



## WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2007



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

Chair Rosa Gill called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### INFORMATION

#### Chair's Comments

- On October 4, 2007, Mrs. Gill attended the renaming ceremony of Project Enlightenment's Teacher Resource Center in honor of Alice Burrows. Carol Parker, Susan Parry, and newly elected Board Member, Anne McLaurin attended as well. Alice Burrows was the Director of Project Enlightenment for over 30 years. Mrs. Gill congratulated and thanked Mrs. Burrows for all that she has done for the children in our community.
- Ms. Gill congratulated and welcomed newly elected Board members, Kevin Hill and Anne McLaurin in joining the Board of Education. Mrs. Gill also congratulated returning Board members, Vice Chair Beverley Clark and Ron Margiotta.
- Ms. Gill offered sympathy and prayers to the family of Bob McGhee, former CEO of Progress Energy. Progress Energy and WCPSS are great partners and look forward to working with the newly appointed CEO, Bill Johnson.
- On October 10, 2007 Mrs. Gill met with the Leadership Team of the County Commissioners. A Joint Meeting will be held with the County Commissioners on Wednesday, October 18, 2007 at 9:00 in the Board Conference Room. Topics for the meeting include, use of reserve funds, real estate acquisition checklist, CFAC recommendations, and the capital improvement plan.
- On October 18, 2007, the Triangle High Five Regional Partnership will host a Human Service Summit at 9:00 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Cary. Dr. Ron Ferguson will present information related to strategies for addressing the achievement gap.
- On October 23, 2007, the Board of Education will have a work session from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Crossroads II in Room 1412. Dr. Philip Boyle will be facilitating the session.

- October 12, 2007 through October 14, 2007, Mrs. Gill had the opportunity to present at the National African-American School Board's Association's Conference. Ms. Gill and Mr. Dulaney presented information regarding WCPSS Student Assignment Policy and Process. Mrs. Gill presented the policy and Mr. Dulaney presented the student assignment process. The conference was exciting and informative.

### **Board Member's Comments**

- Ms. Clark shared that she attended the Wake Education Partnership's Annual Meeting on October 11, 2007 at the McKimmon Center. The theme for the meeting was "Courageous Leadership". The meeting was very well attended and a great opportunity. Ms. Clark attended Broughton High School's Hall of Fame on Friday, October 12. Patti and Allen Head's Family were inducted in the Hall of Fame. Recently, Ms. Clark was interviewed by three vivacious and thoughtful teachers for their graduate school graduation project.
- Ms. Parker shared that she attended the Wake Education Partnership's Annual Meeting as well as Mrs. Millberg, Mr. Tart, and Mrs. Head. Business Education Partners, The Wake Weekly and the News and Observer were honored as contributors at the Annual Meeting. Mrs. Parker also shared that Kevin Hill had been elected as the District 3 Board member.
- Ms. Head shared that Senator Vernon Malone spoke at Wake Education Partnership's Annual Meeting, and singled out the Wake County Board of Education as being courageous leaders in a time of change in Wake County. It was a wonderful occasion for all to be together celebrating teaching and learning in Wake County. Joyner Elementary School was in attendance at the meeting singing an original piece that was written by their music teacher. They did an outstanding job representing Wake County Public Schools. Ms. Head thanked Ms. Clark for mentioning the Head Family being inducted into Broughton High School's Hall of Fame.
- Ms. Parry shared she had the privilege of attending Combs Elementary Walk to School Day which was dedicated to Ms. Parry for her years of service as their Board member. The students and their families walked  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to school. Ms. Parry attended the Wake Education Partnership Roundtable held at the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce on growth. Mr. Dulaney presented, it was very interesting to see the great reception he received. On Sunday, October 21, Ms. Parry will be presenting policy information related to how school systems are reacting to the supreme court decision to change the use of race in student assignment at the Magnet Schools of America Conference in Washington, D.C.

### **Superintendent's Comments**

- Enrollment in the Wake County Public School System increased to 134,002 on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the 2007-2008 school year. WCPSS is the 19<sup>th</sup> largest system in America. This is 6,000 students more than last year. This increase in enrollment made Wake County Public School System the largest school district in North Carolina, passing Charlotte Mecklenburg schools by several thousand students. The increase in enrollment is the third largest in the school system's history. Since the 20<sup>th</sup> day, WCPSS schools have enrolled an additional 600 students. Approximately 400 of those students are attending year-round schools.

- On October 3, 2007, a reception was held for Garner High School and East Garner Middle School celebrate their hard work in receiving authorization of the Middle Years IB Program. There were many community members and elected officials that participated in the celebration. Dr. Burns thanked Michael Holton, principal of Garner High School, and Cathy Williams, principal of East Garner Middle and their staffs for their successful work on the project.
- In working with High Five Regional Partnership, Instructional Services provided a “Train the Trainer” workshop related to developing Professional Learning Communities. Approximately 55 WCPSS administrators attended the workshop. The customized train-the-trainer session was offered to build necessary skills within the district as we continue to learn more about working as learning organizations. In order to meet the certification requirement, participants are required to train others in the district.
- Special Education Literacy Team Members and Sherri Merritt trained the high school teachers on the Integrated Approach to English Class. The approach addresses the needs of special education and general education students. As a part of the training, they reviewed student data and methods to differentiate instruction.
- During the week of October 5, 2007, 14 elementary teachers participated in the Thinking Maps Training. The training provided teachers an opportunity to investigate how familiar tools such as graphic organizers could be used to address issues related to assessment, remediation, and higher order thinking.
- The dedication ceremony for the renaming of the Parent Resource Center at Project Enlightenment in honor of Alice Burrows was held on October 4, 2007. Ms. Burrows held the director position at Project Enlightenment for 37 years. Approximately 200 people were in attendance. Since July 1, Project Enlightenment has served 430 families, approximately 455 children. The Teacher/Parent Consultants have received 28 kindergarten referrals from 20 elementary schools and 42 referrals from 36 community preschool/daycare centers. One hundred eighteen families have received counseling services, and 178 children have been screened. Project Enlightenment is a nationally recognized model. Dr. Burns thanked the current and prior staff for their outstanding work in serving children of the community. Dr. Burns congratulated Ms. Burrows on a well-deserved recognition.
- The first joint conference of the North Carolina Association of Alternative Educators and the North Carolina Drop-Out Prevention Association was held on September 17-19. Dr. James Hargett, principal at Mt. Vernon Middle School, and Mr. Fred McNary, principal at Mary E. Phillips High School, were invited to be presenters at the conference. Their presentation was entitled “Alternative Schools that Work”, highlighted strategies and incentive programs that make these two schools leaders and models in effective alternative education in North Carolina. Dr. Hargett and Mr. McNary represented Wake County Public Schools very well.
- WCPSS hosted the Central LEP (Limited English Proficient) Roundtable on September 28, 2007. Approximately 20 LEP Coordinators from across the central region of the state attended. The activity was very successful and participants came away with many best practices and shared strategies.
- Last school year, a best practices in science project was begun as a collaboration between the Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Committee (STAC) and

Instructional Services. Cathy Horne, Senior Administrator reported that the Best Practices project is emerging as an excellent resource for teachers. The site has lessons from four different grade levels and will be expanded to encompass K-12. The Instructional Services Division has been sharing the site at their meetings and workshops so teachers throughout the county will be aware of the resource. Dr. Burns thanked Bill Ferriter, the members of STAC, and the Instructional Services Division for their work in making the project possible.

- On Wednesday, October 10, 2007, Dr. Burns met with the members of the Teacher Assistants' Association. They had great questions about their role in supporting teaching and learning. Dr. Burns learned a great deal from them. Dr. Burns thanked them for the opportunity to speak and looks forward to meeting with them again.
- Dr. Burns congratulated Mr. Jim Hunt, the art teacher at Vandora Springs Elementary who was recently recognized by the NC Art Education Association as their Teacher of the Year. On November 2, 2007, Mr. Hunt will be recognized at the Association's Annual Conference.
- On October 11, 2007, The Wake Education Partnership held its Annual Meeting. Dr. Burns thanked Board members, principals, and staff from central services who were in attendance. The theme for the meeting was "Courage Leadership". The meeting was outstanding. Dr. Burns thanked Ann Denlinger and all the staff members at the Partnership for their support.
- The Annual WCPSS Magnet School Fair is planned for Saturday, November 3, 2007, at Southeast Raleigh High School from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The Magnet School Fair creates a venue for parents and students to visit interactive display booths and inquire about magnet programs. The Fair is open to the public.

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Ms. Clark requested to pull Action Item #3 under Facilities, Implementing Guidelines for Public-Private Partnerships.

Mr. Tart requested to add an Action Item, Interlocal Agreement: Board of Education, Town of Apex and Wake County – Western Wake County Area Elementary Site (E-22).

Susan Parry made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Ron Margiotta. The vote was unanimous.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

##### **1. KENAN FELLOWS PROGRAM FOR CURRICULUM AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

The missions of the Kenan Fellows Program for Curriculum and Leadership Development is to enhance curriculum relevance for the benefit of all students; engage teachers, business, and universities through unique professional collaboration; and to promote growth opportunities for teachers and the teaching profession. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: For information only.

Donna Hargens introduced Valerie B. Brown-Schild, Director, Kenan Fellows Program. Dr. Schild presented information to the Board regarding the program. The Kenan

Fellows Program is an innovative model to promote teacher leadership, address teacher retention, and advance K-12 science, technology, and mathematics education. Kenan Fellows are public school teachers selected through a competitive process to participate in a two-year fellowship. During the two years, Kenan Fellows work in partnership with scientists, university faculty, and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction developing curriculum and teaching resources that bring research to students.

The Kenan Fellows Program has impacted Wake County Public School System (WCPSS), 42 of 67 Fellows have been WCPSS teachers. Approximately 95% of Kenan Fellows remain in the classroom or in the educational field in some capacity. Approximately 19,000 K-12 WCPSS students have been impacted. A total of \$1.5 million from the Kenan Fellows Program has been invested in WCPSS. Fellows develop curriculum and resources that are shared with teachers in their schools and throughout the district. More than half have received grants that support their projects. Each Kenan Fellow receives \$10,000 to participate in the program.

Dr. Schildt shared that on April 23, 2008 teachers will be presenting their projects as well as holding graduation at SAS Institute.

Ms. Millberg inquired about the number of teachers that are Kenan Fellows in schools that have a high percentage of low-income students having access to the program. Dr. Schildt responded that the program is open to all teachers from all regions, and that the program is particularly interested in identifying teachers that are in high needs schools.

Ms. Goettee inquired about the timeframe of when Kenan Fellows work with researchers. Dr. Schildt responded that a timeline is given to the participants in which the formal part of the session is five weeks in the summer. For 3 weeks, the Kenan Fellow will work in collaboration their mentor, and 2 weeks in which they will live on campus at NC State University to gain the leadership portion of the program.

Mrs. Gill thanked Dr. Schildt for sharing the Kenan Fellows Program with the Board.

#### **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.*

- **Jan Combs (Parent of a student at Apex Middle School)-** Requested that the Board of Education add clarity and accountability to the Attendance Policy as it relates to chronically ill students.
- **Dan Proulx – (Parent of students at West Lake Elementary and Middle Schools ) –** Requested assistance in understanding the Transportation Policy. Mr. Proulx's children have been identified as transfer students when they are not. Requested assistance in finding a resolution for his transportation issue.

- **Kris Door – (Cultural Arts Representative from Wakefield Middle School) –** Requested that the Board of Education keep middle school auditoriums and not convert to cafeteriums.
- **Jerome Davis – (Artistic Director of Burning Coal Theatre Company) –** Requested that the Board of Education keep middle school auditoriums. Mr. Davis is opposed to any plan that would limit the amount of time that students would have access to the performing arts facility and their school.
- **Robert M. Edwards – (Board member of the Western Wake Tennis Association)-** Requested that the Board of Education continue tennis at future and existing school sites.
- **Chris Cagle – (Past General Manager/Director at Raleigh Racquet Club) –** Supports continuing tennis at future and existing schools.

### INFORMATION ITEMS CONTINUED

#### **2. REPORT OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The Transportation Policy Review Committee was established in June, 2007, in response to community and parent suggestions for policy review. The committee was made up of a parent representative from each board advisory council and three representatives (school administrators) from the Division of Principals and Assistant Principals' transportation subcommittee, along with transportation advisory personnel. The purpose of the committee was the following: 1) to review existing policies and procedures for establishing safe bus routes and safe bus stops; 2) to review existing policies for establishing express routes/stops; 3) to consider potential changes to existing policies in the interests of student safety, shorter ride times, and efficiency of operations; and 4) to develop recommendations to the Board of Education. Fiscal Implications: None identified at this time. Presentation is for information. Recommendation for Action: None. Staff will report to the board a proposed plan of action.

Don Haydon introduced Suzy Nisbet, Transportation Review Committee Member. Ms. Nisbet presented information to the Board regarding information completed by the committee. The purpose of the Transportation Review Committee was to review policies and procedures for establishing safe bus routes and safe bus stops, review policies for establishing express routes/stops, consider potential changes to policies in the interests of student safety, shorter ride times, and efficiency of operations, and to develop recommendations to the Board of Education.

Six main issues were addressed with bus stops which included bus stops on busy roads, in subdivisions, on undivided roads, safe bus stops, and the bus stop appeals process.

The Committee recommended that the Transportation Department continue the use of bus stops on busy road unless otherwise unsafe; stops within subdivisions are not always safer. The process and criteria used to determine bus stops and routes should be reviewed in more detail.

The committee made no changes for bus stops in subdivisions. Buses will go in subdivisions if necessary to meet distance guidelines (3/10 mile for

elementary and 5/10 for middle and high school students). Physical obstacles may preclude buses from entering some areas. Buses going in and out of subdivisions are sometimes more dangerous than stopping on main roads.

The committee made no specific recommendations regarding bus stops on undivided roads. WCPSS follows all state requirements and often uses more stringent requirements. Wake County Public School System's goal is to use all door-side bus stops, while it is not possible to eliminate all situations in which students cross a road. The committee states that the Transportation Department should continue to review bus stops on a regular and individual basis.

The committee recommended that the Transportation Department should place express stops at the end of routes as warranted and that parents should use normal processes to request changes to bus stops.

The committee recommended that for safe bus stops, the safety criteria should be reviewed further.

The committee recommended that communication should be improved. Forms should be reviewed and revised to include criteria on the back of the forms, assign Board Advisory Councils to give feedback in regards to the bus stop appeals process.

The committee gave the following overall recommendations: Promote safety more actively with a Student/Parent Bus Contract, Communication among families, schools, and transportation should be a priority, the Transportation Department should improve availability and response time, stress consistency in implementation and enforcement, and to continue the Transportation Policy Review Committee.

After several comments and concerns from Board members regarding processes and procedures as it pertained to bus stops on busy roads Mrs. Nisbet answered there questions, by stating that some corrections were completed prior to the committee forming. The processes and procedures for bus stops are still being reviewed and will continue to be reviewed in the future.

Ms. Parker shared her concern of safety being promoted at schools and the recommendation of continuing the committee. Dr. Burns responded by stating that the committee has been a success and that he and Mr. Haydon will look into continuing this type of opportunity for parent involvement.

Mrs. Gill thanked the committee for their hard work and commitment. The Board will take their recommendations into consideration and will get back with the committee at later time.

### **3. 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE BOOSTERS PROGRAM: MT. VERNON**

There are many students in the eighth grade who are 15 years or older. Mt. Vernon is providing a compacted 8th grade experience so that selected students may progress to the 9th grade at Mary E. Phillips High School beginning second semester 2007-2008. Students are participating in compacted curriculum and Service Learning Projects. Fiscal

Implications: This is a pilot program for the 2007-2008 school year funded from money originally intended for John Baker Charter School. Costs at this time are \$107,390 for a teacher and Student Support Counselor and approximately \$5,000.00 for supplies and materials (primarily for Service Learning Projects). Recommendation for Action: This item is for information only.

Marvin Connelly introduced Dr. James Hargett, principal of Mt. Vernon Middle School and Fred McNary, principal of Phillips High school. Dr. Hargett presented information to the Board regarding the Boosters Pilot Program at Mt. Vernon Middle. The pilot program will offer one cohort of 15 students per semester to be served with accelerated services with the possibility of promotion to 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Mary Phillips High School into a specialized curriculum tract.

Dr. Hargett thanked the parents and students of the Boosters Program for their commitment and participation in the program. Mt. Vernon has 12 highly motivated pioneers in the program. Students work diligently during the first semester, then transition to Phillips High School where Mr. McNary will work with the students to help them prepare for the ninth grade and graduate on time in 2011.

Mr. McNary shared that the students would go through an intense middle school curriculum in reading, math, science, and social studies. At the high school level, students will receive English 9, an elective which may include a study hall, and a second academic course. Mr. McNary and his staff are looking forward to having the students come and participate.

Three students that participate in the program, Johnny Ray Adams, Chantel Anderson, and Bill Wynn gave personal testimonies of the Boosters Program.

Ms. Goettee applauded the students for sharing their stories and applauded their efforts.

Ms. Clark thanked the students for coming and sharing. Ms. Clark asked Dr. Hargett that once the students attended Phillips would they stay or return to their base school. Dr. Hargett responded that the students would complete the second semester at Phillips and if they chose to, they could return to their base or continue on at Phillips.

Ms. Head congratulated the students and the staff and looks forward to receiving the announcements of all the students graduating in 2011.

Dr. Hargett shared with the Board that June 12, 2008 the students will be graduating from Mount Vernon to attend Phillips High School on Jun 17, 2008.

Dr. Burns shared and recognized the courage of Johnny, Chantel, and Bill as they work hard to graduate on time. With Johnny wanting to be a basketball player, Chantel wanting to be a lawyer, and Billy wanting to be an engineer after graduation, Dr. Burns thanked them for being courageous leaders and great examples for the 134,000 students in WCPSS.

Ms. Gill thanked the students and parents. Ms. Gill congratulated them on a job well



done and congratulated the staff for all that they are doing.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

May 15, 2007	-	Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2007	-	Joint Meeting of the Board of Education and Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2007	-	Board of Education Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2007	-	Board of Education and Western Area Town Council Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2007	-	Board of Education and Eastern Area Town Council Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2007	-	Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2007	-	Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

#### **FINANCE**

##### **1. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION APPROVED CONTRACTS**

The attached summaries are provided as information in accordance with Board Policy 8361. The summaries list all change orders, and contracts having a value greater than \$50,000 and not over \$100,000, and purchase orders in excess of \$250,000 for September, 2007. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Not applicable.

##### **2. AUTHORIZATION FORMS**

These authorization forms designate the persons authorized to sign vouchers for the payment of money on behalf of Green Hope Elementary. Fiscal Implications: These authorization forms are required for bank records. Recommendation for Action: Approval of Authorization Forms.

#### **FACILITIES**

##### **1. CONTRACT: PROCESSING OF USDA COMMODITY (CHICKEN, BEEF AND CHEESE)**

Staff requests board approval for commodity food processing service contracts as follows: Commodity processing of USDA chicken to Kings Delight in the amount of \$475,000; Commodity processing of USDA beef to JTM Provisions Company in the amount of \$500,750; and Commodity processing of USDA cheese to Rich-Sea Pak Corporation in the amount of \$250,000. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the 2007-2008 Child Nutrition enterprise current expense budget. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

##### **2. CONTRACT EXTENSION: FOOD SERVICE SANITATION SYSTEM**

Staff requests Board approval to extend, for one year, the contract for food service sanitation with PortionPac Chemical Corporation, for \$180,109.60. The bid solicitation in 2006 included an initial term of one year with option to extend for three additional

years. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the 2007-2008 Child Nutrition enterprise fund expense budget. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

**3. LEASE RENEWAL AGREEMENT: WAREHOUSE SPACE – BANNISTER PROPERTIES, LLC**

Acquisition of mobile units, modular complexes and the renovation of existing facilities require the storage of both new and used furniture until facilities are ready for use. No additional warehouse space is available at the Rock Quarry Road Central Services Complex. Bannister Properties is currently providing 8,100 square feet of leased space for storage of this furniture. Staff recommends renewing the lease for an additional year. Fiscal Implications: 8,100 square feet at \$4.00 per foot or \$32,400 payable in a single sum at lease inception plus utilities. Funding is available from the 2007-2008 operating budget. This is an increase of \$2,025 over the previous year's lease. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

**4. RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION AND DEDICATION AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT ACQUISITION: BANKS ROAD ELEMENTARY/E-23 (HANNAH PROPERTY)**

As a part of the development of Banks Road Elementary and the construction approval process, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Town of Fuquay-Varina are requiring road improvements to Banks Road and Chambers Road. The Town of Fuquay-Varina is also requiring that Chambers Road, which is a private road, be dedicated for public use. To complete the improvements and as a condition of site approval, it is necessary that WCPSS acquire a right-of-way dedication and a temporary construction easement as shown on the attached plat. Extensive mature landscaping improvements located within the right-of-way dedication area will be destroyed in the road improvement process, which will have an adverse impact upon the property owner's remaining property. Terms have been reached with the property owners (Michael A. Hannah and Nancy D. Hannah) to acquire the land needed for the right-of-way dedication, temporary construction easement acquisition and to compensate the landowner for the loss of extensive landscaping improvements. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement is attached. Fiscal Implications: The Board will compensate the property owners in the amount of \$41,754, from the CIP 2006 Land Purchase budget. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

**5. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: WILBURN ELEMENTARY**

The CIP 2006 School Building Program includes additions and renovations at Wilburn Elementary School. Negotiations have been completed with Moseley Architects P.C., for the design of this project. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. With this renovation, the student capacity of the school will increase from 724 to 800 seats, on a traditional calendar. As a year-round school Wilburn Elementary will accommodate up to 1124 students. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$20,969,520, all of which is from CIP 2006. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$1,046,679. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## **6. CHANGE ORDER GC-04: BANKS ROAD ELEMENTARY (E-23)**

Board approval is requested for Change Order GC-04 to Barnhill Contracting Company at Banks Road Elementary. This change order, the amount of \$171,594, is to remove additional trench rock during the installation of water and sanitary sewer lines. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$21,778,705, of which \$745,000 is from PLAN 2004 Start-Up; \$20,049,101 from CIP 2006; \$575,440 from CIP 2006 Offsite Improvements; and \$409,164 will be provided by the Town of Fuquay-Varina and the Wake County Parks and Recreation Department for additional ball fields, parking and utilities for future upgrades to the park facility. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

### **1. CONTRACT FOR TEMPORARY OFFICE ASSISTANCE**

This contract will provide temporary office assistance for the Evaluation & Research Department allowing our professional and clerical fulltime staff to provide timely, adequate data and reports for system decision-makers. The amount requested \$101,000 will enhance productivity of testing, school accountability, program accountability and the administration of all services of the department. Fiscal Implications: No additional funds will be required. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

### **2. GRANT PROPOSALS**

- Competitive (#1190): Thomson Gale, Library Media Connection TEAMS Award/Individual schools.
- Collaborative (#1191): IBM, Innovation Technology Grant / Pleasant Union Elementary.
- Competitive (#1192): Broadcom Giving Program / A. B. Combs Elementary School.

Fiscal Implications: Any required cash and/or in-kind matching contributions vary by grant program. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

### **3. UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTORS CONTRACT**

University Instructors (UI) will provide tutoring services in support of the WCPSS AVID program in place at Wake Forest/Rolesville, Wakefield, Heritage, West Millbrook, East Millbrook, East Wake, Zebulon, Holly Ridge, Fuquay Varina, Apex, Carnage, Carroll, Daniels, Dillard Drive, East Garner, Leesville, Ligon, Martin, Moore Square, North Garner, Reedy Creek, and West Cary middle schools. Over a period of 28 weeks, UI will provide 22 instructors two days per week for three hours per day. UI will conduct extensive screening including criminal background checks and will provide this information to WCPSS so that WCPSS can do the same. They will provide regular reporting of used tutor hours and scheduling of tutors based on the needs of each school, as well as program design, coordination and management services as set forth in the service agreement with the Wake County Public School System.

Fiscal Implications: This contract is for \$120,000.00. Recommendation for Action: This item is presented for approval

## **POLICY**

### **1. POLICY 6201 – SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

*Revised: First Reading – Waiver of Second Reading*

Reference to Policy 6520-STUDENT GRIEVANCES was added for clarity per Ann Majestic. Policy Committee reviewed and approved on 10-9-07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

### **2. POLICY 6410 – INAPPROPRIATE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

*Revised First Reading – Waiver of Second Reading*

The revision of Policy 6410 creates alignment with Policy 22308/308/4008 – TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT. Additional definitions added for clarity. Policy Committee reviewed and approved on 10-9-07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

### **3. POLICY 6530 – DUE PROCESS**

*First Reading – Waiver of Second 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 input of staff, and have been reviewed by Ann Majestic. The Policy Committee reviewed and approved the recommended revisions on 10-9-07. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT**

- a. Professional
- b. Support

### **2. RECOMMENDATION FOR CAREER STATUS**

### **3. 2007-2008 SALARY SCHEDULES**

#### **Teachers and Certified Instructional Support**

- 1) The state teacher salary schedule increases an average of 5%, resulting in employee raises ranging from 4.1% to 9.5% depending on the step. The table below provides a summary of percentage increases by step.
- 2) Step 31 has been added to the teacher salary schedule. As a result, no top of the scale bonus is applicable for the 2007-2008 school year.

#### **Assistant Principals and Principals**

- 1) Assistant principal salary schedules are based on the state teacher salary schedules. Assistant principal raises vary from 4.1% to 8.4%, depending on the step. The table below provides a summary of percentage increases by step.
- 2) Assistant principals who do not move up a step on the salary schedule because they were at the top of the pay scale in 2006-2007 receive a one-time bonus of 2.0% of their 2006-2007 salary and supplement, if they are employed on July 1, 2007.

- 3) Principal salary increases are based on teacher raises (see above), along with changes in allotted instructional positions to their school.

**Noncertified support, central services, and technology personnel**

The 2007-2008 state budget provides for a 4.0% salary increase for noncertified, central services, and technology employees. Additionally, the Board's approved Plan for Student Success provides a 1.23% increase, creating a total salary increase of 5.23%.

**Substitute Teachers**

- 1) The daily rates for substitute teachers are: \$88 (certified teachers), \$77 (substitutes completing effective teacher training), and \$68 (noncertified substitutes).
- 2) Teacher assistants serving as substitute teachers earn \$138.37 per day.

**4. CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP WITH SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE STUDENT TEACHING AND FIELD EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENT TEACHERS IN WCPSS YEAR - ROUND CALENDAR SCHOOLS. AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO APPROVE CONTINUATION ANNUALLY**

In February 2007, the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) Board of Education approved a partnership between Slippery Rock University (SRU) in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, a nationally accredited teacher education college, and WCPSS, which enables elementary education and elementary/special education majors to complete field experiences and secondary education majors to complete student teaching in WCPSS year-round elementary and middle schools. WCPSS principals and cooperating teachers agreed that the first cohort of SRU students completed their student teaching in WCPSS schools during the summer of 2007 very successfully.

Advantages for WCPSS include the following:

- In contrast to North Carolina's teacher shortage and increasingly competitive demand for teachers, Pennsylvania has an oversupply of teachers and thus, many Slippery Rock University (SRU) graduates seek employment with WCPSS.
- The student teaching and field experiences will provide WCPSS administrators the opportunity to assess SRU student teachers for employability.
- The presence of high quality SRU student teachers and field students in WCPSS classrooms will have a positive impact on student learning and increase opportunities for individualized instruction and co-teaching.
- In February 2007, the WCPSS Board of Education (BOE) approved SRU's proposal and an initial cohort of eleven student teachers completed their 12-week student teaching in WCPSS year-round middle and elementary schools.
- SRU university supervisors, SRU student teachers, WCPSS principals and WCPSS cooperating teachers agreed that this partnership resulted in a very successful, mutually beneficial relationship.
- WCPSS principals were so impressed with the preparation and quality of SRU student teachers that several were hired for the 2007-08 school year.

Fiscal Implications: Stipends for cooperating teachers and all costs for student housing and university supervision will be paid by Slippery Rock University (SRU). Considering that national estimates for recruiting highly qualified teachers are as high as \$15,000/teacher, the SRU proposal provides excellent no-cost recruitment opportunities for WCPSS.

### **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 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Ms. Parry shared that the Policy Committee met a week ago, however, did not finish working on the Student Assignment Policy and will spend another meeting completing.

Mr. Tart shared that the Facilities Committee met on October 9, 2007 and reviewed possible options for use of reserve funds. The committee reviewed the checklist for real estate acquisition, and the real estate acquisition process. The committee is continuing to work on the public-private partnership for E-25. The committee reviewed the consent items that were placed on the agenda. The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

Ms. Head shared that the Community Relations Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at 12:30 p.m. The November 14, 2004 Community Relations Committee meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Millberg shared that the Finance Committee met during the week of October 8, 2007. the topic at the meeting was Fund Balance. Discussion included what fund balance is, historically what it is used for, and the need for the Board to develop policy regarding its future use.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **FACILITIES**

##### **1. TERMINATION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK: LACY ELEMENTARY**

On February 6, 2007, the Board awarded a Construction Manager at Risk agreement, in the amount of \$145,000, to Devere Construction Company, Inc., for pre-construction services for the renovations and additions at Lacy Elementary School. Staff recommends a termination of the agreement with Devere, for the convenience of the owner, in accordance with section 10.2.1 of the agreement. A new agreement will be negotiated with another Construction Manager at Risk. Fiscal Implications: Payment will be made for time expended to date. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Lori Millberg made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. Mr. Burriss presented information to the Board regarding the award of a Construction Manager At Risk agreement to Devere Construction Company for pre-construction services for renovations and

additions at Lacy Elementary School. Staff recommended terminating the agreement with Devere, for the convenience of the owner, in accordance of the agreement in section 10.2.1. A new agreement will be negotiated with another Construction Manager At Risk.

Ms. Head asked if terminating the agreement with Devere would have an effect on the delivery date of the renovations and additions. Mr. Burriss responded that the pre-construction services dictate that the school system is in compliance with the project budget, schedule opportunities can be identified, and that any questions that are generated by the architect can be addressed by the Construction Manager, estimates are also provided during this time period. A delay is not expected in the bidding process currently.

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

## **2. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SELECTION AND AGREEMENT: LACY ELEMENTARY**

At the November 21, 2006 Board meeting, DeVere Construction Company, Inc. was selected as the Construction Manager for Lacy Elementary. Their contract has now been terminated for the convenience of the owner. The secondary selection for Lacy at that November meeting was Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC, (previously Centex). Staff now recommends the selection of Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC as the Construction Manager At Risk for Lacy Elementary. Negotiations have been completed with Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC for limited construction manager's pre-construction services only at Lacy Elementary. The form of agreement for Construction Management At Risk has been previously reviewed and approved by the Board. Modifications to this agreement have been approved by the Board's attorney and are noted on the attached summary. This contract includes reimbursable general conditions. These changes will all be incorporated into the next revision of the standard form of agreement. Skinner, Lamm, and Highsmith Architects, PA was previously selected as the designer for this project. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$21,854,837, of which \$525,000 is from PLAN 2004 Startup and \$21,329,837 from CIP 2006. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the Construction Manager of \$102,150 for pre-construction basic services. At the conclusion of design, the GMP will be negotiated along with the construction manager's fee. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Mr. Burriss presented information to the Board regarding the Construction Manager At Risk Selection and Agreement for Lacy Elementary. Staff recommended the selection of Balfour Beatty, LLC as the Construction Manager At Risk for Lacy Elementary. Negotiations have been completed with Balfour Beatty, LLC for limited construction manager's pre-construction services only. Mr. Burriss answered two clarifying questions from the Board.

With no further discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

## **4. DESIGNATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE FOR A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PILOT PROJECT**

In order to proceed with a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) pilot project, a school site must be designated. Staff will present a recommendation for an elementary school site, slated for a 2010 opening, to be offered for a PPP pilot project. The land will be acquired by the

Board and provided to the PPP private developer. In order to determine the interest of the development community, staff recommends an RFQ/RFP be issued in late October 2007 requesting proposals from private developers for the initial phase of the PPP process. It is anticipated that staff will present the shortlist of selected qualified firms to the Board for approval in December 2007. Acquisition of a site for the pilot school will be addressed in closed session. Fiscal Implications: Overall cost and financing arrangements will be part of the proposal by the PPP developer and will be brought before the Board at the appropriate point in the process. Once it is determined that it is feasible and acceptable to construct an elementary school using the PPP process, CIP 2006 bonds designated for its construction will not be sold by the County and the funds that would normally be used to repay the bond will be used to pay the lease. The funds needed for the furnishings and equipment in the new school will still be appropriated and used for the items to be provided by the Board. Once the school is constructed, the yearly operational funds will come from the school system operational budget. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Mr. Burriss informed the Board that in order to proceed with a public-private partnership project, a school site must be designated. Staff will present a recommendation for an elementary school site in Closed Session, slated for a 2010 opening. The land will be acquired by the Board of Education and will be provided to the public-private developer in order to determine the interest in the development community, staff recommends that a RFQ/RFP be issued November 10, 2007, requesting proposals from private developers for the initial phase of the public-private partnership process. It is anticipated that staff will share a list of selected firms with the Board in December for approval. The overall cost and financing arrangements will be part of the proposal by the public-private partnership developer and will be brought before the Board at the appropriate point in the process. Once it is determined that it is feasible and acceptable to construct an elementary school using the public-private partnership process, CIP 2006 bonds designated for its construction will not be sold by the County and the funds that would normally be used to repay the bond will be used to pay the lease. The funds needed for the furnishings and equipment in the new school will still be appropriated and used for the items to be provided by the Board. Once the school is constructed, the yearly operational funds will come from the school system's operational budget.

Mr. Margiotta shared his objection to identifying the site due to his objection with the process that is being used with the public-private partnership. Mr. Margiotta's concern with the public-private partnership is that there would be restrictions to construction only. Mr. Margiotta would like to open the possibilities of a builder offering land, providing furnishings, facilities, and maintenance.

Ms. Millberg shared that the Board does need to limit the beta-testing to construction only so that a true comparison can be completed and to see if public-private partnerships are fiscally sound to use.

The Board decided to take action on the item after Closed Session.



## **5. MIDDLE SCHOOL SPACE STANDARDS REVISION – AUDITORIUM TO CAFETORIUM**

The Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee recommended that "the Wake County Schools reduce the area devoted to auditoria by either use of a cafetorium in the middle school models, that is, one larger joint space with appropriate furniture and fixtures, rather than separate food/dining and auditorium spaces and or provide a small theater that can be expanded by opening it to the cafeteria with pullout bleachers for seating." The staff and the middle school prototype designers have explored options, and recommend a cafetorium that has a small theater with some seating, which opens into a larger space that doubles as dining. This option, in some ways, enhances the middle school theatre arts learning experience due to the fact that the small theater concept allows the students that age to work in an intimate, non-threatening environment. The staff will present revisions to the middle school space standards that reduce the total square footage without adversely affecting the educational program. Fiscal Implications: This change will result in savings of approximately \$300,000 per future middle school. This will immediately impact CIP 2006 middle schools, M-9 and M-10, currently scheduled for 2010 openings. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Jyoti Sharma presented information to the Board regarding the middle school space standards revision – auditorium to cafetorium. Staff and middle school prototype designers have explored options, and are recommending a cafetorium that has a small theatre with some seating, which opens into a larger space that doubles as dining. This option, enhances the middle school theatre arts learning experience due to the fact that the small theatre concept allows the students to work in an intimate, non-threatening environment. Ms. Sharma shared a design of the cafetorium and entertained questions from the Board. Ms. Sharma shared that all of the seating would be flat, that tables and chairs would be stacked against the walls while the stage is in use for performances. Acoustics would be more apt to a theatre rather than a cafeteria.

Ms. Parker inquired about the noise level of the cafeteria side while classes would be conducted on the auditorium side. Ms. Sharma shared that some transmission of noise would be heard however, it would be minimal.

Ms. Sharma shared that the full seating capacity of the cafetorium would be 525 seats, which is the same as what is in a traditional auditorium.

Mr. Margiotta stated that with the recommendations from the Citizens' Facility Advisory Committee, the Board would reach out to the community, and he feels that the Board is not reaching out before a decision is being made.

Ms. Parry shared that the Board does seek community involvement in a lot things and that this item was carefully analyzed and has preserved everything important to the Arts program.

Ms. Parker shared that she received favorable input in incorporating the cafetorium, however, she has concerns with other recommendations from the Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee that will need community involvement.

After several comments from the Board, the Board voted 7 to 1 with Patti Head, Beverley Clark, Eleanor Goettee, Lori Millberg, Carol Parker, Susan Parry, and Horace Tart voting “yes”, and Ron Margiotta voting “no”. The motion passed.

**6. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: BOARD OF EDUCATION , TOWN OF APEX AND WAKE COUNTY – WESTERN WAKE COUNTY AREA ELEMENTARY SITE (E-32)**

On January 23, 2007, the Board of Education approved an Offer to Purchase and Contract for the acquisition of 31.231 acres of land, at a purchase price of approximately \$105,000 per acre, to build an elementary school which will be located in Western Wake County (E-32) off of Apex Barbeque Road, in or near Apex, Wake County, NC. At the time of contract approval, it was contemplated and disclosed to Board that collaborative site planning was underway between Board staff, Town of Apex and Wake County in contemplation of co-location of a future public park area. On June 4, 2007, the Wake County Board of Commissioners approved funding of the purchase of the Property for an elementary school and future Town of Apex neighborhood park, and confirmed that upon approval of the Site Plan for the school and park by the Board of Education and Apex Town Council and subject to final survey, the Town will purchase +/- 15 acres for an amount not to exceed \$105,165 per acre. The Board of Commissioners further authorized its staff to finalize an Interlocal Agreement between the Board of Education, board of Commissioners, and Apex Town Council that describes the parties intent for the subdivision and development of the property as an elementary school and neighborhood park, with final terms and conditions of the Agreement to be subject to review and approval of the County Attorney. Additionally, the Board of Commissioners authorized the expenditure of \$250,000 from the County’s Community Use of Schools CIP fund towards the purchase amount for the Town’s neighborhood park portion of the property.

As a result of collaborative site planning, the terms of an Interlocal Agreement have been reached for the Town’s purchase of a portion of the Property for the future public park area as well as the design, construction, and ownership of the Property for the proposed elementary school and future public park area. The Town of Apex desires to purchase +/- 15 acres of the Property at the Board’s original purchase price of \$105,000 per acre for a future public park area and Wake County desires to pay \$250,000 from the County’s Community Use of Schools CIP fund towards the purchase amount for the Town’s neighborhood park portion of the property directly to the Board toward the Town’s purchase. The Interlocal Agreement does not diminish the Board’s independent authority to select a school site, choose building designs, establish school programs, own the school site in its name alone or operate its schools. A copy of the proposed Interlocal Agreement is attached. Fiscal Implications: Estimated recoupment of a portion of the original sales price is anticipated to be approximately \$1,575,000, of which \$250,000 will be paid by Wake County to the Board, and \$1,325,000 will be paid by the Town of Apex to the Board. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Lori Millberg made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Margiotta. Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the Interlocal Agreement.

Ms. Clark inquired about the parking, as a Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee recommendation was to reduce parking. Ms. Betty Parker responded that at the time staff was using the parking standards that were in place prior to the recommendations being given, however the new standards can be taken into account.

Ms. Carol Parker inquired as to who Ms. Betty Parker is working with at the Town of Apex. Ms. Betty Parker responded that she was working with Diane Kent, David Rowland, Robert Hinson, John Brown, Town Manager, Mr. Radford, and Mayor Weatherly.

After several comments and clarifying questions from the Board, the Board voted 7 to 1 with Patti Head, Eleanor Goettee, Ron Margiotta, Lori Millberg, Carol Parker, Susan Parry, and Horace Tart voting "yes", and Beverley Clark voting "no". The motion was passed.

Ms. Gill recognized two students, Madison Byrd and Whitney Biggers who were in attendance observing the Board meeting. This was a requirement for their class, Foundation of American Education. Ms. Gill appreciated their attendance and thanked them for attending.

Beverley Clark made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:35 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 and 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, potential for E-25 site, owners the Wright People, LLC and the Life Community Church in Research Triangle, NC as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5). The motion was seconded by Lori Millberg. The vote was unanimously approved by the Board.

### **ACTION ITEMS- Cont'd**

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

##### **1. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)**

Susan Parry made a motion to approve the following Administrative Appointments

(1) James Greene, Applicant, to Assistant Principal at Wakefield Middle School, effective date TBD (Converted position).

(2) Steven Moore, Assistant Principal at Timber Drive Elementary School, effective October 17, 2007 (Converted position to Permanent position)

Lori Millberg seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously.

On a motion by Patti Head, seconded by Lori Millberg, the Board returned to Open Session.

On a motion by Lori Millberg, seconded by Patti head, the Board gave staff approval to continue contract negotiations for a site for E-25, located on the eastern side of Capital

Boulevard in Wake Forest. The property is described as having PIN # 1842217839. Ron Margiotta voted against the motion.

On a motion by Patti Head, seconded by Lori Millberg, the Board returned to Closed Session.

On a motion by Beverley Clark, seconded by Eleanor Goettee, the Board returned to Open Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before the Board, Lori Millberg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

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Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary