



WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPEN MINUTES –BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 2002

Board Members

Kathryn Watson Quigg
Susan Parry, Vice Chair
Beverley Clark
Rosa Gill
Jeff York
Patti Head
Tom Oxholm
Amy White

Staff Members Present

Bill McNeal, Superintendent
Jo Baker
Karen Banks
Danny Barnes
Maurice Boswell
Del Burns
Mike Burriss
Luther Cherry
Michael Evans
Linda Isley
Cindi Jolly
Ray Massey
Ernie Reddish
John Ringo
Janice Shearin
Walt Sherlin
Toni Patterson
Jonibel Willis

Board Attorney Present

Jonathan Bloomberg

Kathryn Watson Quigg called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INFORMATION

Chairman's Comments

- Ms. Quigg attended the East Wake President's Breakfast. This breakfast was given to students that achieved 4.0 grade point average.
- She also attended the Wake Forest Spelling Bee of Adults. This fundraiser was done to earn money for different schools projects.
- She attended the School of Excellence Presentation for two elementary schools: Baileywick Elementary School and Root Elementary School.
- Ms. Quigg shared with the board an article that appeared in The News and Observer titled "A good school plan comes under fire," dated November 18 written by Richard D. Kahlenberg, a senior fellow at The Century Foundation. He is the author of All Together Now: Creating Middle-Class Schools through Public School Choice, and he served as executive director of the Century Foundation Task Force on the Common School. ([Exhibit A](#))

Superintendent's Report

- Mr. McNeal shared with the board an article from The N&O titled "A task force for strong schools." ([Exhibit B](#))

Mr. McNeal introduce the founder and president of the Triangle Urban League, Keith Sutton. The Urban League is the nations' oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to empowering African Americans to enter the economic and social mainstream. The Urban League believes that the school district's current diversity policy gives all wake county students the best opportunity to receive a quality education, and Mr. Sutton produced a resolution from the Triangle Urban League supporting the policy.

- **Charlie Ballard** - Supports the Resolution from the Triangle Urban League.

- **Lamont Mitchell** - Supports the Triangle Urban League Resolution to the Wake County Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- *Jeff York made a motion to move from the Consent Agenda: Facilities-“Construction Documents: Highcroft Drive Elementary and Facilities -“Construction Documents: Carpenter Elementary” to the Action Agenda, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous.*
- *Amy White made a motion to add to the Consent Agenda, Board Advisory Council Nominations, seconded by Jeff York. The vote was unanimous.*
- *Amy White made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add an Information Item “Finance-Letter from McGladrey & Pullen Regarding the Annual Audit,” seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.*

Jeff made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

Amanda Babuin-parent. *Opposed the specific plan in place, which permanently” lobotomizes” the traditional program at East Cary Middle School and replace it with a year-round school program.*

Lisa Tiefenthaler- student(daughter of Amanda Babuin) *Opposed East Cary as a year-round school.*

Mike Babuin-(husband of Amanda Babuin)- *Opposed the specific plan in place, which permanently” lobotomizes” the traditional program at East Cary Middle School and replaces it with a year-round school program.*

Jeffrey Wotus-Assignment by Choice – *Request that the school board allow parents the right to choose the school for their children.*

Vermin Youd-parent. *Opposed the 9th Grade Center at Highcroft in 2004 for two years and year- round at Carpenter Village in 2004.*

Claudia Czap – Parent. *Request that the school board vote to complete all renovations at Northwoods Elementary School.*

Sarah Cox-Tobacco Control Manager for the Health Action Council of North Carolina. *Opposed accepting a grant from Philip Morris, leading producer in tobacco products.*

Anne McLaurin. *Opposed accepting a grant from Philip Morris, leading producer in tobacco products.*

Traona Kearney-Student & co-chairwoman for Safe Youth Leadership Coalition. *Opposed accepting a grant from Philip Morris, leading producer in tobacco products.*

Jena Heroux-Student. *Opposed accepting the grant from Philip Morris to pay for the health curriculum.*

Taurus Turner- Student. *Opposed accepting the grant from Philip Morris to pay for the health curriculum.*

Dev Munn. *Opposed funding from any type of relationship with the tobacco industry.*

CONSENT ITEMS

Susan Parry made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 3, 2002 – Open Minutes

June 25, 2002 – Open Minutes
 June 25, 2002 – Open Minute Annual Meeting
 September 10, 2002 – Open Meeting
 October 15, 2002 – Finance Committee Meeting
 October 15, 2002 – Community Relations Committee Meeting

FINANCE

1. Renewal Of Property Insurance Coverage: Owned Or Leased Real & Personal Property

The Wake County Public School System has maintained Property Insurance Coverage through participation in the statewide pool administered by North Carolina Department of Public Instruction for 15 years. Based on current total insured values of \$1,565,947,095 with deductibles of \$5,000/\$2,000 (Fire, Lightning, & Extended Coverage/All Other Perils) and the ten-year premium/loss ratio of 139% the annual premium quoted is \$531,789 (18.9% increase).

2. Report of Administration Approved Contracts *(Exhibit C)*

The attached summaries are provided as information in accordance with Board Policy 8361. The summaries list all contracts and change orders for the first fiscal quarter of 2002-2003, which were approved by the administration, having a value greater than \$50,000 and not over \$100,000.

3. IBM Lease Agreement: Z800 Server And Extended Maintenance Package

This is a new 3-year lease for a z800 server to be provided through Mainline. Included in the lease is an extended maintenance package which provides twenty-four hours a day/seven days a week support. This server will replace the RB6 and H50 mainframe boxes, allow us to move from 32-bit system to 64-bit system and provide a 20% increase in multiple channel interface processors (from 280 MIPs to 350). This allows for expansion and growth of our Student Information System (integration of NCWise), email system, planned directory services, and collaboration tools. IBM is providing funding to cover up to \$177,811 of costs associated with this deal, which includes termination of RB6 and H50 leases (\$67,802 and \$16,478 respectively). Total amount being financed is \$857,563. Quarterly payments in arrears of \$73,380 will be made during the course of the lease. First two quarterly payments will be made during the 2002-03 fiscal year. A resolution is being presented to the County Commissioners on November 18. Total amount of lease is \$880,560. Funding in the amount of \$146,760 is available in the Technology Services Division current expense budget. Funding will be planned for in the 2003-04 (\$293,520), 2004-05 (\$293,520) and 2005-06 (\$146,760) fiscal year's current expense budget.

4. COGNOS CORPORATION: SERIES 7 APPLICATION SOFTWARE PURCHASE

Technology Services researched data warehousing software to determine which product available would best suit the school system's needs. Cognos Corporation's Series 7 Platform is our recommendation for purchase. Key reasons that were considered were functionality, compatibility and cost. By purchasing directly from Cognos, the school system will realize a significant discount off list price along with receiving services through their Flex Licensing Model that are not available when purchased through a reseller. This application software offers managed reporting, analysis, ad hoc reporting, scorecarding, visualizations and event notification and can be utilized by vital departments such as Student Assignment, Budget and Accounting in making data driven decisions. Total amount of software and services is \$300,000.

PROGRAM

1. Grant Proposals

Competitive (#701): Wake County Human Services, 4-H, Child Development / Centennial Middle School. Competitive (#726): Keep North Carolina Clean and Beautiful Foundation / Broughton High School. Competitive (#730): NC Department of Public Instruction, Learn and Serve America / Conn Elementary School. Competitive (#731): U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, NC Department of Public Instruction, Refugee Children School Impact Grant / Central Office. Competitive (#732): The Boyer Center, Boyer Best Practices Award 2003 / Combs Elementary School. Competitive (#733): EMC² Corporation, Educational Partnership / Lufkin Road Middle School. Competitive (#734):

Starbucks Foundation, Opportunity Grants, Basic Literacy / Millbrook Elementary School. Competitive (#735): National Science Foundation, Math and Science Partnership Program / Central Office.

2. 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant

Competitive (#705): North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, 21st Century Community Learning Centers / Central Office with Knightdale Elementary School. Fiscal implications include a required 20% cash and/or in-kind match in the 3rd year of the grant program, and 40% in the 4th year. Year Three--\$27,881 in-kind WCPSS and \$8,328 in-kind Kerr YMCA. Year Four--\$23,746 cash WCPSS (PRC 069 at-risk and school ALP), \$30,942 in-kind WCPSS, and \$18,048 in-kind Kerr YMCA.

3. Contract Amendment: ReEntry, Inc., from 2001-2002

ReEntry, Inc: paid for the SS/HS Youth Summit on diversity, and to receive reimbursement. The total cost of the amendment shall not exceed \$18,229, which shall be paid from the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant budget. This is an addition to the third year of the contract.

4. Contract #2002-MAF-04 Between Wake County SmartStart, Inc. and Wake County Public School System (Athens Child Development Center)

This contract provides funding for Wake County Public Schools to provide Pre-Kindergarten services under *More At Four* guidelines for four-year-old children. This is a revenue contract in the amount of \$19,740.00.

5. Contract #2002-MAF-05 Between Wake County SmartStart, Inc. and Wake County Public School System (Lynn Road Elementary)

This contract provides funding for Wake County Public Schools to provide Pre-Kindergarten services under *More At Four* guidelines for four-year-old children. This is a revenue contract not to exceed \$81,018.00. Wake County Public School funds from Title I and Preschool Special Programs will total approximately \$130,000.00.

6. Poe Montessori Magnet Pre-kindergarten Fee Increase

The fee (\$4,000) for the pre-kindergarten program at Poe has been in place since 2000-01. Increases in salaries and costs associated with the program justify the need for a fee increase. Costs are comparable with other preschool programs. Parents have been surveyed. Costs have been analyzed. The fee increase would balance the 2003-04 pre-kindergarten budget.

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Recommendation for Administrative Appointment

Gregory Butler, teacher at Garner High School, to assistant principal intern at Sanderson High School.

BOARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- *Finance Committee continued its discussion on alternative funding sources.*
- *Community Relations Committee begin the discussion on the effectiveness of the WCPSS website, by using the decision lab.*
- *Facilities Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 20, 2002, at 2:00 p.m.*
- *Susan Parry and Beverley Clark attended the "Learn and Serve" class at Broughton High School. The students at Broughton High School applied for a federal "Learn and Serve" grant. Participants will take part in a 6-week curriculum for senior citizens from Glenwood Towers to learn basic computers skills.*
- *Policy Committee will have it first meeting in January. Ms. White asked that board member submit their nominations as so as possible. More information will be forthcoming.*

- *Patti Head attended a PTA Council Character Education workshop.*

ACTION ITEMS

PROGRAM

1. Opening of Year-Round Schools

The staff of the Office of Growth Management presented recommendations to name three Western Wake County Schools as year-round. Carpenter Village Elementary and Turner Creek Elementary will open with grade configuration K-4 in 2004. East Cary Middle will be converted to a multi-track year-round school in 2006. East Cary will be permanently relocated to Reedy Creek Middle in 2003. The additions of year-round schools will offer additional building capacity gains.

Staff's recommendation to the board consisted of:

- *Opening Carpenter Village Elementary and Turner Creek Elementary schools as year-round elementaries in 2004 with grade configuration of K-4.*
- *In 2005, add 5th grade at both Carpenter Village and Turner Creek Elementary schools.*

In order to provide year-round middle school seats for the above named schools and to help with distribution of existing year-round students from western Wake middle schools, open a new year-round multi-track school in 2006.

Related to these are two other issues that need the board's endorsement:

(1) Staff proposes a Ninth Grade Center for Cary High School. (The current recommendation in East Cary Middle, but staff would like to have time to receive community input before making a final recommendation on the site.)

(2) Staff proposes a Ninth Grade Center for Green Hope High School at the Highcroft Elementary site.

Jeff York made a motion, seconded by Patti Head to accept staff's recommendations.

Following some discussion, Patti Head offered an amendment to name Carpenter Village as the Ninth Grade Center for Green Hope High rather than Highcroft and make Highcroft an elementary year-round. Jeff York accepted the amendment.

Discussion followed on the support for the need of Ninth Grade Centers, but some indecision as to the need for Highcroft at this time. Beverley Clark offered to amend the motion to have a separate vote on Highcroft and when it comes on line. After some further discussion, Patti Head agreed to accept the motion to have two separate votes. Tom Oxholm suggested that the original main motion be split into two different motions. Rosa Gill suggested that Carpenter Village be removed from the discussion about year-round schools. There was discussion with the attorney about the proper procedure of the motions and amendments offered. After consultation with the attorney, Jeff York withdrew his original motion and the seconder, Patti Head, withdrew her second.

The board took a five minute break, and returned to begin the process of voting on the original recommendation offered by staff.

Jeff York made a motion to approve the opening of two year-round elementary schools and one year-round middle school in 2004 with the schools to be designated by the staff. Beverley Clark stated she would vote against such a motion designating 2004 because she had some concerns about capacity issues and the need for two elementary year-round schools. Tom Oxholm agreed with Ms. Clark's concerns and requested a decision be made after the board received more information from staff regarding questions raised in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Oxholm agreed with the concept for the need of two year-round elementary schools in Area C, but would like the date to be removed and be reconsidered in December.

Mr. Oxholm suggested a friendly amendment to Mr. York's motion to remove the date specification of 2004 and to endorse the concept of 2 elementary year-rounds and one middle year-round for Area C. Mr. York denied the friendly amendment because of his concern for filling the middle school in 2006 if 2 elementary schools are not opened in 2004.

More conversation followed regarding the delay of building one of the year-round elementary schools, the issue of crowding and capacity, and building program timetables.

Tom Oxholm offered an amendment to the original motion by Jeff York to designate Turner Creek for a year-round elementary for 2004 and to approve a second year-round elementary for Area C at a time to be determined at a later meeting and to approve a year-round middle school in Area C at a time and location to be designated later. Beverley Clark seconded the motion.

Mr. Oxholm added that he would like staff to proceed as quickly as possible to gather information requested at the Committee of the Whole so a final decision could be reached. More discussion followed about the needs at other schools and which should come first.

Jeff York called for the question on Mr. Oxholm's amendment. Jeff York and Patti Head voted "No." The remainder of board members present voted "Yes."

Mr. York called for the question on the newly amended motion, which was to approve 3 year-round schools for Area C as specified:

- *Turner Creek Elementary to open in 2004*
- *One additional elementary year-round with date to be determined later*
- *One additional year-round middle school with date to be determined later*

The vote was unanimous.

The administration requested consideration of its recommendation of a Ninth Grade Center for Green Hope High School at Highcroft. Patti Head made a motion to approve a Ninth Grade Center for Green Hope High School at Carpenter Village, seconded by Jeff York. The vote was unanimous.

The administration requested consideration of its recommendation of a Ninth Grade Center for Cary High School without a designation of the site at this time. Beverley Clark made the motion to approve the concept of a Ninth Grade Center for Cary High School and for the location to be determined at a later time. The motion was seconded by Susan Parry, and the vote was unanimous.

FACILITIES

1. Resolution: Funding for PLAN 2000 School Building Program

Staff requested funds for the PLAN 2000 School Building Program previously approved by the Board. This request will provide construction funds for East Cary Middle and Ligon Middle. This request will

also provide funds to the broad category projects. Fiscal Implications: Total of this appropriation request is \$29,483,501. Appropriations for PLAN 2000 to date total \$465,234,182. The total PLAN 2000 appropriations including this request, equals \$494,717,683.

Jeff York made a motion to approve, seconded by Patti Head. The vote was unanimous.

2. Construction Documents: Highcroft Drive Elementary

The Board approved construction documents at its October 22, 2002 meeting. Due to high school crowding in Planning Area C (Cary/Apex/Southwest Raleigh), staff recommended modifying the approved construction documents to accommodate a 9th grade center for Green Hope High for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 school years. Conversion back to an elementary school will be a separate project. Funding is available from the total project budget of \$11,152,391, as provided in the PLAN 2000 School Building Program.

- *The Facilities Item, Construction Documents for Highcroft Drive Elementary, was put forth for approval. Beverley Clark made a motion to remove the provisions for a Ninth Grade Center construction modifications from this item and attach them to the Construction Documents for Carpenter Village Elementary. Amy White seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.*
- *Beverley Clark moved that the board table the approval of construction documents for Highcroft Elementary until a future meeting where the board will have answers to some additional questions. Amy White seconded the motion.*
- *Some discussion followed and the attorney stated that the proper motion would state “defer consideration” rather than “table the approval.” Ms. Clark changed her motion accordingly, to move that the board defer consideration of construction documents of Highcroft Elementary until the December 3 meeting. Ms. White seconded the revised motion, and the vote was unanimous.*

3. Construction Documents: Carpenter Elementary

Staff presented the construction documents designed by Small Kane Architects, PA for Carpenter Elementary. Funding are available from the total project budget of \$10,662,555 as provided in the PLAN 2000 School Building Program.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Amy White. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION

FINANCE

1. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Exhibit D)

This report is the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Wake County Board of Education (Board) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002. The Board’s independent certified public accountants, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, have audited the general purpose financial statements and related combining and individual fund and account group statements and schedules and have rendered their unqualified opinion on them. The auditor’s report on the schedule of federal and state financial assistance, internal control structure, and compliance matters, included in the single audit section of the CAFR, indicate that the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards is presented fairly and that no reportable conditions were material weaknesses in the internal control structure or its operation. Fiscal Implications: As a result of appropriate fiscal management, including realistic budgeting practices, effective cost controls, and sound cash management, the CAFR indicates a strong financial position at June 30, 2001.

2. Letter from McGladrey & Pullen Regarding the Annual Audit (Exhibit E)

McGladrey & Pullen, LLP provided the letter on significant matter related to the conduct of the annual audit of the Wake County Board of Education (Board). The letter is in connection with the audit of the Board's general-purpose financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002.

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Thirty-Five employees were nominated for the Employee Excellence Award. The ten finalists were...

- *Sheri Blackwell, Lead Processor/Secretary, Human Resources*
- *Margie Donkel, Teacher, Baileywick Elementary*
- *Laura Evans, Assistant Principal, East Wake High School*
- *William Faison, Head Custodian, Lynn Road Elementary*
- *Terri Kimzey, Senior Director, Budget Department*
- *Kathy Rackley, Media Specialist, Lincoln Heights Elementary*
- *Carol Sturdivant, Lead Secretary, Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School*
- *Cathy Wilcut, Guidance Counselor, Lufkin Road Middle*
- *Vicki Williams, Administrator, Technology Services*
- *Angela Mallory-Sanders, Transportation Team Leader, Transportation (Winner)*

PROGRAM

1. Assignment of New Subdivisions to Schools (*Exhibit F*)

The staff of the Office of Growth Management presented recommendations for the following subdivisions: Savannah, Downing Glen (phase 5), Hunters Mark (phase 1 - map 3) and The Enclave at Falls River. Transportation costs will increase due to travel time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kathryn Watson Quigg adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Elwanda K. Farrow, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Kathryn Watson Quigg, Chair

