



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2006

Board Members Present	Staff Members Present	
Patti Head, Chair	Superintendent Bill McNeal	David Holdzkom
Carol Parker, Vice Chair	Del Burns	Ann Hooker
Lori Millberg	Mark Winters	Danny Barnes
Beverly Clark	Bev White	Chuck Dulaney
Rosa Gill	Donna Hargens	Maurice Boswell
Eleanor Goettee	Michael Evans	Don Haydon
Horace Tart	Julye Mizelle	Jo Baker
Susan Parry	Kathy Chontos	
Ron Margiotta	Linda Isley	
	Toni Patterson	
	Janice Shearin	Board Attorney Present
	Lloyd Gardner	None

Patti Head called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Head wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

INFORMATION

GROWTH MANAGEMENT REASSIGNMENT PLAN FOR 2006-2007

The staff of the Office of Growth Management will present recommendations for the 2006-2007 Growth Management Reassignment plan. Fiscal Implications: The opening of new schools and student movement will result in increased transportation costs. Other facility-related costs will be avoided. Recommendation for Action: Staff is presenting for information.

Ms. Head began the meeting by defining the purpose of this special meeting - to receive from the Office of Growth Management the 2006-2007 Proposed Reassignment Plan. She further stated there would be no questions or comments, only the presentation by the Growth Management staff.

Ms. Head gave calendar updates for the Public Hearings and the Student Reassignment Plan timeline as follows:

Public Hearings

- March 1 North Garner Middle School and Wakefield High School
- March 2 Green Hope High School and Sanderson High School
- March 6 Middle Creek High School and Knightdale High School

All meetings will begin at 6 p.m. Ms. Head outlined the three options that are available for signing up to speak at one of these Public Hearings:

- 1) Sign-up online
- 2) Call the Customer Service Center at 850-1600 to be signed up online by a Customer Service staff member

- 3) Come to any one of the above listed locations at 5 p.m., prior to the Public Hearing, and sign up to speak

March 8 Board of Education Work Session beginning at 9 a.m. to discuss the reassignment plan

March 21 Final vote on Student Reassignment Plan

Ms. Head shared that as of 5 p.m. today, the Proposed Reassignment Plan will be posted on the WCPSS website for public viewing.

Ms. Head introduced Dr. Ramey Beavers for his presentation to the Board of the 2006-2007 Proposed Reassignment Plan. Dr. Beavers began by informing Board members that the notebooks they were provided contain all of the printed materials that are needed to be informed of the plan. He shared the overview of the plan and the driving forces behind this plan which are: growth; opening of new schools; stability for families; travel distance for families; plan development process; plan distribution; and input regarding the plan. Dr. Beavers reviewed each of these items in detail. The total number of students to be reassigned now stands at 10,258 students – a reduction of 1200 students from the December projection. Seven new schools will be opening in 2006-07 – five elementary schools and two high schools. All five elementary schools will be opening on a multi-track year-round calendar. The two high schools will open with grades nine and ten only as has been the practice in the past with a grade being added each of the next two years until they are filled. Dr. Beavers stated that the high schools will be opening with enough students to offer complete programs for the ninth and tenth graders.

Dr. Beavers reported that one of the major goals of the Office of Growth Management regarding reassignment is to provide stability for families. At the elementary level, about 81% of those being reassigned have been at their current school for at least three years; at the middle school level, all of those being reassigned have been at their current school for at least three years; and at the high school level, 99% of those being reassigned have been at their current school for three years or more.

Dr. Beavers continued his presentation by discussing travel distance. He reported that at the elementary level, 76% are assigned to a closer school with 91% being assigned to a closer school or a school no more than 2 miles farther than the current assignment; at the middle school level, all will be assigned to a closer school or a school less than one mile farther than their current school; and at the high school level, 74% will be assigned to a closer school or a school less than 2 miles farther than the current assignment.

Dr. Beavers outlined the process for the development of the proposed reassignment plan as follows:

- Community Engagement Meetings
- Draft Proposal
- Community Input
- Staff/school-based Input
- Plan Development
- Community Input
- Board Review
- School Board Votes

In reviewing the plan distribution, Dr. Beavers reported that the complete plan will be online for public viewing; hard copies will be available at each school for parents to review; and the plan is available on CD in the Customer Service Center. Dr. Beavers had a limited number of CDs available at the meeting, and Board members were furnished with a CD in the front of their notebooks. Dr. Beavers commended his staff for their work in preparing the CD.

As the next order of business, Dr. Beavers detailed the proposed reassignments for each of the high schools. Dr. Beavers also outlined the attendance area maps for each of the high schools. He explained that when viewing the reassignment plan online or on the CD, any text that is in a color other than black

may be “clicked on” for additional information. Dr. Beavers clarified that in the Miscellaneous Section of the notebooks, there is a spreadsheet that shows all of the nodes that were in the original plan but not in the current plan highlighted in yellow; nodes highlighted in red were not in the original plan but are in the current plan.

Patti Head called for a brief recess at 5:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 5:05 p.m.

Dr. Beavers continued his presentation with an overview of the five new elementary schools and then highlighted the reassignments from existing to existing elementary schools. He reported that the Office of Growth Management strived to open new schools with profiles that were compatible with other schools in the same area.

Based on emails he received from parents, Dr. Beavers publicly commended Mike Regan, principal at Briarcliff, for the manner in which parents who might be reassigned to Briarcliff were treated when they visited the school.

Dr. Beavers reported that movement at the middle schools was almost nonexistent, but he did outline the year-round adjustments and other changes that are taking place.

Dr. Beavers recommends that Pleasant Union Elementary and Brassfield Elementary continue to be capped at the same number as last year. Both of these schools are well above capacity.

Patti Head requested that all suggestions or questions for Dr. Beavers be copied to all Board members or sent through Ms. Head; likewise, she asked Dr. Beavers to copy all Board members on any suggestions/questions he receives. Ms. Head reiterated the upcoming Public Hearings and the Board Work Session. Ms. Head thanked Dr. Beavers and his staff for the CD and their hard work, and Superintendent McNeal asked Dr. Beavers to recognize the members of the Student Assignment Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further information before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn by Carol Parker, seconded by Horace Tart. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Upton, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Patti Head, Chair, Wake County Board of Education