



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Patti Head, Chair	Superintendent Bill McNeal	David Holdzkom
Carol Parker, Vice Chair	Del Burns	Jo Baker
Lori Millberg	Mark Winters	Danny Barnes
Beverley Clark	Mike Burriss	Chuck Dulaney
Rosa Gill	Donna Hargens	Maurice Boswell
Eleanor Goettee	Bev White	
Horace Tart	Jonibel Willis	
Susan Parry	Kathy Chontos	
	Don Haydon	
	Ann Hooker	
	Janice Shearin	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>
	Lloyd Gardner	Ann Majestic

Patti Head called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INFORMATION

Chair's Comments

- Patti Head addressed the many emails and telephone calls the Board has received in reference to the proposed conversions of traditional calendars to four-track year-round calendars for capacity issues. Ms. Head reiterated to the public that WCPSS is growing by 6,500 students this year; another 7,000 are anticipated for next year; and in the next 5-10 years, 70,000 more students are anticipated. The Board is facing a capacity crisis due to this tremendous growth. Ms. Head further stated that the Board makes decisions with a lot of study, thought, and consideration. She assured the public that all the emails that are received are read and that the Board understands the feelings that are being expressed in the emails. Ms. Head clarified for the public that the Board is committed to the education of all students; to the quality of education we have in Wake County; and to unsurpassed academic excellence. She further shared that the Board, administration, and staff are committed to making sure that all students have what they need in order to succeed, and that there is ongoing discussion regarding the Capital Improvement Plan.
- The Blue Ribbon Committee met on April 25. The committee has divided into subcommittees. The subcommittee that is dealing with schools quickly came to the conclusion that there is a large gap between what is needed for infrastructure in the schools and funding. There was discussion of many of the same issues that the Board is hearing from the community, such as: impact fees, tax increases, transfer fees, etc. Ms. Head clarified for the public that these issues do not come under the Board of Education's purview to handle. The Blue Ribbon Committee will be continuing its discussion of these and other issues regarding growth in Wake County.
- On April 19, there was a joint meeting of the Board of Education and the County Commissioners. Part of the discussion related to resolving the issue of land and facilities ownership of Wake County schools. The conclusion reached by both boards was that they would maintain what is prescribed

legally – WCPSS will maintain the control and ownership of the land. There was also discussion of the Capital Improvement Plan that staff had presented to the Wake County Board of Education. The next joint meeting of the Board of Education and County Commissioners will be held on May 3, at 8:30 a.m. at the Salisbury Street location. The Board will continue to update the County Commissioners on the status of the Capital Improvement Plan.

- The Teacher of the Year Finalist Reception was held on April 20, and several Board members were in attendance. Twenty semi-finalists were honored, and ten finalists were selected.
- The Teacher of the Year Banquet will be held on May 11, and the Wake County Teacher of the Year will be named.
- On April 21, Board members attended the Valedictorian Luncheon, and the Board thoroughly enjoyed their time with these students. Ms. Head shared the comment made by Susan Parry: “They are not only so brilliant, but they are so full of personality.”
- On April 26, Board members attended the Elected Officials Reception in Cary, and Ms. Head expressed the Board’s thanks.
- On May 1, a number of the Board members attended the Wake County NCAE Open House and Picnic. The Board members enjoyed visiting with the teachers.

Other Board members shared the following comments:

- Eleanor Goettee reported that she attended the Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Council (STAC) meeting on April 19. The meeting revolved around the council members giving feedback and asking a variety of questions of staff. There was also conversation around the tentative conversion to year-round elementary schools. Ms. Goettee came away with the feeling that the teachers understand the situation, and the comments she heard were, “We can make it work.” Ms. Goettee felt the meeting was very beneficial.
- Susan Parry reported that she attended *Extreme Beginnings* on April 21 along with Eleanor Goettee and Carol Parker. About 600 high school students came with their teachers to this very diverse career fair. Students were given mock interviews with professionals. Ms. Parry shared her pleasure in how well the event was organized and how much she enjoyed attending.

Patti Head read the following addendum to the Fraud Vulnerability Assessment report prepared by Summerford Accountancy which highlights WCPSS strengths:

As requested by the Board of Wake County Public School System (WCPSS), the primary focus of the Fraud Vulnerability Assessment performed by our firm was to focus on areas of concern rather than point out strengths we noted within WCPSS. As a result of the assessment, the Board has asked that we now prepare a listing of notable strengths observed during our work. Our listing of notable strengths is not intended to be all inclusive such that we would list all positive aspects and internal controls of WCPSS. Rather, we have listed items where we commonly make recommendations to organizations, but where we have found those organizations rarely implement those recommendations.

- **Positive tone of the organization.** *We found the control environment within WCPSS to be operating effectively throughout the entire organization, well beyond management’s philosophy, oversight, and responsibility. We found this to be true in our formal interviews as well as in our random interactions with a variety of individuals in all departments. We obtained a candid view of the culture of the organization regardless of the method we employed and consistently found a positive tone within WCPSS.*
- **Fiscal administrators.** *The addition of the fiscal administrators in key areas was a necessary control function to WCPSS, given its size and continued growth. As the role of each of the fiscal administrators continues to evolve, the detailed financial oversight and analytical review will not only reduce the risk of improprieties but also play a vital role in the fiscal management of these key areas. This was readily apparent in the Facilities Department where a fiscal administrator has been in place for four years.*
- **Finance Manual.** *We found the Finance Manual to be comprehensive and well organized to effectively and efficiently provide employees with answers to important questions regarding accounting and finance policies and procedures.*

- **Departmental Manuals.** *Comprehensive departmental procedure manuals were available and in place for most departments. Where they were not in place, the departments and/or fiscal administrators were actively developing manuals.*
- **Documentation.** *Documentation in all departments was properly maintained, organized, and easily accessible. Disorganization and incomplete documentation can often be a red flag of bigger problems. Through our discussions in the Transportation Department, we learned that disorganization was the norm during the time of the fraud. We observed continuing organizational improvements within the Transportation Department.*
- **Miscellaneous Vendors.** *WCPSS does not use miscellaneous vendor codes. All vendors, regardless of whether they are “one-time” vendors go through the same approval and set-up process whereby they each receive a unique vendor code. This is a strong control procedure because in other organizations we frequently observe a catch-all “miscellaneous” vendor code to short cut the process for “one-time” vendors. As a result, miscellaneous vendor codes can become hiding places for improper payments to vendors that may not otherwise have made it through the standard approval process.*
- **Job Rotation.** *Accounting Supervisors positions are rotated every three to five years.*
- **Purchasing Cards.** *In most organizations, purchasing cards, while convenient, typically have an increased risk to improprieties. We found, however, the documentation process of purchases, approvals, and review to be comprehensive. Purchasing card audits are conducted by both the Internal Audit Department and the Purchasing Department. In many cases, access to purchasing cards is limited, further reducing the risk of inappropriate use.*
- **Positive Pay System.** *Positive pay system is a service that matches the account number, check number, and dollar amount of each check presented for payment against a list of checks previously authorized and issued by the organization. Combined with other control procedures within WCPSS, the use of the positive pay system minimizes the risk of many types of check altering schemes.*
- **Budget Transfers and Amendments.** *Budget transfers and amendments were well documented and reviewed. In addition to the required approvals, all transfers and amendments, which we reviewed, were signed off by the Budget Department. The data entry of transfers and amendments can only be completed by the Budget Department.*
- **Fixed Assets.** *Asset tags are an excellent tool for asset tracking. Although WCPSS does not utilize an asset tracking system, we found during our compliance testing that several schools used asset tags to track their inventories. These schools had taken it upon themselves to use Athena – a cataloging system used in libraries – in our opinion an ingenious suggestion for all school and departments.*

Superintendent’s Comments

- Wake’s magnet schools earned the top three national awards at the Magnet Schools of America Conference held in Omaha, Nebraska, recently.
 - Combs Elementary won the top award, the Ronald P. Simpson Distinguished Merit Award. The school received a \$5,000 honorarium.
 - Farmington Woods Elementary won the top elementary award, the Donald L. Waldrip Distinguished Elementary Merit Award and received \$2,500.
 - Ligon Middle received the American Education Solutions Distinguished Secondary Award and received \$2,500.
 - 11 Wake magnet schools were honored at the conference. In addition to the three mentioned above, the following six were named Schools of Excellence:

Brooks Elementary	Broughton High
Bugg Elementary	East Millbrook Middle
Powell Elementary	Washington Elementary
 - Two schools were named Schools of Distinction: Lincoln Heights Elementary and Centennial Middle.
- Superintendent McNeal expressed his congratulations and gratitude to all these outstanding schools.
- Bill Ferriter, one of the eight Regional Teachers of the Year, will be competing this evening for the State Teacher of the Year at the Embassy Suites in Cary. Superintendent McNeal sent everyone’s best wishes to Mr. Ferriter.
 - Wake’s 10 finalists for the Wake County Teacher of the Year 2006-07 are:

Melinda Fox, Leadmine Elementary	Anna Goodrum, Farmington Woods Elementary
Lisa Huffman, Garner High	Julaine Kamrath, Wake Forest Elementary

Gladys Madauss, Brentwood Elementary Robert Matthews, Mt. Vernon Middle
 Patrick McArdle, Holly Ridge Middle Kevin Steidinger, Combs Elementary
 Laurie Toreson, Knightdale High Susan Wiedenman, Salem Elementary

The Teacher of the Year Banquet is May 11 at Embassy Suites in Cary.

- Southeast Raleigh High School teacher, Sam Wheeler, is one of 100 exemplary math and science teachers from across the nation receiving the 2006 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching on May 4 in Washington, DC.
- Evaluation and Research staff members earned national recognition: Juliana Muli earned 2nd place in the American Education Research Association Division H Outstanding Publication Competition in the department website category; and Carol Speas earned 2nd place in the competition for “No Child Left Behind” Informational Materials for a publication entitled “Improving Teacher Quality; Progress in Meeting NCLB (Title II-A) Requirements, 2003-04.”
- Enloe student, Addie Honeycutt, is one of 50 winners out of 50,000 entries nationwide in the Oprah Winfrey National High School Essay Contest. She will win a trip to a special Oprah Show taping which will air in early May.
- The High Five Human Services Summit III took place on May 1. High Five is a collaboration between the five Triangle school districts and five corporate businesses. The focus of High Five is to look at ways to improve the conditions of high schools. An outgrowth of High Five is the Human Services Summit which focuses on dropouts and issues involving the family. There is a subgroup known as the Wake County Community Dropout Group, and this group has come up with a dropout prevention plan. Superintendent McNeal highlighted the plan and reported to Board members that they will be receiving a copy of the complete plan. There will be continued work in this effort, and input will be solicited from area Chambers of Commerce to the question, “Do you see a problem with dropouts in the community?” Ultimately, an intense media campaign is needed to inform the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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.

- **Patty Mariotte, parent.** She requested that the Board not take the summertime choice away from her family. She is opposed to mandatory year-round schools.
- **Amy Leinfelder, parent.** She is opposed to mandatory year-round schools because of loss of uninterrupted summers and important family time. She feels that summer days are optimal for outside activities that will help reduce adolescent obesity. She feels parents should have a choice, and she requested that the Board decline to support a bond proposal that forces a conversion to mandatory year-round schools.
- **Kim Whitley, parent.** She understands the growth issue; however, she opposes “mandatory” year-round conversion. She believes parents should have a choice. She asked that the Board rethink the “mandatory” part of the proposal.
- **Edward Gehringer, parent.** He is opposed to mandatory year-round schools, specifically Combs Elementary and Olds Elementary, which adjoin the NCSU campus. Many of the parents who work at NCSU do summer faculty fellowships, and he provided the Board with a handout listing these fellowship opportunities.
- **Linda Peterson, parent.** She requested that the Board not force the issue of year-round schools. She feels her son does much better academically when he has a long summer break. She gave alternate suggestions to the year-round conversion proposal.
- **Paul Seelig, parent.** He believes that his son’s religious rights are being violated. He feels his son should be allowed to wear a baseball cap, since wearing a head covering is part of the Jewish religion.

His son is not being allowed to wear a baseball cap at his school because baseball caps are banned. Mr. Seelig requested that this issue be looked into.

- **Derek Bombien, parent.** He addressed the upcoming school bond measure and his opposition to the mandate that all elementary schools be converted to year-round. He cited the decline of a number of year-round school districts nationwide as a testament that year-round schools do not work.
- **Jacob Majikes.** He voiced concern with the wording of the Abstinence Policy because it implies that there is no expectation for gay students.
- **Patti Pilarinos, parent.** She felt that parent engagement has been lacking in regards to the bond, and she wishes more had been done to involve the parents in that process. She feels parents have been misinformed in thinking that year-round conversion will alleviate reassignment.
- **Martha Svoboda, parent.** She voiced her concern that the bond proposal will not solve the problems the school system is facing. She asked that the Board wait to vote until Ron Margiotta returns so that his Apex constituencies could have their vote heard. She too felt that the public has misperceptions that going year-round will keep them from being reassigned.
- **Karen McHugh, parent.** She questioned what long-term goals are being accomplished by converting schools to mandatory year-round. She requested that the Board think of the far-reaching consequences of this decision.
- **Calla Wright, member of the Coalition of Concerned Citizens for African American Children.** On behalf of the CCCAAC, she spoke in support of the conversion to year-round schools. She read and presented a resolution that supports the year-round program, and Board members were furnished with copies of the resolution for their records.

RECOGNITION

1. **RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS THAT WON AWARDS AT THE MAGNET SCHOOLS OF AMERICA (MSA) CONFERENCE. ALSO RECOGNITION OF WCPSS STUDENT WHO WON MSA NATIONAL POSTER CONTEST**

The Magnet Schools of America (MSA) recognizes schools across the nation each year based on the schools' achievements through the implementation of their individual magnet programs. This year several Wake County Schools were recognized at the MSA Annual Conference for awards of excellence and distinction. In addition, a WCPSS student won the national poster contest sponsored by MSA for middle schools students. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Recognition only.

Patti Head introduced Ken Branch, Senior Director for Magnet Programs, for his presentation of the schools being recognized for receiving awards at the Magnet Schools of America Conference and recognition of the student who won the Magnet Schools of America Poster Contest. Ken Branch began his presentation by giving an overview of the Magnet Schools of America organization. He then recognized Alcrist Moreta, an 8th grader from Carnage Middle School, who won the Magnet Schools of America Poster Contest. On behalf of the Magnet Schools of America, Dr. Branch presented her with a plaque and a check for \$100. Each board member received a copy of the winning poster.

Dr. Branch continued his presentation by asking each of the principals and school representatives from the 11 WCPSS schools named Magnet Schools of Merit to come forward, and their schools were recognized as follows:

Magnet Schools of Excellence Awards:

Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary
 Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary
 Broughton High School
 Bugg Creative Arts and Science Elementary
 East Millbrook Magnet Middle
 Farmington Woods IB PYP Magnet Elementary

Ligon GT Magnet Middle
 Powell GT Magnet Elementary
 Washington GT Magnet Elementary

Magnet Schools of Distinction Awards:

Centennial Campus Middle School
 Lincoln Heights Magnet Elementary

Ken Branch continued by recognizing three of these schools who won additional awards as follows:

- Farmington Woods IB PYP Magnet Elementary School won the Donald L. Waldrip Distinguished Elementary Merit Award and a \$2,500 cash prize – Fran Venezia, Principal.
- Ligon GT Magnet Middle School won the American Education Solutions Distinguished Secondary Award and a \$2,500 cash prize – Scott Lyons, Principal.
- Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary School won the prestigious Ronald P. Simpson Distinguished Merit Award and a \$5,000 cash prize – Muriel Summers, Principal.

Dr. Branch congratulated all of the administrators and respective staffs of these 11 award-winning schools, and he gave credit to Caroline Massengill, former Senior Director of Magnet Programs and current president of Magnet Schools of America, for her leadership and dedication. Patti Head also expressed the Board's thanks to Caroline Massengill for her years of commitment to Wake County Public School's Magnet Program. Ms. Head congratulated all of the award-winning schools for the excellent work that they do for children, and she shared the Board's pride in the accomplishments of all of these schools and in having the number one magnet school in America. These award-winning schools received a standing ovation from the Board and the audience.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Carol Parker made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to accept the revised minutes of the April 18, 2006, Board meeting which added the selection of Cherry, Bakaert, and Holland L.L.P as the external audit firm. Board members received copies of the revised minutes at the Board table.

Patti Head received a request to move the last item under Information (Instructional Program – School Improvement Plans and School Waivers) to the first item under Information.

Carol Parker made a motion to approve the amended meeting agenda, seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2006 – Instructional Program Committee Minutes
 March 14, 2006 – Finance Committee Minutes
 April 12, 2006 – Human Resources Committee Minutes
 April 13, 2006 – Closed Session Minutes
 April 18, 2006 – Committee of the Whole Minutes
 April 18, 2006 – Board Meeting Minutes

FINANCE**1. BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS, 2005-2006**

To report changes in the budget resolution resulting from transactions processed during January – March, 2006.

Fiscal Implications:

Adjust State Public School Fund	+	\$	1,913,368
Adjust Local Current Expense Fund	+	\$	8,042,051
Adjust Federal Programs Fund	+	\$	603,450
Adjust Capital Outlay Fund	+	\$	29,527,189
Adjust Multiple Enterprise Fund	-	\$	100,400
Net Changes	+	\$	39,985,658

Recommendation for Action: No action. In accordance with the Budget Resolution, administration is reporting changes in appropriations.

2. AUTHORIZATION FORMS

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

FACILITIES**1. BIDS: MODULAR AT CARNAGE MIDDLE**

Bids were received on April 18, 2006, for the site set-up of one four-classroom modular complex for Carnage Middle. Staff and Gurel Architecture, PA, recommend award of the single-prime contract to Beau Chene Company in the amount of \$107,800. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available in the project budget of \$4,635,000 for the leasing and set-up of one hundred and three (103) mobile/modular classroom units, which are part of the \$5,385,000 Crowding Solution Budget for 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

2. BIDS: MODULAR AT HOLLY RIDGE MIDDLE

Bids were received on April 13, 2006, for the site set-up of one six-classroom modular complex for Holly Ridge Middle. Staff and Rotman Architecture, PA, recommend award of the single-prime contract to C. Blake Lewis Construction in the amount of \$108,895. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available in the project budget of \$4,635,000, for the leasing and set-up of one hundred and three (103) mobile/modular classroom units, which are part of the \$5,385,000 Crowding Solution Budget for 2006. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

3. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT – BALLENTINE AND HOLLY RIDGE ELEMENTARY

Board attorneys have negotiated settlement of a claim at Ballentine and Holly Ridge Elementary Schools. Attached is a proposed settlement agreement between Doggett Architects, Inc., The John R. McAdams Company, and the Board. The dispute arose out of design and engineering services provided by Doggett and McAdams on the Ballentine Elementary project, and design services provided by Doggett on the Holly Ridge Elementary project. If the agreement is approved, McAdams's insurance carrier will pay the Board \$107,000 for damages incurred by the Board at Ballentine. The agreement also authorizes final payment to Doggett for the Holly Ridge and Ballentine Elementary projects in the amount of \$12,600. Fiscal Implications: Settlement funds will be reallocated to other PLAN 2000 needs. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

4. CHANGE ORDER NO. GC-02: WAKELON ELEMENTARY

Board approval is requested for Change order No. GC-02 to Clancy & Theys Construction Company for their Construction Management at Risk contract for construction of the new Wakelon Elementary in

Zebulon. This change order, in the amount of \$4,196,194 is to establish a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for time sensitive packages, which are part of the 34 construction packages for this project. A list of the bid packages is attached. The GMP to date including this one is \$15,328,279. A change order will be brought to the May 16, 2006, Board meeting to establish the final GMP for the total elementary school project. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed project budget is \$21,550,638, of which \$14,983,080 is currently available from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. An estimated future reallocation of \$6,567,558 from PLAN 2004 Program Contingency may be required because of escalating construction costs. The Town of Zebulon will reimburse for part of the entrance road. The amount is yet to be determined. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

5. CHANGE ORDER NO. CM-02: HOLLY GROVE ELEMENTARY (PERMANENT SITE)

Board approval is requested for Change Order No. CM-02 to Clancy & Theys Construction Company for their Construction Management at Risk contract for construction of the new Holly Grove Elementary in Holly Springs. This change order, in the amount of \$7,125,174 is to establish a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for the last of the work packages needed to accomplish the construction of this project. A list of the bid packages is attached. The total of all GMPs is \$16,399,729. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed project budget is \$19,866,068, of which \$14,983,080 is currently available from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. A future reallocation of \$4,882,988 is required from PLAN 2004 Program Contingency, because of escalating construction costs; this reallocation will be presented at the May 16, 2006, Board meeting. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

HUMAN RESOURCES (Exhibit A)

1. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT

- a. Professional
- b. Support

2. REQUEST(S) FOR LEAVE (Exhibit B)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

There were no committee chairs' reports to be given.

Committee of the Whole

Patti Head reported that the Committee of the Whole is continuing to discuss the staff proposal for the Capital Improvement Plan. It is being looked at line-by-line from the Board's perspective. The Board has taken initial indications and votes to direct staff in putting together the final plan. The final plan will be voted on by the Board on May 16 and then shared with the County Commissioners. Ms. Head reiterated to the public that the Board is taking its decisions and the ramifications of those decisions very seriously as it moves forward. There is still much work to be done before the Board finalizes the plan that will be taken to the County Commissioners. Ms. Head shared that the Board is receiving mixed messages from the community about year-round schools as well as the size of the bond package. She reminded the public that if schools are not financed with bonds in November, the reality of year-round schools will be very real, in addition to other considerations, due to the lack of the needed funding stream. The Committee of the Whole will meet again on May 9 at 2:30 to continue these discussions.

Human Resources Committee

Related to the work of the Human Resources Committee, Eleanor Goettee gave an update on the Teacher Working Conditions Survey. She shared the good news that Wake County is coming in at about 75% response as opposed to the state average of 63-65%. Ms. Goettee thanked everyone for encouraging staff to participate.

Finance Committee

Patti Head reported that there will be no Finance Committee meeting in May, but there will be a Finance Committee meeting in June.

ACTION ITEMS

FINANCE

1. **APPROVAL OF BOARD OF EDUCATION'S PLAN FOR STUDENT SUCCESS, 2006-2007**

To approve the Board of Education's Plan for Student Success for 2006-2007. Fiscal Implications: The Board of Education's Plan for Student Success for fiscal year 2006-2007 will be delivered to the County Commissioners on May 15, 2006. Also, included are Projections for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

Recommendation for Action: Board of Education's approval of the Plan for Student Success including a budget request from the County Commissioners for 2006-2007. This amount is shown on the attached sheet.

Susan Parry made a motion to approve, seconded by Rosa Gill. Dr. Burns made a presentation to the Board. He gave an overview of the summary sheet that was provided to Board members at the Board table, which had been emailed to them previously. The summary sheet reflected the most recent adjustments in the plan. These adjustments reflect one-time expenditures that were in the plan for 2006-07, approved by the Board at an earlier meeting, for purchase out of this year's budget.

In conclusion, Dr. Burns reported a \$21.4 million increase in the plan for 2006-07 over the current year, which represents an 8% increase in the funding for 2006-07. Patti Head asked Dr. Burns to highlight for the public what the increases in the budget represent, and Dr. Burns responded, citing growth as a tremendous driver. Beverley Clark emphasized that \$20 million of the increase is tied to growth. Eleanor Goettee expressed her disappointment that TELS was once again relegated to the back pages of the budget and feels that this is extremely important for teacher retention and teacher recruitment. Susan Parry also stated her disappointment that the Board has not had the local financial support needed for the operating budget which would allow the flexibility of introducing new programs into the schools and compensating teachers in ways that are necessary for the enhancement of the teaching profession. Ms. Parry stated that "what takes place in the classroom" is what is most important and hopes that this will become a top priority for funding in the future. Dr. Burns recognized Terri Kimzey and the Budget Department staff for their excellent work. He stated that the Board of Education's Plan for Student Success, 2006-2007, will be delivered to the County Commissioners no later than May 15, 2006, and it will be available on the WCPSS website. Patti Head thanked Dr. Burns, Terri Kimzey, and the budget staff for all their hard work. The vote was unanimous.

FACILITIES

1. **DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: WAKEFIELD HIGH 9TH GRADE CENTER**

The 2007 Crowding Solution includes the Wakefield High 9th Grade Center, which will be located in a leased grocery building in Wake Forest. Negotiations have been completed with Schenkel Shultz Architecture for the conversion. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the board attorney. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$7,896,677, as provided in the 2007 Crowding Solution. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$450,900. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Carol Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Ken Fuller made a presentation to the Board. Mike Burriss used an overhead transparency to give an overview of the program for the facility and reported on each item. Mike Burriss answered questions from the Board. Beverley Clark voiced her concern that more funds are being spent on this leased facility than are being spent per pupil

on several permanent schools that do not have the same high quality as this temporary facility. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

1. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND SCHOOL WAIVERS

- Board Members can access School Improvement Plans online. Instructions for accessing plans online are attached. Paper copies are also available in the Board Library.
- The six (6) schools that opened during the 2005-06 school year recently completed School Improvement Plans including waivers. The six schools are Cedar Fork Elementary, Forest Pines Elementary, Harris Creek Elementary, Wakelon Elementary, River Oaks Middle, and East Wake School of Health Science.
- Eight (8) schools opening during the 2006-07 school year requested a waiver to be utilized at the beginning of the school year. These schools include Barwell Road Elementary, Carpenter Elementary, Brier Creek Elementary, River Bend Elementary, Holly Grove Elementary, Panther Creek High School, Holly Springs High School, and East Wake School of Integrated Technology.
- In addition, several schools submitted a waiver related to class size not included in their initial plan.
- One waiver submitted by high schools in 2005-06 was approved for one year only, requiring approval for continuation.
- Copies of waivers requiring Board approval are attached.

Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Presented for information at this meeting. Staff will present School Improvement Plans and Waivers for Board approval at the May 16 meeting.

Jo Baker reported that this item is being presented as information, and staff will be asking for the Board's approval at the next Board meeting on May 16. Ms. Baker made a presentation to the Board and introduced Terri Cobb for further presentation to the Board and to answer questions from the Board. Ms. Cobb gave a reminder that the School Improvement Plans can be viewed online. She reviewed the handouts that were provided in Board packets and discussed the two waivers that are being requested – 1) waiver from class size limits; and 2) waiver to allow juniors to leave campus for lunch. Beverley Clark commended Sanderson High School administration and staff on the clarity of their waiver. Carol Parker recommended referring Policy 6130 to the Policy Committee for amendment of the policy to include allowing juniors to leave campus for lunch due to the large populations in the high schools compared to the core facility for the cafeterias. Beverley Clark felt that the Facilities Department staff should take note of this because if the policy is amended, there will be a lessening need to increase the core facility. There was a “thumbs up” agreement of the Board, as part of the Board's work plan, to refer this to the Policy Committee for a possible policy change for the 2007-08 school year. At Carol Parker's request, Terri Cobb introduced the administrators who were present in the audience.

FINANCE

1. POTENTIAL CHANGES IN LOCAL EXPENDITURES FOR 2005-2006

To report potential changes in local expenditures for 2005-2006 as of March 31, 2006. Fiscal Implications: Potential adjustments within the local budget. Transactions transferring budget between accounts will be reported to the Board of Education with all Budget Amendments and Transfers quarterly. Recommendation for Action: No action. Administration is reporting potential changes in local expenditures.

Del Burns made a presentation to the Board. He reported that the eleven pages of changes have been summarized on a single page, and he highlighted the changes. Dr. Burns shared that items with asterisks beside them have had a change from the last quarter. He answered clarifying questions from the Board. Dr. Burns complimented all budget managers on their fine work.

2. **PURCHASE OF SUN FIRE E25K SERVER**

WCPSS serves as our own data center for the eSIS application and hosts the associated WCPSS-specific applications (such as eMARC and SAM) that interface with the eSIS database. The number and complexity of such applications and the user base requiring access have increased at an unanticipated rate making it necessary to rethink original projections and plans to accommodate them. The current Sun F12K Server has reached its capacity. Previously planned upgrades (which were projected in the Technology Services Division budget) would only provide short-term relief under current conditions. A longer-term strategy of trading in the existing F12K Server and purchasing an E25K Server will provide a solution to our anticipated data processing and storage needs for student information over the next three years. The solution includes hardware, system software, support and professional services necessary to outfit the data center. Total purchase price, inclusive of taxes, is \$788,974.13. Fiscal Implications: Total amount of purchase is \$788,974.13. The bulk amount of the purchase price will be covered through the Technology Services 2005-06 operating budget since this purchase replaces previously planned activities related to upgrades for the eSIS environment. The remaining balance of the purchase will be covered by state technology funds. Recommendation for Action: Presented as an information item only.

Bev White made a presentation to the Board. There were no questions from the Board.

3. **PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL ORACLE LICENSES**

Additional Oracle processor licenses are necessary to validate WCPSS serving as our own data center for the eSIS application and to enable continuing robust functioning of related applications (such as eMARC and StARS). The additional management tools licenses will allow for increased capabilities for fraud monitoring and security features as well as the expanding needs as we migrate to Oracle 11i. Included with the purchase of the perpetual software licenses is product update and support coverage for each license. Coverage consists of updates and patches as well as telephone and other support services. One-time license fees total \$779,280 and are due upon purchase. Product update and support coverage totals \$171,441.60 which will be billed quarterly in arrears. The first quarterly invoice for support will not be received until July 2006 thus no funds are required this fiscal year for this item. Total amount for support coverage is included in the anticipated 2006-07 Technology Services operating budget. Fiscal Implications: Total amount of purchase is \$950,721.60. Funding for licenses is available in the Technology Services 2005-06 operating budget. Funding for the support coverage is planned for and included in the 2006-07 Technology Services operating budget request. Recommendation for Action: Presented as an information item only.

Bev White made a presentation to the Board. There were no questions from the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

Carol Parker made a motion to go into Closed Session at 6:20 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 115C-319. The motion was seconded by Horace Tart. The vote was unanimous.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:35 p.m.

RECOGNITION (cont'd)

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS (Exhibit C)

Twenty-one students will be recognized as Spotlight on Student award winners. Fiscal Implications: There are no fiscal implications. Recommendation for Action: Recognition.

Eric Sparks presented each of the students for recognition. Patti Head shared that Spotlight on Students is truly one of the highlights for the Board. Ms. Head spoke to the students about “what’s in a name.” She told them that when their names are spoken, all of the fine qualities that have been shared at the meeting

come to the minds of their teachers, parents, and community. She congratulated the students on behalf of the Board and encouraged them to “keep writing good things beside your name.” Ms. Head asked that everyone stand and “give them the round of applause that they deserve.”

Carol Parker made a motion to reconvene Closed Session at 6:55 p.m., seconded by Horace Tart. The vote was unanimous.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:12 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS (cont'd.)

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve the administrative appointment of Gretta Dula, applicant, to Principal at Wildwood Forest Elementary, effective date July 1, 2006; and Michelle Smith, Assistant Principal Intern at Salem Elementary School, to Assistant Principal at Lincoln Heights Elementary School, effective date June 1, 2006. The motion was seconded by Eleanor Goettee. The vote was unanimous.

Rosa Gill read into the record the administrative change of Edward P. Adams, Interim Director of Transportation, to Senior Director of Transportation, effective date May 3, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, Rosa Gill made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Upton, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Patti Head, Chair, Wake County Board of Education