



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
November 20, 2007**

Board Members Present	Staff Members Present	
Rosa Gill, Chair	Superintendent Del Burns	David Holdzkorn
Beverley Clark, Vice Chair	Terri Cobb	Ann Hooker
Eleanor Goettee	Danny Barnes	Bev White
Patti Head	Mike Burriss	Mark Winters
Ron Margiotta	Kathy Chontos	Marvin Connelly
Lori Millberg	Michael Evans	
Carol Parker	Lloyd Gardner	Board Attorney
Susan Parry	Donna Hargens	Ann Majestic
Horace Tart	Don Haydon	

Chair Gill called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair's Comments

- Chair Gill began her comments by speaking about the Thanksgiving meal prepared at Mt. Vernon Middle School where the "Turkey in the Hole" celebration took place. Ms. Gill thanked the students and staff for inviting the Board and preparing a wonderful meal.
- On November 15, 2007, Dr. Burns and Ms. Gill attended the Clarence Lightner Youth Leadership Banquet. It was an outstanding event where approximately 80 young people were recognized. Ms. Gill congratulated each of the students and thanked them for serving as leaders in their schools and their communities.
- Ms. Gill thanked the Growth Management Department for hosting three community engagement meetings. Ms. Gill thanked the Board members, the community, and staff for being a part of the meetings. All meetings have been well attended and have generated outstanding discussion. The last community engagement meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 27 at Middle Creek High School from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.
- On November 14 and November 15, the Board had a day and a half work session. Ms. Gill thanked the Board members for their hard work during the session. The Board spent a great deal of time prioritizing recommendations from the Curriculum Audit and the CFAC Report. At the end of the last session, the Board began integrating the information into the Board work plan. On December 5, the Board will finalize their work.
- On November 19, the Board began the new Board member orientation. Ms. Gill thanked Kevin Hill and Anne McLaurin for their participation and thanked staff for their work with the activity.

- The Swearing-In Ceremony for Board members will be held on December 4 at 3:00 p.m. There will be a short reception following. The regular Board meeting will begin immediately following the reception.
- November 20 will be the last meeting for the two retiring Board members, Carol Parker and Susan Parry. Ms. Parker and Ms. Parry have had a tremendous impact on the Board and the district. Ms. Gill shared information about each of these Board members. Ms. Gill presented a plaque to each of them.
- Ms. Parry said *“that it has been a total pleasure to work with the other people on this Board. I know we say this to the public all the time, but sometimes it really helps if someone gives you a pat on the back. This is an extraordinarily hard working group of people and I get to watch and all of us are aware of how much time these people put in the cause of a very important service. They do a fabulous job. It has been an incredibly rare privilege to have served for eight years. It is really fascinating to be able to see the very complicated organization that we see from the perspective of right in the middle. It gives you a sense of responsibility that is sometimes almost overwhelming. It has been a rewarding and fascinating experience. I am extremely grateful to the people in the community who work so hard in support of our public schools. We have parents who are actually able to see the importance of public education beyond their own personal interests and who are able and willing to get involved and provide support for our schools and for children in their schools other than their own. What has been most impressive to me and has been really eye opening, is to be made aware and to have learned about the people in the school system that work to support, run our schools, and educate our kids everyday. Thank you for the opportunity.”*
- Ms. Parker said *“When I came on the Board four years ago, Susan was the chair. I appreciate her warmth and leadership that was exhibited in getting me acclimated to the Board. I did not have any idea of the amount of work that this position would take. It has been a great experience and I have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the system. I do think that the Board of Education and the Superintendent are on the right track, from the Curriculum Audit and from a lot of the work that’s been done, forged new ground. I am excited about what you have ahead of you to do and wish you the best. The teaching and learning focus that the Superintendent has brought to the organization is very valuable and is really exciting of what can be done in the future. The only thing that I see that can be improved is community involvement. Thank you for your friendship, it is really hard to leave you all.”*
- Ms. Gill stated that on Thursday, November 29, the Wake County Board of Education will be hosting a reception to honor Ms. Parker and Ms. Parry. The reception will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Crossroads II. Ms. Gill invited all to attend the event.

Superintendent’s Comments

- At the recent Annual DPI Exceptional Children (“special education”) Conference, a “Teacher of Excellence” was recognized from each NC district. Ms. Beth Levine, a Wake County preschool teacher at Douglas Elementary was the recipient of the award.
- Two WCPSS school counselors were selected as School Counselor of the Year by the NC School Counselor Association, Michael Meyer from Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle School and Gretchen Krueger from Green Hope High School. Dr. Burns congratulated both of them for what they do everyday to support teaching and learning.

- Eric Sparks, Director of Counseling and Student Services and president of the National Counseling Association, was invited to a conference in Russia to represent the National Counseling Association. He will be a featured speaker as a part of the program. Dr. Burns congratulated Eric.
- Dr. Burns congratulated Victoria Mia, a student at Broughton High School. She was selected as the recipient of the AP State Scholar Award for 2007. The academic award is given annually to one male and one female in each state and the District of Columbia with grades of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP exams and then the highest average grade (at least 3.5) on all AP exams taken.
- The Triangle Chapter of the Professional Construction Estimators Association selected Frank Cuda as their 2007 Vocational Educator of the Year. Mr. Cuda as well as Wakefield High School will receive a \$500 check and a plaque signifying the recognition.
- “From Promise to Practice”, a recent publication prepared by DPI, includes best practices provided by Don Rose, principal at Vance Elementary.
- The 5th Annual Great Expectations Career Fair was held on November 2 at the McKimmon Center. Approximately 2,500 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students attended. Over 130 businesses and organizations set up display tables and spoke with our students about careers in their business or organization. Dr. Burns thanked the business community for their support in the activity.
- Dr. Burns congratulated Cecil Coates, Dean of Students at Millbrook High School for being selected to present a workshop on Organizing a High School Counseling Program using the ASCA National Model at the North Carolina School Counselor Conference in Greensboro.
- Earlier during the year, Dr. Burns shared that several educators from China visited Sanderson High School. As part of the exchange program, Cathy Moore, principal at Sanderson, recently visited China. The next step is for students to visit next year.
- The week of November 12 was designated as School Psychology Awareness Week by the National Association of School Psychologists. Our psychologists are often behind the scenes supporting our students. They are an integral part of the school system. Dr. Burns thanked the psychologists for all that they do every day to support teaching and learning.
- Dr. James DeLisles recently did a presentation on the Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students. The presentation was well attended by WCPSS staff. The presentation was well received and led to great discussion on how we can better serve our gifted students.
- Margaret Henderson and Roger Regan presented a session at the Magnet Schools of America Technical Conference during the month of October. The session included information on how WCPSS measured the alignment of magnet schools with school district goals. They discussed magnet objectives, the development of data tools to assess alignment, the magnet review process, and the outcomes of the review process. The session was well attended and well received. Dr. Burns thanked Margaret and Roger for their work.
- On November 6, Ken Branch and Ruth Steidinger attended a focus group at SAS. SAS has been working with representatives from the Gates Foundation for the past nine months to develop a framework for a new model high school. The model

includes the innovative use of data, ongoing professional development, new approaches to restructuring time, strategies for engaging students, and on-line curriculum resources. Dr. Burns thanked Ken and Ruth for their work on the project.

- Dr. Burns attended the Hispanic Achievement Conference that was held several weeks ago. The conference was well attended and had many school systems and businesses from across the state represented.
- On November 7, Dr. Burns had the opportunity to speak at a meeting at Juniper Level Church for Garner area churches. The meeting addressed the achievement gap and was well attended. Dr. Burns appreciated the opportunity to share the information.
- Approximately 40 WCPSS employees attended Day 3 and Day 4 of PLC Facilitation Training recently. The training is a part of a certification process. Dr. Burns thanked the individuals for their commitment to the process, as their leadership will be extremely important as we continue to utilize learning communities as a method to enhance continuous improvement.
- Dr. Burns thanked Ms. Parker and Ms. Parry for their service and dedication to the Board.

Board Member's Comments

- Ms. Clark shared that she attended a Thanksgiving celebration at Root Elementary with first graders on a "Mayflower" truck where beef jerky, gold fish, cheese sticks, and apple cider was served.
- Ms. Head shared her visit to Mt. Vernon's Turkey in the Hole, where Board members were able to sit with students from the Boosters Program. Ms. Head shared that the students were eager to go to the ninth grade in January. Ms. Head shared that November 19 was the last day that Tony Gurley was chair of the County Commissioners. She shared that Mr. Gurley gave a State of the County Report and he said that "*we in Wake County have the best and the biggest public educational system in the state.*" Ms. Head shared that during the time of Thanksgiving, we should be mindful to have an attitude of gratitude.
- Ms. Parry shared that she and Ms. Clark attended the YWCA Academy of Women's Award Dinner that honored Ms. Gill who was this year's award winner in the area of Education. Ms. Gill is the first Board of Education member in the academy.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Gill made an addition to the Consent Agenda, Facilities Item 7, dealing with a bid reallocation for the eight classroom modular at Joyner Elementary. Under the contract sum the amount shown of \$337,448 and in a new packet at the Board table, Facilities is making you aware of how much is being spent on general construction, and what is being spent on transportation and set up of the building.

Mr. Margiotta requested to have Consent Agenda, Facility Items 7 and 8 moved to Action.

Ms. Parker requested to have Consent Agenda, Instructional Program Item 2, Grant Proposals moved to Action.

Ms. Head requested to have Action Item 6 moved to Action Item 1.

Patti Head made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. WCPSS STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE ACADEMIC RISKS: ACHIEVEMENT PATTERNS AND SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

This study focused on effective practices for students with multiple academic risk factors (students with disabilities, students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, and/or students with limited English proficiency). We found that achievement patterns over several years differ between students making stronger and weaker achievement growth on End-of-Grade tests. Sixteen case studies revealed that students with positive achievement patterns were more likely to show signs of resilience in their personal characteristics, school experiences, and/or home support than were students with negative achievement patterns. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Information only.

David Holdzkom introduced Nancy Baenen who presented information to the Board regarding students with multiple academic risks.

All studies use the effectiveness index to help identify effective instructional practices for students. The high school studies focus on EOC subjects which include Biology, Algebra I, US History, and English I and are underway. Elementary and middle school studies focus on helping multi-risk students show that the first study is school focused and the second study is student focused with school and home experiences highlighted. Several questions were asked throughout the study with one being, can we identify individual multi-risk students who are showing positive or negative patterns in achievement over time using the EOG effectiveness index residuals. The study found that student residual scores reflect whether students improved from one year to the next as much as predicted compared to similar students. Thus, the impact of teaching is reflected. The residual patterns across years focused on students in grade 5 and 8 and in 2005-2006 who had three previous EOG scores. Only 3% of students within the multiple-risk group and in the system overall had all positive or all negative residual scores across both reading and mathematics over three years.

Another question focused on if students with multiple risks who have positive patterns in student residual scores over several years have different patterns of experiences at school or home compared to students with more negative patterns. Staff began selecting case study students and they chose students within each subject. Cases with positive patterns had all positive residuals, with one or more considerably above or below predicted levels. Students also had to score at grade level in 2005-2006. Cases with negative patterns had the opposite effect.

Within the student selection and study methods, staff selected sixteen case studies based on fifth and eighth graders with EOG multiple choice score for four years; 8 FRL and SWD, 8 FRL and LEP. Staff conducted over 80 student, parent, teacher, and principal interviews. Staff reviewed student records for attendance, suspension notes, report card grades, teacher comments, and LEP initial scores and notes. Staff analyzed content

trends in two ways: globally by case and by theme across cases, and found that in the global case reviews, resilient individuals show personal strengths in the areas of the sense of purpose, the sense of autonomy, social competence, and problem solving. Resiliency profiles can vary and one form of support can compensate for another when necessary.

Global findings in the case reviews showed that all of our students faced challenges. The cases with positive achievement patterns in the study were more likely to show signs of resiliency and the types of support that help build resiliency. Either they had a strong motivation to succeed and took on extra challenges with the belief that they could succeed, or they had stronger social competence, problem solving, autonomy, and/or purpose.

Several global case reviews with positive and negative achievement patterns were shared with the Board. Student performance and characteristics were shared. FRL/ LEP and FRL/SWD students with positive achievement patterns, compared to those with more negative patterns, showed more favorable trends in formative and summative assessment scores over time, were more likely to have grades in classes on grade level, had stronger attendance and conduct generally than cases with negative achievement patterns, and FRL/LEP were more likely to have stronger skills in English over time.

Family support and involvement showed both similarities and differences. The similarities included parents were hard to contact and homework was difficult and completion was an issue. The differences were with FRL/ SWD cases, only half completed homework regularly. Positive pattern cases had better grades. Parents were also more likely to attend conferences with teachers. The FRL/LEP cases had positive pattern cases and were more likely to complete homework. All students were likely to receive some limited help with homework from family members. English ability was often an issue. Siblings sometimes helped. Parents tended to attend parent conferences.

In summary, the results are encouraging. Students with multiple academic risks can achieve academically. Students with positive achievement patterns were more resilient. School staff, families, and the community can foster this quality. Instructional practices that can make a positive difference are already being used and others can be fostered. The effectiveness index results over time, when used in combination with level scores, can help identify students who need added support and those who might be able to help.

In promoting resiliency, school staff can establish positive relationships with students, assess resources and help student's access resources needed, help students feel good about their capabilities, hold high expectations, provide structure, introduce new vocabulary systematically, and find ways to provide practice other than through homework.

Parents can foster resiliency by encouraging homework completion, providing a place to do homework, hold high expectations, encourage student involvement in school or extra curricular activities, arrange for the student to participate in support through school, church, or community, and attend conferences and be involved at school.

Board members asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation and Dr. Baenen and Mr. Holdzkorn provided thorough answers and referred the Board to the full report on the Evaluation and Research website.

2. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN CARY (E-30)

On or about August 28, 2007, the Board of Education acquired approximately 19 acres for use as an elementary school. The elementary school site for the E-30 target area to be located thereon has a scheduled opening date of 2009. Naming of the new elementary school facility is now required. The following names are proposed for consideration (1) Kit Creek Elementary, (2) Alston Avenue Elementary, and (2) Northwest Cary Elementary.

Kit Creek Elementary is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Kit Creek which is located south of the property, a tributary of which runs along the western boundary of the property and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Kit Creek Road also intersects Alston Avenue at the northeastern corner of the property, and is planned to extend along the northern boundary of the property in the future. Alston Avenue is proposed as it identifies the road from which the school will be accessed and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. Northwest Cary Elementary is proposed as it identifies the area of Cary within which the school site is located and will help to identify the location of the site. Staff recommends name selection of Kit Creek Elementary. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the name of the new elementary school in Cary (E-30). Staff recommends Kit Creek Elementary.

Ms. Clark inquired about a subdivision's name being either Kitts Creek or Kit Creek. Ms. Betty Parker responded that the subdivision's name is Kitt's Creek which is a relative distant from the school site.

Ms. Head clarified that the main entrance to the school would be off Alston Avenue. Ms. Betty Parker responded that the school would indeed be off Alston Avenue.

Ms. Parker inquired why staff did not recommend Alston Avenue Elementary. Ms. Betty Parker responded that Alston Avenue is often associated with Durham.

3. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN GARNER (E-31)

On or about August 10, 2007, the Board of Education acquired approximately 50 acres for use as a combination site for an elementary school and a middle school in the E-31 target area. The elementary school site for the E-31 target area to be located thereon is scheduled to open in 2009. Naming of the new elementary school facility is now required. The following names are proposed for consideration (1) Mahlers Creek Elementary, (2) Bryan Road Elementary, and (3) South Garner Elementary.

Mahlers Creek Elementary is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Mahlers Creek located west of the property, a tributary of which is located along the eastern boundary of the property, and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Bryan Road Elementary is proposed as it identifies the road from which the school will be accessed and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. South Garner Elementary is proposed as it identifies the area of Garner within which the school site is located and will help to identify the location of the site. Staff recommends name selection of Bryan Road Elementary. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Ms. Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the name of the new elementary school in Garner (E-31). Staff recommends Bryan Road Elementary.

Mr. Tart shared that the Garner residents were in agreement with the name Bryan Road Elementary.

Ms. Carol Parker inquired if staff had spoken with the municipality regarding the name.

4. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN APEX (E-32)

On or about June 7, 2007, the Board of Education acquired approximately 31 acres for use as a combination site for an elementary school and to pursue a joint development opportunity with Town of Apex for town park facilities in the E-32 target area. The elementary school site for the E-32 target area to be located thereon does not currently have a scheduled opening date. Naming of the new elementary school facility is desired. The following names are proposed for consideration (1) Beaver Creek Elementary, (2) Scotts Ridge Elementary, and (3) Apex Barbecue Road Elementary.

Beaver Creek Elementary is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Beaver Creek which is located west of the property, a tributary of which runs along the southern boundary of the property and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Scotts Ridge Elementary is proposed as the intersections of Scotts Ridge Trail, and Apex Barbecue Road on the north side of the site helps to specifically identify the location of the site. Apex Barbecue Road Elementary is proposed as it identifies the road from which the school will be accessed and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. Staff recommends name selection of Scotts Ridge Elementary. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Betty Parker presented information regarding the name of the new elementary school in Apex (E-32). Staff recommends Scotts Ridge Elementary.

5. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL IN HOLLY SPRINGS (M-9)

On or about March 13, 2003, the Board of Education acquired approximately 91 acres for use as a combination site for a high school, a middle school, and an elementary school in the M-9 target area. The site is the location of Holly Springs High and Holly Grove

Elementary. The middle school site for the M-9 target area, which is located thereon, is scheduled to open in 2010. Naming of the new middle school facility is now required. The following names are proposed for consideration (1) Buckhorn Creek Middle, (2) Avent Ferry Road Middle, (3) Holly Grove Middle.

Buckhorn Creek Middle is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Buckhorn Creek, which begins near the southern boundary of the property, and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Avent Ferry Road Middle is proposed as it identifies the road from which the school will be accessed and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. Holly Grove Middle is proposed because of the prior frequent references to the site, the common association of the site with the name, and the adjacency of the site to Holly Grove Elementary. Staff recommends name selection of Holly Grove Middle. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Betty Parker presented information regarding the name of the new middle school in Holly Springs (M-9). Staff recommends Holly Grove Middle.

Ms. Gill requested that staff check with the town of Holly Springs regarding the name of the school.

6. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL IN GARNER (M-12)

On or about August 10, 2007, the Board of Education acquired approximately 50 acres for use as a combination site for an elementary school and a middle school in the E-31 target area. The middle school site for the M-12 target area, to be located thereon, has not yet been scheduled for an opening date. Naming of the new middle school facility is now required. The following names are proposed for consideration (1) Mahlers Creek Middle, (2) Bryan Road Middle, and (3) South Garner Middle.

Mahlers Creek Middle is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Mahlers Creek located west of the property, a tributary of which is located along the eastern boundary of the property, and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Bryan Road Middle is proposed as it identifies the road from which the school will be accessed and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. South Garner Middle is proposed as it identifies the area of Garner within which the school site is located and will help to identify the location of the site. Staff recommends name selection of Bryan Road Middle. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Ms. Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the name of the new middle school in Garner (M-12). Staff recommends Bryan Road Middle.

7. NAME SELECTION FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN WAKE FOREST (H-2)

On or about January 10, 2000, the Board of Education acquired approximately 110 acres for use as a high school site for the H-2 target area, which is scheduled to open in 2010. Naming of the new high school facility is now required. The following names are

proposed for consideration (1) Smith Creek High, (2) Forestville Road High, (3) Heritage High.

Smith Creek High is proposed because water draining from the site will flow into Smith Creek, which borders the property on the western side, and is the nearest notable geographic or natural feature. Forestville Road High is proposed as it identifies the road that the school will front on and will help to specifically identify the location of the site. Heritage High is proposed because of the prior frequent references to the site, the common association of the site with the name, and the adjacency of the site to the Heritage Elementary and Heritage Middle school campus. Staff recommends name selection of Heritage High. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None, as this item is presented for information only and Board approval will be requested at the second presentation to the Board.

Ms. Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the name of the new high school in Wake Forest. Staff recommends Heritage High.

Ms. Carol Parker supports the name Heritage High School.

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.

- **Don Proux (Parent of students who attend West Lake Elementary and West Lake Middle School) -** Mr. Proux shared his concerns regarding Transportation for his children. His children have been told that they are unable to ride the bus as they are classified as transfer students. Mr. Proux has not requested a transfer of his students and requests that the Board assist him with providing his children bus service again. Ms. Gill responded to Mr. Proux stating that someone will speak with him following Public Comment.
- **Jennifer Lanane (President of Wake NCAE) –** Ms. Lanane presented Ms. Parry and Ms. Parker with plaques for their service to the educators of Wake County.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2007	-	Human Resources Committee Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2007	-	Joint Board of Education & County Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2007	-	Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
November 6, 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 October, 2007. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Not applicable

FACILITIES

1. UTILITY EASEMENT: PROGRESS ENERGY- BANKS ROAD ELEMENTARY (E-23)

As part of the construction process and in order to provide service to the Banks Road Elementary site, Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., requires an easement to construct, relocate, maintain, and operate electric and/or communication facilities thereon consisting of poles, cables, wires, underground conduits, enclosures, and other pertinent facilities. The easement to be granted will allow for installation of utility service equipment where needed upon the site, with the precise location to be determined by mutual agreement and to be memorialized by site maps or drawings upon installation. The requested easement will not interfere with the Wake County Public School System's present or future use of the property. A copy of the proposed Easement and drawing is attached. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

2. WATER LINE EASEMENT ACQUISITION AND DEDICATION: PROGRESS ENERGY-LAUREL PARK ELEMENTARY (E-26)

As part of the development of Laurel Park Elementary, a water line must be installed to accommodate the new structures. As a condition of site plan approval, the Town of Cary is requiring the dedication of the water line easement. The proposed water line easement route will cross a portion of the southwest corner of the neighboring property interest of Carolina Power and Light Company, dba Progress Energy (PE); it will then cross under CSX Railroad; then under Old Apex Road; and then continue within the right-of-way of Old Apex Road and tie in to an existing Town of Cary water main. An encroachment agreement has been obtained with DOT and the Town of Cary which allows for the water line to cross under Old Apex Road. CSX Railroad has also granted an easement to allow the water line to cross under the railroad tracks. In order to allow construction to proceed on schedule, it is necessary to obtain easements from Progress Energy. An easement must be acquired from PE for the portion of the water line that will cross PE's property in the southwest corner and temporary construction easements must be acquired for three bore and jack receiving pits that will be used to install the water line by boring under the railroad, Old Apex Road, and the PE service road to tie into the water main. Terms have been reached with Progress Energy to acquire the land needed for the easement acquisition and for the temporary construction easements. The requested easements will not interfere with the Wake County Public School System's present or future use of the property. A copy of the easement drawing is attached with the area of the easements identified thereon. Fiscal Implications: Progress Energy will be compensated an amount not to exceed \$7,500 for the acquisition of the temporary construction easements and the acquisition of the permanent easement which crosses a portion of Progress Energy's land. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

3. CHANGE ORDER NO. GC-118: MILLBROOK HIGH

Board approval is requested for Change Order No. GC-118 to D. H. Griffin Construction, LLC. This change order, a reduction of \$155,794.96, is to reconcile unused earthwork allowances and miscellaneous interior allowances associated with the Millbrook High School renovation project. Fiscal Implications: Savings will be applied to the total project budget of \$30,319,168, of which \$1,321,955 is from the PLAN 2000 Start Up funds, \$28,865,743 is from PLAN 2004, and \$131,470 is from PLAN 2000 Deferred Maintenance. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

4. CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: E-30 ELEMENTARY

Staff has reviewed the construction documents and requests Board approval and authorization to advertise for the construction of E-30 Elementary School located near the intersection of Wake Road and Alston Avenue in Western Wake County. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$22,822,608, all of which is from CIP 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

5. ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES AGREEMENT: PARTNERSHIP ELEMENTARY

Negotiations have been completed with HH Architecture, P.A., to provide architectural design services for roof and window replacement, painting, and masonry repair at Partnership Elementary School, in accordance with the Individual Project Proposal Agreement. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total budget of \$67,813,687 for CIP 2006 Life-Cycle Replacement of Building Components which includes the \$1,212,900 budget for this project. Proposed compensation for the designer is \$108,200. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

6. SOFTWARE LICENSE/MAINTENANCE RENEWAL: CONTRACT MANAGER

Negotiations have been completed with Primavera Systems, Inc. to provide three years of maintenance and support for the 100 Contract Manager (formerly Expedition) licenses owned by Wake County Public School Systems. The current quote to renew these licenses for a twelve month period for 2008 is \$407.43 per license per year. However, if the licenses are renewed for a three year period, the cost is \$341.10 per license per year with an expiration date of 1/31/2011. The three year renewal option would save almost \$20,000 over 3 years even with no increase in the annual rates. Board approval is requested for the three year renewal amount of \$102,330. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from CIP 2006 Program Management budget of \$22,669,394. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

7. DESIGNER SELECTION AND AGREEMENTS: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PACKAGE 07-B

In accordance with the designer selection procedures adopted by the Wake County Board of Education, the selection committee hereby recommends that the Board select firms in accordance with the attached recommendation summaries for the indefinite delivery service agreements for: mobile classroom design; design of capital projects under \$1,000,000; civil engineering; geotechnical, material testing, special inspections, or wetland delineation; environmental design; roof consulting; landscape architecture; mechanical and electrical engineering; and surveying that comprise Professional Services Package 07-

B. The selected firms will execute the appropriate form of agreement, as approved by the Board's attorney. These agreements are for work beginning January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Fiscal Implications: Negotiations for the actual fee will be done on an individual project basis and funded by the specific project. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

8. TERMINATION OF MASTER JOB ORDER CONTRACT (JOC) WITH ELEVATOR SPECIALISTS, INC.

On June 19, 2007, the Board awarded the primary two year Master Job Order Contract (JOC), in the amount of \$85,000, to Elevator Specialists, Inc., for elevator, wheelchair lift, and dumbwaiter installation and repair at various schools. After repeated attempts to get adequate responses and a final meeting, staff recommends a termination of the agreement with Elevator Specialists, Inc., for inadequate performance. A secondary contract also exists with Triangle Elevator for the same services and it will be increased to meet the needs for this fiscal year. Fiscal Implications: Payment will be made for work orders that have been completed to date. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

9. ENERGY AND PHYSICAL PLANT ELEVATOR INSTALLATION AND REPAIR CONTRACT

At the June 19, 2007 Board meeting, Elevator Specialist, Inc. was selected as the primary contractor for elevator, wheelchair lift and dumbwaiter installation and repair at various schools. Termination of that contract is recommended in another précis on this Board meeting agenda. Currently, there is a two year Master Job Order Contract (JOC) with Triangle Elevator to handle the overflow of calls. Staff now recommends that the contract for Triangle Elevator be increased from \$10,000 to \$75,000, for the first year of the two year contract, in order to meet the need. The two year Master JOC contract has been previously reviewed and approved by the Board. Fiscal Implications: No additional appropriation of funding is necessary. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

1. ABC ACCOUNTABILITY COMPONENTS FOR ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Alternative schools are included in the 2007-2008 ABCs under a special policy adopted by the North Carolina Board of Education (HSP-C-013). The evaluation of alternative schools will be based on two state mandated achievement-based components and three local options. Local options defined by the state include attendance, dropouts, school safety/student conduct, higher expectations for student achievement, student progress and proficiency, parent involvement, community involvement, and customer satisfaction. Schools achieving five of the five components will be determined to have made high growth, at least three of the five will be expected growth, at least two of the five will be no recognition, and one or none of the five will be low performing. As part of their school improvement plans for 2007-2008, the alternative schools identified three local options that reflect their school's mission. The local options selected by the schools have been approved by the school improvement teams and must in turn be approved by the local school board. Mt. Vernon School, Mary E. Phillips High School, and River Oaks Middle School are designated as alternative schools. Longview is designated as a special education school, which does not submit local objectives. Fiscal Implications: ABC incentive funds will be received from the state for the system's three alternative schools, Mt.

Vernon School, Mary E. Phillips High School and River Oaks Middle School if they achieve their objectives. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

2. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Competitive (#1197): The Woman's Club of Raleigh / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1198): Hamburger Helper / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1199): National Gardening Association / Individual schools.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT

- A. Professional
- B. Support

2. RECOMMENDATION FOR CAREER STATUS

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 reported that the Community Relations Committee met on November 7 and had great participation from the community. Nancy Baenen and David Holdzkorn led a lively discussion with two focus groups on subjects that need to be explored to take out to a broader community for input or items that need to be discussed or surveyed in the future. The next committee will meet again on January 9 to share common items that both groups developed and to further discuss issues that were identified and to look at next steps.

Ms. Goettee shared that the Human Resources Committee met on November 13 and reviewed the hiring statistics for WCPSS, teacher turnover, teacher retention, and an overview of the Teacher Induction Program. The next meeting will be held on December 12.

Ms. Goettee also shared that the Legislative Committee met on November 7 for an organizational meeting. On December 13, the committee will be discussing legislative priorities and establishing an action plan.

Mr. Tart shared that the Facilities Committee met on November 13, several topics were discussed. One of the topics discussed was a presentation for a business case for performing facility assessments. The CIP 2006 had \$1.768 million for contracting facility assessments to outside companies. A study was conducted and the results showed that staff could use software and in-house staff that could perform the study and save approximately 25% or \$450,000. A presentation was given on the swing space solution for Root Elementary.

Reserve funds were discussed for Wake Forest-Rolesville High School. A presentation of the Facilities Utilization Report was given and there was discussion of renovating Wake Forest –Rolesville High School as a middle school or as a high school. The Facilities Committee's next meeting will be held on November 27 at 9:30 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

FACILITIES

1. DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT: WENDELL FALLS DEVELOPMENT, L. C. – SITE INFRASTRUCTURE (E-34)

Wendell Falls Development, LLC (WFD) and the Board of Education entered into a certain Offer to Purchase and Contract dated January 23, 2007, wherein WFD agreed to sell and convey a certain portion of property it owns to the Board for a future elementary school site (E-34). Pursuant to the contract, WFD agrees to construct road, water and sewer infrastructure to the property to permit the Board's use of the property for the future elementary school, as well as a sewer line across the property that will serve both the future school and a WFD development project currently under construction. The Board and WFD desire to enter into a Development Agreement to set out the parties' rights and obligations with respect to the construction of the above-referenced infrastructure at WFD's expense. The proposed Development Agreement has been reviewed by the Board Real Estate Attorney and is attached. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Betty Parker presented information to the Board regarding the development agreement with Wendell Falls Development, L.L.C. for site infrastructure (E-34).

Lori Millberg made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee.

With no questions from the Board, the motion passed.

2. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: WAKE FOREST-ROLESVILLE HIGH

A high priority project to be considered for the next building program is the construction of an addition and renovations to the Wake Forest-Rolesville High school. Negotiations have been completed with Davis Kane Architects, P.A., for the design of this project. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney, which has been reviewed by the Board Real Estate Attorney. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The current estimated budget is approximately \$55,000,000, of which \$2,500,000 is currently available from the CIP 2006 School Building Program. The remaining funds will be provided from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$2,828,047. Separate agreements for Pre-Design services in the amount of \$209,206 have already been issued, of which the Owner will be credited \$71,500 to this agreement. The amount authorized by this contract funds the design through the Schematic Design Phase. Thus, this agreement is for \$352,707 (\$424,207 through schematic design - \$71,500). The remaining amount of \$2,403,840 will be authorized by change order. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Mike Burriss presented information to the Board regarding the design consultant agreement for Wake Forest Rolesville High School. The agreement has gone through the process. The current estimated budget is approximately \$55,000,000, of which \$2,500,000 is currently available from the CIP 2006 School Building Program. The remaining funds will be provided from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$2,828,047. Separate agreements for Pre-Design services in the amount of \$209,206 have already been issued, of which the owner will be credited \$71,500 to this agreement. The amount authorized by this contract funds the design through the Schematic Design Phase. The agreement is for \$352,707 (\$424,207 through schematic design - \$71,500). The remaining amount of \$2,403,840 will be authorized by change order.

With no questions from the Board, Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) legislation was approved by the legislature in 2006. The legislation allows public school systems to enter into capital build-to-suit leases for school facilities. Staff will present the RFQ which was developed by the Board counsel for PPP, Kilpatrick Stockton, L.L.P., and reviewed by the Board Attorney, for the design, construction, and leasing of school facilities using the PPP process. This RFQ/RFP is for the E-25 Elementary School that will be used as a pilot project. Staff recommends Board approval. Fiscal Implications: Upon receipt of first-step proposals, staff will make a recommendation to the Board to continue or not continue the public-private project process for construction of E-25 elementary school. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Mike Burriss presented information to the Board regarding RFQ's for public-private partnerships. Public-private partnerships is a process which uses a team of professionals private developers, engineers, and private investors to design, finance, construct and deliver a new school. Over the course of 20 years, the Wake County Board of Education will make monthly lease payments to the owner of the facility to buy the school. Legislation allows public school systems to enter into capital build-to-suit leases for school facilities. The RFP is the request that would be sent forward in public domain that would have firms respond with proposals on how to address the challenge. Currently, staff is working on a timeline where the publishing of the RFP would be placed on line tomorrow, November 21, if approved by the Board, for distribution to firms that are interested in responding. A mandatory pre-proposal conference would be conducted on December 11, 2007. Staff is currently trying to establish East Garner Elementary as the site to host the conference. December 14 will be the deadline for the submission of the proposer's questions. On December 19, staff will ask that written responses to the questions are sent back to persons interested in the RFQ. In January, staff will receive all proposals and invitations to selected proposals for the second round. Second round proposals will be due in March with the development of a pre-development agreement. Drafts of leases will be developed by April, with the intent to have an award made by June.

Ms. Millberg asked at what point would staff stop working in parallel with the public-private partnership. Mr. Burriss responded that staff would stop no later than April 15 to have a decision made if the public-private partnership was the way to move forward.

Ms. Clark asked Mr. Burriss what would be the next step coming to the Board. Mr. Burriss stated that a ranking of firms that staff feels meets the qualifications of the RFP would take place.

Ms. Clark asked at what point will the Board of Education approve the lease terms that WCPSS will operate under.

Mr. Burriss responded that the next step for the Board is the Board-approved short list. Between the end of January and April 15, the Board would approve the selection of the partner, the pre-development agreement, and the capital lease. With having all of the information in place, the Board will be able to decide if they should move forward with public-private partnerships, or use the conventional method.

After clarifying questions and comments from the Board, Patti Head made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. The Board voted 7 to 1 with Patti Head, Horace Tart, Carol Parker, Lori Millberg, Beverley Clark, Eleanor Goettee, and Susan Parry voting “yes”, and Ron Margiotta voting “no”. The motion was approved.

4. ASSIGNMENT OF NEW SUBDIVISION

Highland Creek is a development that is planned to have 1045 housing units. Phase 1 includes 157 single family homes and 188 townhouses. Staff recommended on November 6, 2007 that a new spot node be created for Highland Creek and assigned to Harris Creek Elementary (current), East Millbrook Middle (current), and Knightdale High School (change). Thirteen (13) spot nodes have been created during the past three years and assigned to Knightdale High School. Wake Forest-Rolesville High School is the current assignment for the existing node and Wake Forest-Rolesville will face crowding problems for the next several years. Fiscal Implications: Facility-related costs related to potential overcrowding at the Wake Forest-Rolesville High School Ninth-grade center will be avoided. Recommendation for Action: Staff is presenting for Board approval.

George Risinger presented information to the Board. Staff recommended Harris Creek Elementary School, East Millbrook Middle School, and Knightdale High School.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. FACILITIES UTILIZATION REPORT PRESENTATION

The staff of Growth and Planning Department will present and discuss the 2007-2008 Facilities Utilization Report (previously called the School Capacity Report) to the Board of Education. The 2007-2008 Facilities Utilization Report was reviewed by the Facilities Committee on November 13, 2007 and forwarded to The Board of Education for

adoption. Fiscal Implications: Board policy calls for an annual capacity report on school capacity. Recommendation for Action: Staff is presenting for adoption.

Christina Lighthall presented information to the Board regarding the Facilities Utilization Report. Ms. Lighthall shared that the Growth and Planning Department requested the adoption of the Facilities Utilization Report and an addendum that reflects the percentage of students in permanent seats as they relate to swing space schools, and percentage crowding as it relates to new schools coming on line. Compared to last year, staff is seeing improvements in both of the categories. The percentage of students in permanent seats has increased, as well as the percentage of crowding has decreased, which is a positive message for the Capital Improvement Program.

Ms. Carol Parker asked for Ms. Lighthall to review the process that is done to create the capacity report. Ms. Lighthall explained that the process did have a change in responsibility from Facilities to Growth and Planning over the year. Beginning in February of last year, Ms. Lighthall began contacting each school to revisit the previous year's capacity to see if it was accurately reflecting their programs, and make any adjustments as needed. Staff did find cause for need of adjustment with Special Needs Programs. Schools are now beginning to implement push-in programs as well as inclusion. Staff found discrepancy with mobile inventory reports and teaching spaces.

Over the past six to seven months, Ms. Lighthall has verified every school. In conclusion, Ms. Lighthall distributed an itemized email to each principal, notifying them of what would be reported as their capacity. Of the 153 schools, everyone concurred, with the exception of 20 schools. Of the 20, staff contacted the schools and let them know that staff is assuming that they concur with the capacity being reported. Ms. Lighthall reported that staff has a 100% concurrence on the capacity numbers being reported.

Staff has standard capacity models that they measure every school's ability to support their programs by which is staff's benchmark and standard that they proceed with.

Mr. Tart inquired as to why traditional calendar schools' student-teacher ratios are 21 to 1 and year-round calendar schools' student teacher ratios 22.5 to 1. Ms. Lighthall responded that with much discussion that included Caroline Massengill with regards to revisiting capacity models for year-round, and recognizing that staff needed to have continuity amongst all the grades so that track assignments can be maintained, staff makes sure to set up the model for equal number of students from K-5.

With no further questions from the Board, Lori Millberg made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Parry. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. REQUEST FOR FUND BALANCE FOR DIESEL FUEL

When the budget process was completed last year, the State of North Carolina had not supplied LEAs with a current average cost of fuel for buses. The budget was built using the figure of \$1.97 per gal. The State has now announced the average cost of fuel Statewide for fiscal year 2006-2007 was \$2.21. However, as this year began, fuel continued its upward spiral, with cost as of today of \$2.73 per gal.

This increased cost per gallon, along with the increased mileage due to additional bus routes required to transport students attending traditional calendar optional schools, will cause the fuel budget to be under-funded for this fiscal year. This request is for additional funds to be appropriated from fund balance to cover this deficit. Fiscal Implications: Total funds requested from fund balance \$2,203,360. Recommendation for Action: Staff recommends board approval of \$2,203,360 from fund balance for the purchase of diesel fuel.

Don Haydon and Eddy Adams presented information to the Board. Currently WCPSS has 878 buses on the road. These buses will travel approximately 72 million miles and use approximately 2.6 million gallons in fuel. The budget was built using the figure of \$1.97 per gal. The State has now announced the average cost of fuel statewide for fiscal year 2006-2007 was \$2.21. However, as this year began, fuel continued its upward spiral, with cost as of today at \$2.73 per gal.

The increased cost per gallon, along with the increased mileage due to additional bus routes required to transport students attending traditional calendar optional schools, will cause the fuel budget to be under-funded for this fiscal year. To assist with efficiency, the Transportation Department is enforcing a non-idling policy, a routing system that is optimized using routing software from the state. Managers are driving routes to make sure that buses do not idle due to construction, inspection of buses are being completed to make sure that buses are operating properly, and last but not least, WCPSS is using the hybrid buses which are making a difference.

Ms. Head questioned why the Board had the \$1.97 figure as late as May when working on the budget. Mr. Haydon replied that there was difficulty in knowing what would be expected with fuel prices.

Ms. Parry asked what percentage of the amount can be attributed to the mandate of having to provide transportation for the traditional option schools. Mr. Haydon replied approximately 10% or \$220,000.

Mr. Tart inquired as to who pays for fuel, if the county assists, and does WCPSS pay any taxes on fuel. Mr. Haydon responded that WCPSS does not pay any taxes on fuel. The state does pay a large part of transportation, they provide partial funding which currently is \$1.69, and then later on in the year, they provide some funding.

Mr. Margiotta asked about justification for removing the money from surplus rather than removing funds from the budget. Mr. Haydon responded that the funding is not within the transportation budget.

Superintendent Burns shared that the Finance Officers meet with the Chief Business Officer, and the Superintendent quarterly and review the budget and projections, and expenditures currently and through the end of the year. Currently, staff is looking at the possibility of repurposing funds. At this time, the budget is very lean, other than eliminating a program or a service, there are no savings at this point, other than those that are reported in the over/under report.

Ms. Millberg clarified that \$1.97 figure used is for diesel fuel and not unleaded fuel. WCPSS does not pay taxes, therefore, it changes the price of the fuel that is currently used, and we purchase the fuel in bulk through a statewide contract.

Ms. Goettee inquired how staff would make a projection for fuel during the next year for budget. Mr. Haydon responded that they will research fuel prices as far in advance as possible and will make adjustments as necessary when building the budget.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg.

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

7. BIDS: RELOCATE EIGHT-CLASSROOM MODULAR UNIT TO JOYNER ELEMENTARY

Bids for the modular classroom addition at Joyner Elementary were received on October 30, 2007. This includes the disassembly of an eight-classroom unit at Enloe High, and subsequent relocation and reassembly, with all services (power, water, sewer, ADA access, data, fire protection, security) required for permitted occupancy at Joyner Elementary. Staff and Rotman Architecture, PA recommend award of the single-prime contract to C. Blake Lewis Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$337,448. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available 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. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Ken Fuller presented information to the Board regarding bids for the modular classroom addition for Joyner received on October 30, 2007. The bid includes the disassembly of the eight-classroom unit at Enloe High School, the subsequent relocation and reassembly with all services required for permitting occupancy at Joyner. (An addition was added that segregated the amount \$337,448 into two pieces.) One hundred thousand went to picking up the unit, moving it, and block level tie down, and the remainder \$237,448 was used for general construction. Staff has permits for the unit and be in place by late April.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee.

Mr. Margiotta asked if this contractor was the same contractor that gets awarded the contracts to move modular units. Mr. Fuller responded that C.Blake Lewis does not receive all of the contracts for moving modular units. Mr. Fuller stated that staff has walked through the process with all potential bidders on how to bid so that everyone will be equipped to bid.

Mr. Tart inquired if the unit that was moved to Joyner was going to be used for the current year or the following year. Mr. Fuller responded that all of the units being moved were late, and that at one time, funds were withheld for all modular units, which put everything behind. Mr. Tart expressed his concern with modular units sitting on campuses not being used for extended periods of time.

After clarifying questions and comments from the Board, the motion was unanimously approved.

8. BIDS: EIGHT-CLASSROOM MODULAR UNIT FOR DILLARD DRIVE ELEMENTARY

Bids were received on October 25, 2007 for connecting/installing all services (power, water, sewer, data, ADA access, fire protection, and security) required for permitted occupancy for an eight classroom modular unit at Dillard Drive Elementary School. Staff and HH Architecture, P.A., recommend award of the single-prime contract to C. Blake Lewis Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$219,462. C. Blake Lewis Construction, Inc., was the lowest of three bidders. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available 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. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Ken Fuller presented information to the Board regarding the bid for an eight-classroom modular unit for Dillard Drive Elementary.

Eleanor Goette made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

1. GRANT PROPOSALS

- Competitive (#1197): The Woman's Club of Raleigh / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1198): Hamburger Helper / Individual schools.
- Competitive (#1199): National Gardening Association / Individual schools.

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

Bill Carruthers presented information to the Board regarding grant proposals. The Grants Office monitors a variety of grant funding opportunity notifications and research services. WCPSS staff members often bring grant funding opportunities to the attention of the Grants Office. Colleagues in other agencies also bring grant funding opportunities to staff. The Grants Office also supports schools through conducting research for grant funding opportunities to satisfy specific interest needs of schools. The Grants Office distributes periodic "Grant Alerts" to all school principals and others via email notification. Grant Alerts are archived on the Grants Office Intranet website, providing a history of recurring funding opportunities. The Grants Office arranges training programs for school staff when a funding agency makes grants available to multiple school applicants. The grants staff is able to provide limited "indirect" support to school staff through telephone and email contact, as well as "direct" support to school-based grant development efforts on small proposals of less than \$10,000. The Grants Office provides increasing "direct" support to school-based grant development efforts to the extent that grant proposals will exceed \$10,000. New capabilities of online technology such as "Wikis" hold some promise for the Grants Office to provide greater "indirect" support to school staff.

With a staff of four, the Grants Office supports the fiscal and operational administration of grant-funded programs for WCPSS.

With several comments from the Board noting the amount of work, the number of staff, and the great work that the Grants Office is doing, Lori Millberg made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. K-3 CLASS SIZE WAIVER REQUESTS

Chapter 4, section III B of The School Attendance & Student Accounting Manual states in part

Local boards of education are responsible for assuring the class size and teacher daily load requirements set forth in G.S. 115C-301 are met. The superintendent shall immediately determine whether the requirements have in fact not been met. If the superintendent determines the requirements have not been met, he/she shall make a report to the next local board of education meeting. The local board of education shall take action to meet the requirements of the statute (area superintendents have worked with individual schools to correct all overages to the extent possible). If the local board cannot organizationally correct the exception and if any of the conditions set out below are met; it shall immediately apply to the State Board of Education for additional personnel or waiver from the standards set above.

Within 45 days of receipt of the request, the State Board, within funds available, may allot additional positions or grant waivers for the excess class size or daily load if the exception resulted from exceptional circumstances, emergencies, or acts of God; large changes in student population; organizational problems caused by remote geographic location; or classes organized for a solitary curricular area and if the local board cannot organizationally correct the exception. Fiscal Implications: None at this time.

Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested to submit K-3 class size waivers to the State Board of Education.

Superintendent Burns stated that there is legislation as well as State Board of Education Policy that requires procedures that guide the conditions under which WCPSS can request waivers under which conditions waivers will be granted. ABC Class waivers for class sizes for grades 4-12 come before the Board for approval and can only be requested by schools. The Board is unable to impose the waivers on the school, kindergarten through third grade classes have no such waiver. Legislation requires that this be addressed and reported to the State Board of Education. Only the State Board of Education may act on this in terms of granting a waiver or providing additional resources, or other events that they so choose to put into place in order to address.

Superintendent Burns clarified that several years ago, the Board of Education requested that the Superintendent send a letter to the State Board of Education requesting waivers of class size K-12 in order to address class size issues and crowding. The request was denied by the State Board of Education.

Tonight, reviewing K-3 classes in WCPSS that are over the class size maximum specified in the legislation by the State Board of Education, and following the Department of Public Instruction's policy, staff is requesting the Board's approval to submit class size waivers to the State Board of Education for action.

Danny Barnes shared that local Boards of Education must maintain an LEA-wide class size average no higher than the class size ratio of teachers to students of kindergarten, first, second, and third grade 1 to 21. During the first two months of school, no class size maximum requirements exist as long as the LEA-wide class size average maximum from each grade or grade span is not exceeded. At the end of the second school month and for the remainder of the school year, the size of an individual class may exceed the LEA-wide ratio by 3 students so long as the LEA-wide class average size maximums are not exceeded. Therefore, individual class size ratio maximums for kindergarten, first, second, and third grades are 1 to 24.

Mr. Margiotta asked if the primary request going to be for additional personnel. Mr. Barnes responded that it would certainly be what is requested. Superintendent Burns stated that the waivers would be submitted to the State Board and they will determine whether to grant the waiver about additional resources. In the past, the Superintendent has spoken to the request for additional resources from the State when the membership has exceeded the state projection that is different. Staff will send in the waiver and the State Board will determine what action they will take.

Mr. Margiotta inquired as to how the additional personnel would be utilized. Superintendent Burns responded that staff will have to review the situations that are exceptions at the time, realizing that it may change. Throughout the course of the year, every year, schools reach a certain point area superintendents have allotted additional resources in order to provide appropriate instruction for students in situations where the crowding has increased.

Ms. Parker expressed her concern for the high free and reduced lunch schools and the high classes with high needs children, in particular Barwell Road. The school currently is at 94% capacity and has classes in first, second, and third grade on different tracks that have up to 29 students, with 58% free and reduced lunch students. Superintendent Burns responded that the allotments for the schools are based on 10th day enrollment. This represents the individual classroom.

Ms. Millberg expressed her concern as well for Barwell Road and requested follow-up information regarding what is needed to support them.

Ms. Parker inquired if a teacher assistant was added to the class, would it reduce the average. Mr. Barnes responded that the teacher assistant does not. The state looks at this purely as student and teacher ratio.

Ms. Parker stated that with being on the Board for four years, she did not recall the report. Superintendent Burns stated that before presentation tonight, it had not been.

Ms. Parker stated that she wanted to send the item back to staff for further investigation and review to see what can be done to reduce class sizes. Superintendent Burns stated that the area superintendents will go back and review the information; however, the law requires that it be reported as of the 40th day. With Board approval, staff will send the waivers to the State Board of Education for their consideration.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Ron Margiotta. The Board voted 7 to 1 with Patti Head, Horace Tart, Lori Millberg, Beverley Clark, Ron Margiotta, Eleanor Goettee, and Susan Parry voted “yes”, with Carol Parker voting “no”.

POLICY

1. POLICY 8101 – UNDESIGNATED OPERATING FUND BALANCE

First Reading.

Good business practice suggests a policy guiding the use of this key fiscal resource. The Policy provides guidelines related to the utilization of Undesignated Fund Balance. Adoption of an Undesignated Fund Balance Policy will provide the Board additional fiscal management guidelines and further communicate commitment to fiscal accountability.

Mark Winters presented information to the Board. The Board of Education currently does not have a policy on fund balance and staff feels that it would be fiscally responsible to have a fund balance policy to give some limits on funds in the operating fund balance.

The Board will target maintenance of undesignated fund balance no greater than 6% of subsequent year’s county appropriation. The Board will return to Wake County any undesignated operating fund balance in excess of the 6%. The Board will use no more than 50% of the July 1 undesignated operating fund balance to provide funding to the following year’s annual budget.

Ms. Head stated that there should be some wording changes in the policy as they are not consistent with the Board using 50% of the undesignated operating fund balance to provide funding, but that it will also be used for emergency needs.

Superintendent Burns clarified that changing the word in the third bullet to “*may use*” helps and, “*it is emergency funding needs and other one time costs.*” The sentence preceding the three bullets will need to be re-worded as well.

Mr. Winters responded that one correction would be “*set the following limits on undesignated operating fund balance*” would be used instead of “*the use of*”.

Superintendent Burns made the following recommendation, “*the word emergency is okay, and the word may, should be changed in the last bullet.*”

Mr. Winters shared that the sentence prior to the bullets will read: “*As a good business practice, the Board of Education sets the following limits on the undesignated operating fund balance.*” The third bullet correction will be to change “*the Board will*”, to “*the Board may*”.

Superintendent Burns clarified that staff will word-smith the policy and email it to the Board members as soon as possible with the corrections. There will be substantial R & P behind the policy. Ms. Majestic will review from a legal stand point and then bring back to the Board for approval.

With no further comments or questions from the Board, Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business coming before the Board, Patti Head made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lori Millberg. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

Melissa R. Christmas, Recording Secretary