

WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
December 4, 2001

Board Members Present:

Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair	Judy Hoffman
Susan Parry, Vice Chair	J.C. O'Neal
Beverley Clark	Tom Oxholm
Bill Fletcher	Jeff York
<i>Rosa Gill (absent)</i>	

Staff Members Present:

Bill McNeal, Superintendent	
Jo Baker	Cindi Jolly
Karen Banks	Ray Massey
Brenda Barker	Toni Patterson
Danny Barnes	John Ringo
Maurice Boswell	Janice Shearin
Del Burns	Stella Shelton
Mike Burriss	Walt Sherlin
Ann Hooker	Jonibel Willis
Linda Isley	

Board Attorney Present:

Ann Majestic

Kathryn Watson Quigg called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake *was the presiding judge. Born in Raleigh, North Carolina. Graduated from Wake Forest High School in 1950. Graduated from Wake Forest College with a B.S. degree in history and from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1960. Attended the National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada in 1987, completing course of study for judges nationwide.*

The Board Members that were sworn in (affirm) were Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair Bill Fletcher, Patti Head, and Amy Bannister White. (Exhibit A)

Oath of Office is as follows...

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as Member of the Wake County Board of Education, so help me God.

Convened to the Board Conference room for the reception at 4:15 p.m..

The Board reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

INFORMATION

Chairman's Comments

- *Attended the West Lake Elementary and West Lake Middle "Schools of Excellence" award presentations*
- *Recognition of Board Certified Teachers*
- *Attended the Jones Dairy Elementary "School of Excellence" award presentation*
- *In the Zebulon Christmas Parade with Superintendent Bill McNeal.*
- *Met with the new Mayor of Raleigh to talk about WCPSS issues.*

Superintendent's Report

Introduction of Smedes York, Presentation on the Wake Technology Academy

Foundation of Wake Technology Academy

- *Targets high school juniors and seniors in Career Prep and College Tech Prep Courses of study.*
- *Provides technology focused curriculum driven by industry standards*
- *Supports students' seamless entry into workforce and life-long learning*

Wake Technology Academy Curriculum Development

- *June 2000 industry session (17 companies-35 participants)*
- *Meeting with over 100 companies and institutions*
- *February 2001-Industry Project Manager*
- *February-March 2001 Industry exploration interviews (16 companies-28 participants)*
- *March 2001 Industry-Curriculum Focus Group Session (17 companies-27 participants)*
- *April 2001 Industry-Skill Development Focus Group Sessions (17 companies-26 participants)*
- *Partnership with ExploNet*

Industry and Institution Participation

IBM, Nortel Network, GlaxoSmithKline, SAS Institute, First Union Foundation, News and Observer Publishing Company, Wake Technical Community College, First Citizen Bank, CISCO, ExplorNet, WRAL-TV5, BellSouth, NCSU, NCDPI, Verizon just to name a few. (Exhibit B)

- *Wake Technology Academy Resolution (Exhibit C)*
- *Kathryn Watson Quigg stated the Wake County Board of Education is not opposed to the concept of an academy that trains young people to go directly into the work world. The board believes that the funding for this project should be provided by the private sector or funding available through Wake Technical Community College. Kathryn stated that the mission of WCPSS is to educate each student to be responsible and productive citizens who can manage future challenges. The district is committed to academic excellence as evidenced by Goal 2003 that states 95% of students tested will be at or above grade level. We have between 14,000 and 15,000 students who are below grade level. Many of our students can't read. Our current budget was not funded at a level that will allow us to reach Goal 2003; therefore, our first obligation is to get all students at grade level. This requires us to retain and recruit the best teachers, to train our teachers and administrators, and to reduce class size.*
- *Tom Oxholm seconded that and asked the board to study the proposal and to come back on December 18th as a action item. The board will revisit the Resolution Requesting Reallocating the Funding of Phase 111B and PLAN 2000 Capital Building Project that it reflects board's commitment to Goal and that resolution will not draw away from that funding.*

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- *Bill Fletcher asked that we move Consent Agenda item #1 "Design Consultant Agreement-Powell Elementary Renovations" to Facilities-Action item #5.*

- *Beverley Clark asked to pull the Consent Agenda item #2 “Design Phase Change Order No.1: Cedar Fork Elementary (E4)”.*
- *Jeff York asked to amend the meeting agenda to add to Action Agenda-“Policy 6520-Student Grievances; second reading.”*

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Tom Oxholm. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

***Robin Allen** would like a health curriculum that is inclusive, non-discriminatory, comprehensive, and medically accurate. She feels as long WCPSS chooses to offer only the state mandated Teach Abstinence Until Marriage curriculum, parents have no school option. If we offer a curriculum that is more comprehensive, parents who don't want more still would have the right to choose less, abstinence only.*

CONSENT ITEMS

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the Consent items, seconded by Tom Oxholm. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 10, 2001 – Finance Committee

November 13, 2001 – Finance Committee

FACILITIES

Offer to Purchase and Contract – Millbrook Elementary

Bob H. Taylor and wife, Peggy L. Taylor have agreed to a negotiated settlement to sell to the Wake County Board of Education approximately 4,240 square feet of land at Millbrook Elementary School. The acquisition will allow for the completion of driveway and parking improvements. The negotiated settlement will eliminate the condemnation proceeding recently approved by the Board and associated costs. Fiscal Implications - Contract payment of \$5,000.00 for 4,240 square feet of land and \$1,000.00 for legal fees, property taxes, revenue stamps and recording fees.

Funding Resolution – Millbrook Elementary

As required by N. C. General Statute 115C-426, the Wake County Board of Commissioners is required to approve the acquisition and funding of property for the construction of school facilities. A resolution for the acquisition of approximately 4,240 square feet of land at Millbrook Elementary, Raleigh, N.C., is required to complete driveway and parking improvements as a portion of the renovation of the elementary facility. Fiscal Implications - Total land cost \$5,000.00. Total fees and closing costs \$1,000.00.

FINANCE

Gifts To The System

Twelve gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$13,867.78. **(Exhibit D)**

Service Agreement: Boss Corporation

Technology Services will enter into an agreement with Boss Corporation to provide a functional lead for payroll with a specialty in custom costing. Contract will be for a three-month term. Hourly rate will be \$187 per hour and expenses are estimated at \$1,000 per week. Fiscal

Implications: Total amount of contract is not to exceed \$135,000. Funding for contracted services was identified and planned for in the 2001-02 fiscal year. Funding is available in the Technology Services current expense budget.

PROGRAM

Grant Proposals

Competitive (#609): North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, After School Programs and Services for At-Risk Children / Carroll Middle School. Fiscal implications vary by grant.

ABC Accountability Components for Alternative Schools

Alternative and special schools are included in the 2001-2002 ABCs under a special policy adopted by the North Carolina Board of Education. The evaluation of alternative schools will be based on two state mandated achievement-based components and three local options. Options suggested by the state include attendance, suspension/dropout rates, graduation rates, reduction in incidents of violence, customer satisfaction, transition to a regular program, improvement in GPA, promotion rates, and parental involvement. Schools will be evaluated on all five components. Schools achieving five of the five components will be determined to have made exemplary gain, at least three of the five will be expected gain, 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 2001-2002, 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 be approved by the local school board. ABC incentive funds will be received from the state for the system's three alternative schools: Longview School, Mt. Vernon Redirection, and Phillips High School

Ligon Middle School Field Trip to Compiegne, France

Students participating will be representative of grade 8. Approximately 8 students will participate and 2 chaperones. Students will depart from RDU on Friday, March 22, and return on Monday, April 1, 2002. Students' absence from school will be one day. This is during Spring Break. The students will live with a French family, attend a French school, and learn about their customs and culture. They will practice speaking French in real situations. This school exchange is sponsored in part by the City of Raleigh's Sister City. Cost per student will be approximately \$700. The total cost will be approximately \$5600. Individuals will be responsible for financing the trip with some money from fund raisers.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Recommendation for Administrative Appointments

- Eloise Sheats, teacher at Swift Creek Elementary School, to assistant principal at Poe Montessori Magnet School.

Recommendations for Employment

- (Exhibit E)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

- *Tom Oxholm, Finance Committee, reported that the committee is still discussion of in-house legal counsel.*
Financial implications of small schools will be discussed at their December 11 meeting.
Still looking for volunteers for this committee.

- **Beverley Clark**, Facilities Committee, reported that the committee is discussing the working relationship between the County Commissioners, Maintenance and Operation staff, and Facilities staff to learn what the timelines are in implementing changes to Plan 2000 not project allocated funding.
- **Jeff York**, Policy Committee, reported that the committee has two policies they will be reviewing. Dress Code and Policy 6880, Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Susan Parry**, Program Committee, has not met. Their next meeting will be on December 18, and they will continue the discussion on expanding the use of the modified calendars.
- **Rosa Gill** is out of town on business.
- **Bill Fletcher**, Community Relations Committee has not met.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS

Sixteen students were recognized as school's recipient of the Spotlight on Students award. WCPSS was please to recognize these students for their outstanding achievement. Alphonza Armstrong, Apex Elementary; Robert Conolty, Baucom Elementary, Lucy Torres, Brentwood Elementary; Dayanny Carreon, Carver Elementary; Preston Harris, Combs Elementary; Fabian Alberto Rodriguez, East Cary Middle; Liz Bailey, Jeffrey's Grove Elementary; Elizabeth Brunk, Ligon Middle; Deandra Robinee' Hunter, Mary Phillips High School; Davon Davis, Rand Road Elementary; Celia Mehoul-Loko, Sanderson High School; Curtis Hewitt, Jr., Swift Creek Elementary; Alex Padgett, Timber Drive Elementary; Ben E. Davis, Wake Forest/Rolesville High School; Brittany Gilbert, West Lake Elementary ; Matthew Aaron Barbee, Zebulon Elementary.

ACTION ITEMS

FACILITIES

Construction Documents: Leesville Campus Addition and Renovations

Staff presented construction documents prepared by The Freelon Group for the design of the addition and renovations at the Leesville campus. Fiscal Implications - Funding is available from the total project budget of \$16,349,949 from the PLAN 2000 School Building Program project budget.

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve, seconded by Jeff York. The vote carried with Beverley Clark voting "no."

Schematic Design: Heritage Middle (M4)

Staff presented the schematic design documents prepared by Innovative Design for Heritage Middle. Fiscal Implications - The total project budget of \$22,062,401, is included in the PLAN 2000 School Building Program.

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve, seconded by Jeff York. The vote carried with Beverley Clark voting "no."

Schematic Design: West Cary Middle

The approved PLAN 2000 School Building Program includes the construction of a track and field at West Cary Middle. Staff will present the schematic design documents prepared by Jerry Turner and Associates, Inc., for this project. Fiscal Implications - Funding is available from the total project budget of \$960,000 included in the Deferred Maintenance component of the PLAN 2000 School Building Program.

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve, seconded by Jeff York. The motion carried. Bill Fletcher, Jeff York, Patti Head and Tom Oxholm voting "yes" and Susan Parry, Beverley Clark and Amy White voting "no."

Resolution: Long-Range Building Program Funding Reallocation

Resolution requests reallocation of funds from the complete or nearly complete Phase IIIB projects to other Phase IIIB projects, program management, and deferred maintenance (priority) projects. Resolution also requests the reallocation of project savings from two PLAN 2000 projects, and from program contingency, environmental compliance, modernization and deferred maintenance funds to Ballentine Elementary, Broughton High, and Powell Elementary. The total reallocation amount is \$11,581,078.

Tom Oxholm made a motion to approve, seconded by Bill Fletcher. The vote carried with Beverley Clark voting "no."

Design Consultant Agreement – Powell Elementary Renovations

Negotiations have been completed with PADIA Consulting Inc. for the design of renovations at Powell Elementary. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the board attorney. The PLAN 2000 building program originally included replacement of the school's roof and other minor school and site improvements. Recently, the board approved an expansion of the project scope to add the replacement of the school's heating, cooling, and ventilation systems and associated interior renovations. The roofing project has been separated from the remainder of the project and is currently in the design phase. Fiscal Implications - The total project budget (excluding the roofing project budget of \$300,000) is \$3,811,338. Funding sources include PLAN 2000 Modernization funds of \$100,000, PLAN 2000 Deferred Maintenance funds of \$35,000, PLAN 2000 Environmental Compliance funds of \$450,000, PLAN 2000 Contingency funds of \$2,223,138, and PLAN 2000 savings in the amount of \$1,003,200. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$220,000.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Bill Fletcher. The vote was unanimous.

POLICY

Promotion and Intervention Policy 5530

(Revised; Second Reading)

Wake County Public School System Promotion and Intervention Policy 5530 has been revised to reflect changes in 115-C Public School Laws from Session 2001. The changes are aligned with our current policy and do not significantly impact current practice. The major area of change addresses the appeal process. Other changes have been made for clarity and alignment with state law and regulation. Included in 2001-2002 Budget. **(Exhibit F)**

Jeff York made a motion to approve, seconded by Tom Oxholm. The vote was unanimous.

Policy 6520-Student Grievances

(Second Reading)

This policy reflects clarification in state law regarding when students should initiate the grievance procedure. Staff recommends the Board approve the Revised, First Reading of Policy 6520. Staff also requests a waiver of the Second Reading of Policy 6520. **(Exhibit G)**

Jeff York made a motion to approve, seconded by Tom Oxholm. The vote was unanimous.

CLOSED SESSION

Susan Parry made a motion to go into closed session to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 115C-319, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous.

HUMAN RESOURCES**Recommendations for Career Status**

- *Akinyi Edmonds Durant Road Middle School*
- *Dianne Gay, Davis Drive Middle*
- *Wanda Hampton, Carroll Middle School*

Tom Oxholm made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Parry. The vote was unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kathryn Watson Quigg adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elwanda K. Farrow, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair