



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2013**

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Christine Kushner, Chair	James G. Merrill, Superintendent	Karen Hamilton
Tom Benton, Vice Chair	Cathy Moore	Mark Winters
Monika Johnson-Hostler	Stella Shelton	Doug Thilman
Kevin L. Hill	David Neter	Edward McFarland
Keith Sutton	Andre Smith	
Jim Martin	Pamela Kinsey-Barker	
Zora Felton	Clinton Robinson	
Susan P. Evans	Jacqueline Ellis	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>
Bill Fletcher	Lloyd Gardner	Jonathan Blumberg
	Marvin Connelly	

Chairwoman Kushner called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair’s Comments

Chairwoman Kushner delivered comments related to the Mix 101.5 school choir competition where two Wake County Public Schools won; Martin Middle School for Division I and Sanderson High School for Division II, wishing retiring Principal, William Crockett all the best as he retires from Athens Drive High School, thanking the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce for hosting a wonderful holiday reception, congratulating Enloe High School for raising over \$62,000 for the non-profit organization Safe Child, and announcing that this Thursday will be the final meeting of the Knightdale Educational Work Group

Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. Merrill delivered comments related to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announcing that Wake County Public Schools has held on to its number one status regarding the number of National Board Certified teachers, the fund raiser at Enloe High School of \$62,000 is possibly a record for fund raising in Wake County, Sanderson High School students bringing in 224,483 pounds of food for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, Sanderson High School Choral leader, Marshall Butler winning the Laura Hoggard Award from the North Carolina Chapter of the American Choral Director’s Association becoming the first high school director chosen and the first African-American chosen for the award, Wakefield High School winning a \$25,000 grant from State Farm Insurance where students participated in a national campaign called “Celebrate My Drive”.

Board Members’ Comments

Individual Board members offered comments related to meeting principals in District 2 and reorganizing the District 2 Board Advisory Council, wishing all the staff a wonderful and restful holiday break, the final Knightdale Educational Work Group meeting, the Enloe High School fundraiser, Principal William Crockett’s retirement, attending a workshop at Leesville Road High School on the role of the educator for special programs presented by Central Office staff

PUBLIC COMMENT. The following persons offered public comments to the Board:

- Rudolph Smith

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Susan P. Evans made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

RECOGNITION ITEM

6. EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Doug Thilman, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented the eight employees that were nominated for this month's Employee Excellence Award. Chairman Kushner thanked the employees for their hard work and dedication and congratulated them on a job well done.

CONSENT ITEMS

Kevin L. Hill made a motion to approve the Consent Items. The motion was seconded by Bill Fletcher. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

ACTION ITEMS

24. CREATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Chairman Kushner presented information regarding the creation of a Governmental Relations Committee to serve as a standing committee that will focus on improving communications and intergovernmental relations between the Board of Education and the Wake County Board of Commissioners, the County's municipal governments, and the North Carolina General Assembly. Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin. After some discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

CLOSED SESSION

Tom Benton made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) and 115C-319, to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3) due to current litigation, Wake County Board of Education vs. Ronald Gay & Michelle H. Gay, et al., Wake County Superior Court Case #11 CVS-13495, to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)m and to establish or give instructions concerning the Board's negotiating position related to a potential acquisition of real property, as provided in G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5). The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:33 p.m.

RECOGNITION ITEM

7. SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS

Crystal Reardon, Director of Counseling and Student Services presented the twenty-two students as Spotlight on Students award winners. Chairwoman Kushner congratulated each of the students for their recognition and shared remarks.

The Board recessed at 6:57 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 7:08 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS (CONT'D)

23. NAMING OF LOCKHART ELEMENTARY MEDIA CENTER IN HONOR OF MARTHA L. MARTIN

Betty Parker, Director of Planning and Construction shared that the Lockhart Elementary School faculty, staff, and families recommend that the school media center be named in honor of former principal Martha L. Martin. The staff member who brought forth the petition to name the Media Center was recognized and shared comments with the Board. Tom Benton made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Kevin L. Hill. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

CLOSED SESSION

Bill Fletcher made a motion to go back into Closed Session at 7:10 p.m. for the items stated previously stated and listed on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Susan P. Evans. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

HUMAN RESOURCES

25. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Doug Thilman, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources presented the personnel report. Jim Martin made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Monika Johnson-Hostler an unanimously approved.

26. TECHNICAL NON-MONETARY REVISION TO SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

Bill Fletcher made a motion to approve the technical non-monetary revision to the Superintendent's Contract. The motion was seconded by Monika Johnson Hostler and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, Susan P. Evans made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Keith Sutton and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Kushner, Board Chair

James G. Merrill, Superintendent

Melissa R. Allen, Recording Secretary