School System completing this voyage from good to great, that the Wake County Public School System can not handle. We have the right people, we have a strong community, we have the capacity, and I believe we have the will.”

Dr. Rosanne Stripling, the lead auditor presented the audit findings and recommendations. They are as follows:

Standard 1 – Control Findings

- District planning lacks coordination and monitoring.
- Board policies and regulations are not adequate.
- Table of Organization does not meet all standards for sound organizational management.
- Job descriptions lack critical elements.

Standard 2 – Direction Findings

- Planning for the management of curriculum design and delivery is not formalized.
- The scope of the written curriculum is adequate.
- The minimum quality of the written Mathematics curriculum is adequate, but inadequate for all other subjects.
Other quality issues were addressed:
 - Lack of internal consistency,
 - Inconsistency in spiraling of the curriculum,
 - Assessment items and student artifacts of low cognitive type,
 - Adequate inclusion of “best practice” approaches, and
 - Curriculum documents/resources (collectively) are not “user-friendly”.

Standard 3- Connectivity and Equity Findings

- Instructional programs are not aligned to curricular objectives.
- Inequality of access to programs, services, and opportunities still exists for some students.
- Professional development is not aligned to district and campus goals.
- Classroom instructional strategies are inconsistent with written expectations.
- Monitoring of the delivery of curriculum (teaching) is inconsistent and inadequate.
- The technology plan is incomplete.

Standard 4 – Feedback Findings

- Student assessment and program evaluation planning is not formalized.
- The scope of assessment is incomplete.
- The use of data as feedback for instructional improvement is inconsistent.
- Achievement gaps exist between some student groups.

Standard 5- Productivity Findings

- Long-range facility planning is adequate, but the current funding method hinders effective implementation.
- School facilities are generally clean and well-maintained. Some overcrowded conditions exist.
- The district’s budgeting process is not fully aligned to curriculum goals and strategic priorities.

- The teacher appraisal process is not used to improve instruction.

Recommendations

- **Appropriate to district**
- **Presented in order of importance**
- **May be based on several findings**
- **Presented in two parts: Governance and Administration**

Recommendation 1

- Implement district plans and goals to provide equal student access to comparable programs, services, and opportunities. Eliminate existing achievement gaps between student groups. Take further steps to allocate resources on the basis of need.

Recommendation 2

- Refocus the planning process to attain improved internal system connectivity to realize the strategic direction of the school district.

Recommendation 3

- Develop, revise, and adopt Board policies/regulations to communicate governance expectations, provide adequate direction to employees, and establish a framework for accountability.

Recommendation 4

- Develop a comprehensive curriculum management process. Develop/revise curriculum resources/ documents to meet audit criteria. Develop single-source curriculum guides and streamline online documents.

Recommendation 5

- Formalize comprehensive assessment procedures to provide data for decision making at all levels. Establish a formalized process for the selection, implementation, and evaluation of programs.

Recommendation 6

- Develop and implement a multi-year plan that fully aligns the district's financial resources to curricular goals and strategic priorities and includes required cost-benefit analyses.

Recommendation 7

- Develop and implement a professional development plan that is aligned to district and campus goals, addresses individual needs, and includes instructional best practices. Revise the teacher appraisal system to provide teachers with constructive feedback for the improvement of instruction.

Recommendation 8

- Prepare and adopt a set of quality job descriptions and a Table of Organization consistent with sound management principles. Reconfigure personnel to provide

greater flexibility in accommodating growth and to improve support and supervision for principals, staff, and area superintendents.

Susan Parry stated that she appreciated the Superintendent's and Board's willingness to do the audit. Ms. Parry stated that it was overwhelming as well as exciting to contemplate the best way to approach the findings and to take advantage of the information that has been presented. Ms. Parry questioned Standard Two where the line between what the State lays out in terms of standard course of study and what needs to be taught and objectives for areas of study, and what the school system's responsibility for detailing what needs to be included. Dr. Stripling replied that the standard course of study gives teachers broad objectives for the teachers to teach and the students to learn. Phi Delta Kappa expects the District to take the standard course of study, and detail that into more specific learning objectives.

Ms. Parker is concerned with over-correction as it relates to site-based management. Dr. Stripling responded the district should define what decisions are going to be made at the district level and are non-negotiable, and what decisions can be left to the prerogative of the principal. Ms. Parry inquired about the approach that should be taken to deal with the findings in the Curriculum Management Audit. Dr. Stripling responded that Superintendent Burns already has some plans in place and has deployed the administrative staff to bring forward specific approaches to how the recommendations are carried forward. Dr. Stripling recommended that the district begin work on all eight recommendations and that a total comprehensive policy review is completed. The governance's responsibilities will need to be guided by the Superintendent and the Chair of the Board as well as monitor the progress of the implementation.

Ms. Goettee expressed her appreciation of Dr. Stripling's thrust on professional development for administrators and staff. Ms. Goettee also stated that site-based management is a great tool; teachers have not had much training in how to use the tools in site-based management. Ms. Goettee stated that the county can do this.

Ms. Head asked Dr. Stripling to comment on dealing with other districts about funding resources. Dr. Stripling responded that the first recommendation is that the Board undertake an effort to have the statute changed, or try to obtain clearance to be a pilot of a different funding approach to schools. The second recommendation is that the Board continue to try to work with the Board of County Commissioners in a collaborative way, so that all are focused on achieving the same outcome.

Ms. Parker asked Dr. Stripling to comment on any observations that she has seen in community involvement in the curriculum decisions. Dr. Stripling stated that the statewide curriculum is non-negotiable; the audit did not address quality issues of any particular program approach in teaching. Dr. Stripling said that it should be a collaborative effort, the burden of responsibility lies within the district to make decisions about curriculum.

Chair Gill offered thanks to Dr. Stripling and her staff of auditors for completing a comprehensive job of evaluating the curriculum and making recommendations. The

Board looks forward to taking on the tasks that are ahead.

Dr. Burns extended thanks to Dr. Stripling and her expertise as well as the other lead auditors for all of the work that they put into the audit. Phi Delta Kappa put together an “A Team”, led by one of their greatest lead auditors. Superintendent Burns assured the Board that they would receive progress reports at each meeting.

Dr. Stripling thanked Superintendent Burns and the Board of Education for the opportunity. Dr. Stripling commended the Board for the courage in asking for the audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 4 P.M.

Citizens who signed 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.

- **Edward F. Gehringer (Legislative Liaison for Combs PTA)** - Concerned parent in a node in danger of reassignment. Mr. Gehringer urges the Board to place a cap to minimize future reassignments.

CONSENT ITEMS

Patti Head made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Susan Parry. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

April 24, 2007 - Board of Education Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2007 - Board of Education Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2007 - Board of Education Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2007 - Board of Education Meeting Minutes

FINANCE

1. GIFTS TO THE SYSTEM

Forty-five gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$94,873.25. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable.
Recommendation for Action:
No action is required.

FACILITIES

1. RIGHT OF WAY DEDICATION: EAST WAKE MIDDLE

In order to obtain the permits required for the addition of classroom modular units on the East Wake Middle School site, the Town of Knightdale is requiring that the Board of Education dedicate a seventy-four (74) foot wide right-of-way to the Town. The total area of the proposed dedicated right-of-way is 145,621 square feet (3.34 acres) and the right-of-way will be located along the school’s entrance road. The requested easement will not

interfere with the Wake County Public School's present or future use of the property. A map of the proposed right-of-way dedication is attached. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

2. RENEWAL OF JOINT USE AGREEMENT: ATHENS DRIVE HIGH (USE OF THE SHUFFLE BOARD COURTS, HORSESHOE PITS, DESIGNATED PARKING AREA AND DRIVE ACCESS.)

City of Raleigh desires to renew its Joint Use Agreement with the Board pertaining to Athens Drive High School facilities to permit City use of the shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, designated parking areas and drive accesses, located on Board Property. City use shall be after normal school hours and at such other times when such areas are not scheduled or being used by the Board. Previous agreements for City use of the shuffleboard courts and the horseshoe pits were approved by the Board on April 21, 1986 and April 9, 1996. Board and City shall share (90% - WCPSS / 10% - City) the costs of routine, preventive, and major maintenance of the designated parking areas and drive access as specified within the agreement. Routine, preventive, and major maintenance of the shuffleboard courts and horseshoe pits shall be the sole responsibility of the City. The Board shall continue to have priority of use of joint use designated areas both during school and non-school hours. The term of the renewed Joint Use Agreement is 25 years with an option to extend the City's use for an additional twenty-five (25) year period. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

3. SEWER EASEMENT DEDICATION: RIVER BEND ELEMENTARY (E-19)

With the construction of River Bend Elementary it is necessary to dedicate a sewer easement on the site to the City of Raleigh to serve the facility. Approval and dedication of the sewer easement is necessary to the issuance of a building permit for construction of River Bend Elementary. The requested sewer easement will not interfere with Wake County Public Schools' present or future use of the property. A copy of an Easement Plat is attached. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

4. CHANGE ORDER NO. 29: MARTIN MIDDLE

Board approval is requested for Change Order No. 29, in the amount of \$148,652.69, to DeVere Construction Company, Inc. In February, 2006, Staff requested and BOE approved reallocation of funds to Martin Middle School for replacement of chilled water line. This change order reports the actual cost of pipe placement and temporary chiller required to provide service during this replacement. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$24,559,010, of which \$1,157,258 is from PLAN 2000 Start-Up and \$23,401,752 from PLAN 2004. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

5. CHANGE ORDER NO. 1: SMITH ELEMENTARY

Board approval is requested for Change Order No. 1 to Shuller Ferris Lindstrom + Associates Architects, PA. This change order, in the amount of \$140,505.69, is to fund the design changes to increase the capacity from 655 to 800 as approved by the Board on April 24, 2007. Fiscal Implications: The proposed project budget is \$22,078,106, of

which \$230,000 is from PLAN 2004 Start-Up, \$18,401,717 from CIP 2006, and \$3,446,389 will be reallocated from the CIP 2006 Reserve Fund at a future time. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

6. CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: EAST WAKE HIGH

Staff has reviewed the construction documents for East Wake High, and requests Board approval and authorization to advertise for construction of Phase 2 B, which includes renovations to Building A (2-story 1976 portion). This is a continuation of the work to complete the master plan for the south campus high school. The original plan was to complete this work in PLAN 2004. However, due to budget constraints, portions were deferred to CIP 2006. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$27,056,516, of which \$125,000 is from Plan 2004 Start-Up, \$4,199,950 is from remaining funds in the PLAN 2004 project as approved at the August 21, 2007 Board meeting, \$302,797 is from CIP 2006 Offsite Improvements, and \$22,428,769 is from CIP 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

7. BIDS: TWO SIX-CLASSROOM MODULAR UNITS FOR POE ELEMENTARY

Bids were received on August 14, 2007 for connecting/installing all services (power, water, sewer, ADA access, data, fire protection, and security) required for permitted occupancy for two six-classroom modular units at Poe Elementary School. Staff and Gurel Architecture, Inc., recommend award of the single-prime contract to Beau Chene Company, LLC, in the amount of \$249,500. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$14,089,270 of which \$250,000 is from PLAN 2004 and \$13,839,270 is from CIP 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

8. BIDS: SIX-CLASSROOM MODULAR UNIT FOR DILLARD DRIVE MIDDLE

Bids were received on August 14, 2007 for connecting/installing all services (power, water, sewer, ADA access, data, fire protection, and security) required for permitted occupancy of a six-classroom modular unit at Dillard Drive Middle School. Staff and HH Architects, Inc., recommend award of the single-prime contract to Beau Chene Company, LLC, in the amount of \$172,500. This project has significantly more site work than the Poe Elementary modular project. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available for set-up from the total project budget of \$16,935,553, all of which is from the CIP 2006 Mobile Classroom Relocation and Leasing 2007-2009 project. Funding is available for lease costs from the 07-08 Operating Capital Outlay Budget. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

9. BIDS: BAILEYWICK ELEMENTARY PARTIAL ROOF REPLACEMENT

Bids for the partial roof replacement at Baileywick Elementary School were received on August 2, 2007. Staff and Roof Engineering, Inc. recommend award of the single-prime contract to Curtis Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$210,379. The existing single-ply membrane roof (1996 original building construction) is at the end of its useful life and is being replaced with a new modify bitumen roof system. Fiscal Implications:

Funding is available from the CIP 2006 Life Cycle Replacement Project budget of \$67,813,687. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

10. BIDS: FACILITIES DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION OFFICE ALTERATION

Bids for the office alteration project of leased space for the Facilities Design and Construction Department were received on August 21, 2007. Staff and HH Architects, Inc., recommend award of the single-prime contract to Spec Con, Inc., in the amount of \$608,934. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total up-fit project budget of \$670,000 as provided from the Program Management component of CIP 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

1. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Competitive (#1174): United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1175): Ezra Jack Keats / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1177): Trentini Foundation / Wake Forest area schools.
- Competitive (#1178): Wal-Mart Foundation / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1179): North Carolina Electric Cooperatives, Bright Ideas / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1180): Dollar General, Literacy Grants / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1181): ING Northern Annuity, Unsung Heroes / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1182): Best Buy Foundation, [Te@ch](#) Award / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1183): Fuquay-Varina Women's Club / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1184): Target Stores / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1185): Knights of Columbus, Operation Lamb / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1186): North Carolina Arts Council, Artists in Residency / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1187): Wake Education Partnership, Food For Thought / Individual schools.

BOARD ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

This represents new nominations to the Board Advisory Councils. The nomination forms are attached for the Board's review and consideration. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORT

Ms. Head requested from Board members, nominees of citizens on the Community Relations Committee.

Ms. Parker reported that the North Carolina School Board's Association will have their District Meetings on September 12.

Ms. Goettee reported that Human Resources will not be meeting on September 12.

Ms. Clark reported that the Program Committee was looking at moving their meeting up, however, she will send an email with the details.

Mr. Tart reported that the Facilities Committee will meet on September 11. Several topics will be discussed, including the Schematic Design for M-6, however, that will be taken off as we no longer have the land for the site. An update on Wake Forest-Rolesville High School renovations, a discussion on recommendations for the use of reserve funds and public-private partnerships will also be discussed. On August 28, the Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee met and discussed the potential recommendations that will be brought forward at the joint meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Education on September 19.

Chair Gill stated that Chair Gurley had not yet set an agenda for the meeting on September 19.

Ms. Head reported that the Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee will meet on Monday, September 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Parker reported that the Blue Ribbon Committee is conducting a status update on September 11 at 9:00 a.m. at the Brier Creek Country Club.

ACTION ITEMS

May 23 Board of Education Work Session Minutes

Beverly Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. Ms. Parker had concerns regarding the brevity of the minutes. Ms. Parker wanted the follow-up information that would be made from some of the schools that the Board said was in alignment with the magnet objectives, however, there were areas of concern on some of those magnets and action that needed to be taken through student assignment, and other kinds of corrected action.

The motion was tabled, the Chair directed the Board Specialist to confer with the Magnet Office and expand the minutes of the work session to reflect more of the action taken during the meeting.

FACILITIES

1. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: RIVER BEND ELEMENTARY (E-19) AND WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On June 20, 2006, the Board of Education approved an Offer to Purchase and Contract for the acquisition of land for the location of an elementary school (E-19) now known as River Bend Elementary. River Bend Elementary is adjacent to the North Campus of Wake Technical Community College. As a result of collaborative site planning with

Wake Technical Community College and Wake County, terms of an Interlocal Agreement have been reached concerning future joint use of infrastructure, dedication of a sewer easement, exchange of 3.26 acre tracts to accommodate the location of a safe vehicular access, and the execution of restrictive covenants from which the Board property shall be exempt. Approval of the Interlocal Agreement is necessary to the issuance of a building permit for construction of River Bend Elementary. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Betty Parker presented information to the Board. Ms. Parker stated that in late June, the Board approved an offer to purchase and contract to acquire land for River Bend Elementary School. As a result of collaborative planning with Wake Technical Community College, the City of Raleigh, the County, and the developer, a number of details need to be tied so that construction can proceed. Terms have been reached with an inter local agreement. Because the sewer easement crosses three property owners' properties, an agreement has been reached. There is an exchange of two equal parcels of land for 3.26 acres, one that WCPSS owns and one that Wake Tech owns, that are being swapped to make for a better vehicular access to the site. For Wake Tech's part, they received a more developable 3.26 acres. We are executing some restrictive covenants. As part of this arrangement, the entire PDD is required to be subject to restrictive covenants. Our use in our land will be exempt from those covenants. Since we are completing the swap with Wake Tech prior to the covenants, there is language in the agreement that everyone is aware of and that the covenants will have to be executed at an appropriate time in the future in order to move forward.

Ms. Parker asked if the school would be opened on time. Mr. Burriss responded that site clearing has already begun; staff is ready for the foundation permit, and building permit in the next three weeks. Conditions were approved as part of the PDD with the City of Raleigh and by City Council that have stipulations for staff to comply. In doing so, that has made it more difficult for staff to move forward pending approval of the overall PDD action items. Staff is continuing to move ahead with the contractor to expedite as much as possible. Staff is continuing to move forward with contacts with the City of Raleigh, their staff, and legal counsel. Staff is still planning to hit the target date for a July opening.

With no further questions from the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

2. JOINT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT: SYCAMORE CREEK ELEMENTARY (ROAD WIDENING)

The City of Raleigh and WCPSS are partnering in the development of the widening of Leesville Road from the southern boundary of the Sycamore Creek Elementary School (E-17) property to I-540, a distance of approximately 0.3 miles. The draft agreement requires WCPSS to pay for the design cost of the project and the City to acquire and pay for the necessary easements and right-of-way acquisitions along with the roadway widening construction cost. The WCPSS will let the project for bid and also manage the construction. Staff will present the agreement for approval. Board approval is also requested to allow staff to subsequently make minor adjustments in the final agreement in conjunction with the City of Raleigh staff. Fiscal Implications: The total estimated

cost of this project is \$952,399, of which the design and other associated expenses that will be paid by WCPSS are approximately \$120,000. The WCPSS funds are available in the CIP 2006 Offsite Improvements project. The City of Raleigh will pay the remainder of the expenses. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Patti Head made a motion to approve, seconded by Carol Parker. Betty Parker presented information to the Board. The City of Raleigh and WCPSS are partnering in the development of the widening of Leesville Road from the southern boundary of the Sycamore Creek Elementary School (E-17) property to I-540, a distance of approximately 0.3 miles. The draft agreement requires WCPSS to pay for the design cost of the project and the City to acquire and pay for the necessary easements and right-of-way acquisitions along with the roadway widening construction cost. Staff is requesting the Board approve the document in concept, because there are some minor semantic changes yet to be made as a result of the transfer of this property pursuant to the sales tax agreement. Staff has not had a chance to finally look at the agreement and be sure that the language is appropriate in contemplation of our agency on the project for the county's ownership of the project. Staff will go forward and make the word smithing changes and have to the Board on September 5.

Ms. Clark clarified that the total project cost is \$952,399; WCPSS is only responsible for \$120,000. Ms. Parker responded affirmatively.

Ms. Head thanked the City of Raleigh for working in collaboration with WCPSS.

With no further questions, the Board voted unanimously.

3. JOINT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT: SYCAMORE CREEK ELEMENTARY (OFF-SITE SEWER)

The City of Raleigh and WCPSS are partnering in the installation of approximately 1600 feet of 8" gravity sewer line from the City's sewer main to the new Sycamore Creek Elementary School (E-17). This sewer line is necessary for the school to function when it is completed. The draft agreement requires WCPSS to pay the entire cost of the project. The City will acquire the necessary easements, let the project for bid, and also manage the construction, but WCPSS will pay the entire cost. Staff will present the final agreement for approval. Fiscal Implications: The estimated cost of this project is \$170,000, of which \$148,741 is for basic design and construction and \$21,259 is for future unknown change orders and other construction related expenses. In addition, the cost of easement acquisition and buffer-wetland mitigation will also be borne by WCPSS. The WCPSS funds are available in the CIP 2006 Offsite Improvements project. The City of Raleigh will assess fees in the future to adjacent property owners and a portion of these fees will be reimbursed to WCPSS on a yearly basis. The amount of reimbursement is unknown. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Patti Head made a motion to approve, seconded by Carol Parker. Betty Parker presented information to the Board. The City of Raleigh and WCPSS are partnering in the installation of approximately 1600 feet of 8" gravity sewer line from the City's sewer main to the new Sycamore Creek Elementary School (E-17). This sewer line is necessary for the school to function when it is completed. It does require that WCPSS pay for the

project although there is an opportunity for reimbursement as other land owners are allowed to tap into the line. The City will acquire the necessary easements, and also manage the construction.

With no questions from the Board, the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Head questioned if staff would make the deadline for having the school open. Mr. Burriss responded that staff would make the deadline.

POLICY

1. POLICY 1300- BOARD MEETINGS

Revised: First Reading. Request Waiver of Second Reading

Revisions are being made to the policy to reflect current School Board meeting days and times. Revisions have been made with the input of staff. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Beverly Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. Terri Cobb presented information to the Board. The policy was changed to the first and third Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.

With no questions from the Board, the vote was unanimous.

2. POLICY 2308/3008/4008 TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT

Revised: First Reading

Recent legislative changes included in House Bill 1086 require the revision of Policy 2308/3008/4008-tobacco-Free Environment. Revisions have been made with the input of staff, and have been reviewed by Ann Majestic. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve Policy 2308 Tobacco-free Environment for first reading with an implementation date of January 1, 2008, so as to align with the State's implementation of its similar policy in other buildings. This will allow for the signage to be created and displayed, so as to allow us to put the appropriate services in place for employees. The motion was seconded by Patti Head.

Maurice Boswell presented information to the Board. Recent legislative changes included in House Bill 1086 require the revision of Policy 2308/3008/4008-tobacco-Free Environment. The intent of the approved law, is to protect children in the public schools from exposure to tobacco by requiring all local Boards of Education to adopt written policy prohibiting the use of tobacco products in school facilities, on school campuses, school buildings, or at school-related or school sponsored events, and in or on other school property. The bill will require local school board policies to include at least all of these elements: adequate notice to parents, students, the public, and school personnel of the policy, posting of signs prohibiting at all times, the use of tobacco products by any person in or on school property, and a requirement that school personnel enforce the policy. At this time, staff is recommending that two signs be posted at each of the five

administrative campuses, each sign will cost approximately \$95.00. The approximate cost of ten signs is \$1,000.00.

Ms. Majestic stated that the last sentence, *“For the purposes of this policy display is defined as having any tobacco product in location or position that is visible to students or school personnel.”* Should be placed under .5, which defines tobacco products.

Ms. Parry accepts the suggestion from Ms. Majestic, accepted by Ms. Head as well.

With no questions from the Board, the vote was unanimous.

3. POLICY 5536/6536- FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Revised: First Reading

Revisions are being recommended in accordance with the recently adopted North Carolina House Bill 915. The new legislation encourages schools to offer American Sign Language classes in high schools for credit as a modern foreign language. The proposed revisions include a process for students wishing to demonstrate school language proficiency in American Sign Language. In addition, the policy has included two standardized assessment instruments student may use when wishing to receive second language credit for commonly assessed second languages, the Brigham Young University Foreign Language Achievement Testing Service, or the Sign Language proficiency. Revisions have been made with the input of staff. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Beverly Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Tom Huffstetler presented information to the Board. Revisions are being recommended in accordance with the recently adopted North Carolina House Bill 915. The new legislation encourages schools to offer American Sign Language classes in high schools for credit as a modern foreign language. In addition, the policy has included two standardized assessment instruments students may use when wishing to receive second language credit for commonly assessed second languages: the Brigham Young University Foreign Language Achievement Testing Service, or the Sign Language proficiency. Revisions have been made with input of staff.

With no questions from the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

5. POLICY 6201- SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Revised: First Reading

Recent legislative changes require the revision of Policy 6201-School Admissions. These changes relate to revisions in the Mc-Kinney-Vento Act, House Bill 1074 (of the 2006 session), House Bill 150, House Bill 1357, and updates regarding Student Due Process procedures.

1. The **McKinney-Vento Act** and the North Carolina General Assembly require local school boards to develop and implement a process for parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth who have complaints about enrollment to file an appeal with the district's Homeless Liaison upon registering or attempting to at the school.

Enrollment shall be deemed to include attending classes and participating fully in school activities. The burden shall be on the school or the Homeless Liaison to show that the student is not a homeless student or unaccompanied youth.

2. House Bill 150 modified admission requirements for students entering kindergarten. The legislation changes the age requirement stating that a child can be enrolled for kindergarten if the child reaches or reached the age of 5 on or before August 31, rather than October 16, of the school year. This new cut off date will become effective with the 2009-2010 school year.
3. House Bill 1357 states that a student who is not a domiciliary of a local school administrative may attend, without payment of tuition, the public schools of the unit if his or her parent or legal guardian is on active military duty and is deployed out of the local school administrative unit in which the student resides.
4. The Office of Student Due Process has made minor revisions to align the policy with current practices.

Revisions have been made with the input of staff, and have been reviewed by Ann Majestic. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Chuck Dulaney presented information to the Board. House Bill 150 modified admission requirements for students entering kindergarten. The legislation changes the age requirement stating that a child can be enrolled for kindergarten if the child reaches or reached the age of 5 on or before August 31, rather than October 16, of the school year. This new cut-off date will become effective with the 2009-2010 school year. This will have no impact on students entering kindergarten this year, it will have no impact on students who enter our kindergartens in 2008-2009, however, for the 2009-2010 year, WCPSS will have a smaller kindergarten cohort, because it will be children who are born between October 16 of the previous year and August 31. House Bill 1357 states that a student who is not a domiciliary of a local school administrative may attend, without payment of tuition, the public schools of the unit if his or her parent or legal guardian is on active military duty and is deployed out of the local school administrative unit in which the student resides. WCPSS will honor the enrollment.

The **McKinney-Vento Act** and the North Carolina General Assembly require local school boards to develop and implement a process for parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth who have complaints about enrollment to file an appeal with the district's Homeless Liaison upon registering or attempting to at the school. Enrollment shall be deemed to include attending classes and participating fully in school activities. The burden shall be on the school or the Homeless Liaison to show that the student is not a homeless student or unaccompanied youth. State Legislation indicates that WCPSS needs to incorporate a grievance policy for students who may have questions about being turned away from a school, which has been added to Policy 6201.3E.

Regarding 6201.2 1&3, Ms. Majestic stated that to her understanding, there is a question about why there is a right to appeal to the Board if a student has been expelled, but our policy says that there is not a right to appeal to the Board if the student has been suspended in some other system and comes to WCPSS. With students who are expelled, they may not come back for the rest of their educational career, but statute says that a student who has been expelled may appeal to the Board, after the first July 1 that they have been out for six months. Our State Statute says if a student gets suspended or expelled in another district, this district has the right to say that they are not admitted, however, it preserves that right to appeal for the expelled student. Nothing prevents the Board, as a matter of discretion, to allow an appeal by a suspended student. The whole idea is that the student's suspension follows them to the next North Carolina School District for that duration. There is no obligation to give them an appeal. Ms. Majestic cautions the Board that only one side will be given for a decision to be made.

Ms. Clark made a friendly amendment to strike the sentence " *Suspended students who are denied admission are not entitled to a hearing to request the Board to reconsider its decision to deny admission.*"

Ms. Millberg stated that in lieu of striking, say, "*if suspended students are denied admission, may request, but are not entitled to a hearing*".

The Board made a decision to modify Policy 6201 to the language under .2D1 and saying "*Suspended students who are denied admission may request, but are not entitled to, a hearing to request the Board to reconsider its decision to deny admission.*"

With no further questions from the Board, the vote was approved unanimously.

4. POLICY 6000-ATTENDANCE

Revised: First Reading

Revisions are being recommended in accordance with North Carolina Statute. Language has been added regarding allowable excused absences. In addition, clarifying language regarding block courses has been included. Revisions have been made with input of staff. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve, seconded by Beverley Clark. Karen Hamilton presented information to the Board. With no questions from the Board, the vote was unanimous.

6. POLICY 6445- INTEGRITY

Revised: First Reading. Request Waiver of Second Reading

Revisions are being made to align language with the revised title of a referenced policy. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implication: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Patti Head made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. Victoria Curtis presented information to the Board. With no questions from the Board, the vote was unanimous.

7. POLICY 6530-DUE PROCESS

Revised: First Reading.

Recent legislative changes included in House Bill 1739 require the revision of Policy 6530-Due Process. The revised law allows students placed on short-term suspensions to take their textbooks home for the duration of the short-term suspension, to have access to homework assignments, and to ensure that parents receive actual notice of a student's expulsion or suspension from school. Revisions to our policy have been made with the input of staff, and have been reviewed by Carolyn Waller. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 8/28/07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

Susan Parry made a motion to send Policy 6530 on Due Process back to the Policy Committee to address some questions that were raised in Committee of the Whole regarding the state statute that requires notification of parents, seconded by Beverley Clark.

Ms. Parry stated that in the case of suspended students, the Board's policy was clear enough in requiring notification of parents. The Board Attorney indicated that the Board needs to address more clearly in the policy itself, the requirements of the statute.

With no questions from the Board, the vote was approved unanimously.

Lori Millberg made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:27 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11(a) (6) and 115C-319, to consider confidential student information protected under G.S. 115C-402 and the Family Educational Rights Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, 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 Patti Head. The motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

- 1). Carolyn Penny, Retired Assistant Principal, to 40% Interim Assistant Principal at Farmington Woods Elementary School, effective date September 5, 2007 through June 30, 2008. (Interim Position).

- 2). Barbara Crockett, Retired Principal, to Interim Assistant Principal at North Forest Pines Elementary School, effective September 5, 2007- November 23, 2007 (Interim Position).

At approximately 7:00 p.m. on a motion by Patti Head, seconded by Eleanor Goettee, the Board returned to Open Session to approve administrative appointments and extension of contracts for the Superintendent's Leadership Team. The Board returned to Closed Session at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Patti Head made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Beverley Clark. Patti Head made a motion to amend the Closed Session Agenda, seconded by Lori Millberg. To Establish or give instructions concerning the negotiating position of real property, as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(2) was expanded to include discussions of land acquisition for PIN #0726861425 and land acquisition related to M6 on Burlington Mills Road.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, Patti Head made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Beverley Clark. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosa U. Gill, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary