



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2009**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Kevin L. Hill, Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	
Horace Tart, Vice Chair		
Eleanor Goettee	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>	
Patti Head	Ann Majestic	
Anne McLaurin		
Ron Margiotta		
Lori Millberg		
Keith Sutton		

Chair Kevin L. Hill called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Lori Millberg made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda, seconded by Horace Tart. Patti Head made a substitute motion to amend the agenda and add an Information Item to the Meeting Agenda; Policy Issue of Having Public Officials Address the Entire Student Body of the Wake County Public School System. The motion was seconded by Ron Margiotta. The motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. POLICY DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC OFFICIALS ADDRESSING THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY OF THE WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Board began the discussion with Ms. Head sharing that Board Policy 5410 and R&P had been established for individuals speaking before students at schools. Ms. Head stated that when the Board approved the policy, the policy included elected officials which caused some consternation among some elected officials in Wake County.

Board Members' concerns included the issue being sent back to the Policy Committee or Committee of the Whole for clarity, parents concerned of what would take place after the address, the administration at schools not being prepared to properly address the situation, clarifying what the school system's practice is regarding elected officials addressing students.

Board members also had concerns of why the President's address would not be watched in an educational institution.

Dr. Burns shared that the President's Address is a broadcast and is another instructional resource that is used by classroom teachers. Board Policy 5410, does address speakers however, in this case, it is a one-way broadcast. If broadcasts are aligned with the Standard Course of Study, then they are appropriate to use in the classroom with follow-up questions, discussion, and activities by teachers. Dr. Burns stated further that, the

alignment with the curriculum be maintained with any instructional resource; whether it's a speaker, a broadcast, or webinars. WCPSS has adopted and addressed the issue by making the information available, however, the resource must align with the curriculum if it's used in a class, parents must be informed in advance, and parents have the choice of opting out if they wish.

Ms. Majestic reiterated to the Board that Board Policy 5410 is very small and that details are located in R & P, which is an administrative procedure. Ms. Majestic also stated that the policy does not give clear direction or limitation in the way that R & P does. Ms. Majestic suggested that the Board may want to lift things from R & P and place them in policy.

Mr. Hill shared that the issue will be referred to the Policy Committee for an update in Policy and to lift items from R & P and place in Policy 5410.

2. FINALIZE THE PROCESS FOR INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR THE DISTRICT #6 BOARD OF EDUCATION SEAT

Mr. Hill shared that the procedure adopted and used in bringing Mr. Sutton onto the Board was smooth and would be used again for the District 6 interviewing process with the exception of voting. The Board decided that they would use the 3-2-1 scoring system with the first round consisting of Board members' ranking and weighing their top three applicants, the second round Board members ranking and weighing their top two applicants, and the final round consisting of Board members selecting their top applicant.

Mr. Hill shared that each applicant would be given 2-3 minutes to introduce himself/herself. The Board Chair will give an overview of the process after Board members introduce themselves. Mr. Hill stated that Board members will rotate questions to the applicants and that the Board would select the District #6 Board member at the end of the meeting.

Applicant Questions

The Board reached consensus on the following questions for applicants of the District 6 Board seat:

- Given the limited resources available to the school system, how would you propose we allocate these resources to address the needs of all students, including those who are academically challenged to those who are academically gifted?
- What steps should/could the BoE take to close the achievement gap?
- Fulfilling the requirements of service may require 30 or more hours per week, many during the hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. How will your current commitments and responsibilities allow you time for Board meetings and responsibilities?
- Frequently, there are competing issues among vocal groups that advocate about critical decisions the Board must take, for example, school sites, school calendars, and reassignment. Please share your process in considering and deciding your vote, including how you would balance the needs and desires of your constituents with the needs of the system as a whole?

- The following strategies are used by the system to deal with growth and to keep all schools healthy:
 - a) Magnet Schools
 - b) Year-round Calendar
 - c) Reassignment

What is your view of these strategies and what alternatives would you suggest the Board consider?

- What recommendation would you make as a member of the Board of Education to:
 - a) expand communication between the Board and the public
 - b) increase public support for decisions made by the Board
 - c) for getting increased funding for WCPSS

The Board agreed that each applicant would receive the same questions and that a copy of the questions would be taped to the applicant's table for their referral during the interview process. Each applicant was given 30 minutes to answer the Board's questions. The interview included 2-3 minutes for applicant's to introduce themselves. Mr. Hill shared that the selected District 6 Board member would be sworn in on September 15th.

Candidate interviews began at 10:00 a.m. The Board of Education interviewed the following individuals for the District 6 Board seat:

- Stacy A. Arch,
- Christine C. Kushner,
- George W. Morgan, Jr.,
- Carolyn B. Morrison,
- Julie M. Nau,
- Diane Payne, and
- Etta Wilson

Due to a power outage, the Board took a brief recess at 11:30 a.m. to move to another room. The Board reconvened interviews at 11:50 a.m.

Applicant interviews concluded at 2:08 p.m. and the Board began the selection process. The following individuals, with weighted ranking, were selected in Round 1:

- Christine Kushner – 13
- Carolyn Morrison – 10
- Julie Nau - 6
- Diane Payne – 7

The following individuals were selected in Round 2:

- Christine Kushner – 8
- Carolyn Morrison – 7
- Diane Payne -4

In the final round, Carolyn Morrison received 4 votes and Christine Kushner received 3. Dr. Carolyn B. Morrison was selected as the District 6 Board Member.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, Keith Sutton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin L. Hill, Chair, Wake County Board of Education

Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary