



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### November 21, 2006

| Board Members Present | Staff Members Present    |                               |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Patti Head, Chair     | Superintendent Del Burns | Michael Evans                 |
| Rosa Gill, Vice Chair | Chuck Dulaney            | Lloyd Gardner                 |
| Horace Tart           | Maurice Boswell          | Julye Mizelle                 |
| Beverley Clark        | David Holdzkom           | Danny Barnes                  |
| Carol Parker          | Mike Burriss             |                               |
| Eleanor Goettee       | Don Haydon               |                               |
| Susan Parry           | Marvin Connelly          |                               |
| Lori Millberg         | Terri Cobb               |                               |
|                       | Mark Winters             |                               |
|                       | Donna Hargens            | <b>Board Attorney Present</b> |
|                       | Bev White                | Ann Majestic                  |

Patti Head called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance

### INFORMATION

#### Chair's Comments

- Patti Head reported that Ron Margiotta was stranded in Orlando, Florida at the airport and would not be able to attend today's meeting.
- Ms. Head shared the good news that the Broughton High School Boys Varsity Soccer Team won the 4 A NCHSAA Boys Soccer State Championship. Ms. Head offered the Board's congratulations to the team and Coach Izzy Hernandez.
- Ms. Head offered congratulations and best wishes to Leesville Road High School as they advance to the Eastern Football Regional Finals.
- Ms. Head shared her personal joy in taking her two grandchildren to the Raleigh Christmas Parade last Saturday. In speaking of the parade, she commended the participating WCPSS high school bands on the great contributions they made to the parade. Ms. Head also reported that a large number of WCPSS students were in the parade on various floats. Of particular note was the large number of students from Davis Drive Elementary who showcased their jump roping skills.
- The first Community Engagement Meeting was held on November 20 at Leesville Road High School. There were approximately 75-80 attendees. Five Board members were in attendance. Ms. Head thanked Chuck Dulaney and staff for their presentation, and she shared that the Board had been eager to hear the presentation and the comments from the public. Ms. Head reported that there will be two more Community Engagement Meetings: November 27 at Knightdale High School and November 30 at Middle Creek High School. The public comments at all of these meetings are being recorded in order to give staff and Board members who cannot be in attendance at every meeting the opportunity to hear the community feedback. Ms. Head further reported that public hearings will be held in January.

- As this is the season for giving thanks, Ms. Head acknowledged the observance of Veterans Day. She thanked all the veterans in the school system for their service to this country that has allowed us the abundant freedoms we enjoy.
- Ms. Head reported that on November 7, there was a celebration of the passage of the bond referendum.
- On November 20, Tony Gurley gave a State of the County address. Ms. Head shared that Mr. Gurley was very complimentary of WCPSS, and he stated that the reason the bonds passed was because the people of Wake County truly value education and know what it means to the high quality of life in Wake County. Patti Head addressed the County Commissioners immediately following Mr. Gurley, and in turn, thanked him for his leadership this past year as chair of the County Commissioners.
- Ms. Head shared that November has been a month to say “thanks” to many people. In that regard, she made the following statement: *I do want to thank those who were involved in putting the puzzle together so that we could continue serving the needs of our children with adequate facilities in order to “keep on keeping on” with the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place in Wake County; and not the least of which, I want to thank this Board for lots and lots of hours - the study of looking at data; of working hard to come up with scenarios that we could share with our County Commissioners; and coming up with a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that we collaborated on with our County Commissioners. Thank you to our staff for helping us with all that data and all that information as we wrestled with our decisions. Of course, I’d like to thank the County Commissioners, as we worked very hard in collaboration on the CIP in order to take it to the public. We were listening to lots of voices – the voices of those who wanted taxes to go up substantially; those that didn’t want taxes to go up at all; those that endorsed all year-round schools in Wake County; and those that didn’t want to have any year-round schools except as a voluntary calendar. There were lots of voices speaking, and I believe with my whole heart that the County Commissioners and the Board of Education struggled with those voices and then came up with a compromise that we felt we could take to the public. Obviously, the public did say that we had come to a compromise that they could support. Also, I’d like to thank the business community. I think the business community certainly stood tall for this bond, as they have in the past, but with renewed vigor to make sure that this bond passed. Civic groups came forward with endorsements as well as PTAs. I’m afraid to keep listing names because I don’t want to leave anyone out, but we had town councils, mayors, Wake Education Partnership, and lots of people who stood up and said, “There are bits and pieces of this bond or CIP that we may not like, but we know it is for the good of the community and for the good of the children.” I am very grateful for that, as I know you are. A huge debt of gratitude goes to Ann Goodnight and Bill Atkinson who were the co-chairs of Friends of Wake County, and Kim Gazella who oversaw the effort. There are untold hours that they spent out in the public, sharing and speaking to groups. Again, I want to thank staff for continuing “teaching and learning,” while we were all a little distracted, because that didn’t stop while we were working hard to get the bond passed. We are grateful as a Board of Education and as a community that you all were doing what needed be done as a school system while we were out working for the bonds. Finally, I want to thank the community. Fifty-three percent of the community did get to the polls to support the bond with the understanding that this was absolutely necessary for us to continue building the schools that we need in order to handle the capacity that is here now and that is coming. Because we do enjoy such a wonderful lifestyle in Wake County and because we have such a fabulous school system, they are coming and they are going to continue to come. I am grateful to the community for standing tall and for supporting the bond as we continue the “teaching and learning” in our schools that will enable these young folks to be contributing members of society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*
- Ms. Head clarified for accountability purposes, due to recent media reports, the fact that at the Facilities Committee meeting on November 14 and at the Board work session on November 16, the Board affirmed and reaffirmed that it is moving forward with public-private partnerships as another “tool in our tool chest.” The Board is looking at the cost analysis and leasing terms, and the Board will be discussing this with the County Commissioners as it moves forward.
- Ms. Head noted the continued cooperation with the Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC). The Board has received the CFAC’s quarterly report, and there will be discussion of this report at the next Committee of the Whole. Ms. Head thanked Horace Tart for serving as the Board’s liaison to this group.

- Ms. Head shared that several Board members had just finished attending the *Turkey in the Hole* luncheon at Mt. Vernon Middle School. She shared the Board's appreciation of the invitation and the fellowship that took place. Ms. Head also offered the Board's thanks to the students and staff of Mt. Vernon.
- In her closing comments, Ms. Head wished everyone a blessed Thanksgiving.

### Superintendent's Report

- The Lightner Youth Fellowship Banquet was held last Thursday night. The purpose of this banquet is to recognize and honor 60 WCPSS students who participated in leadership development activities over the past year. Superintendent Burns shared that he was fortunate to be able to join over 500 members of the community for this annual event. It was exciting to see WCPSS students participate in this outstanding opportunity.
- WCPSS played a part in the North Carolina Theatre's production of *The Music Man*, November 4 – 12. Michael Perez, a second grader at Penny Road Elementary, made his debut as Winthrop Paroo. Five members of the kids' chorus were WCPSS students as well: Hannah Goetz, a sixth grader at Ligon Middle; Bailey Griffin, a sixth grader at Ligon Middle; Daniel Marhelko, a fifth grader at Oak Grove Elementary; James Raney, a seventh grader at Carnage; and Alex Tobey, an eighth grader at Ligon Middle. At the end of the performance, musicians from West Millbrook Middle School's band, under the direction of Julie Oliver, marched through the theatre aisles playing "Seventy-Six Trombones."
- Superintendent Burns congratulated Dr. Ken Branch. Dr. Burns shared that Dr. Branch had been presented the inaugural Friday Medal by former University of North Carolina System President Bill Friday on November 15 at the William and Ida Friday Institute on Centennial Campus. This is quite an honor for Dr. Branch. This prestigious honor recognizes his contributions as an educator, and for him to be the inaugural recipient "certainly makes us proud."
- Davis Drive Elementary School was honored last week in Washington, DC as the 2006 recipient of the No Child Left Behind National Blue Ribbon Award. This award, given by the US Department of Education is presented to outstanding public schools and private schools nationwide. Since 1982, about 5500 schools have been recognized. This year about 240 schools nationwide were recognized. This is the second time in its history that Davis Drive Elementary has been recognized as a Blue Ribbon School. This is the third time that Principal Pat Andrews has been the principal of a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Several years prior, she was principal of Brentwood Elementary when it received the award. Dr. Burns congratulated Davis Drive Elementary on this achievement.
- Five WCPSS teachers are taking part in the 2006 Kenan Fellows Program. Through this program, teachers work with NCSU professors on projects, including the development of curriculum to be used in classrooms across the state. Dr. Burns congratulated Carrie Jones of Middle Creek High School; Chad Ogren of Enloe High School; Jodi Riedel of Wakefield High School; Katherine Smyre of West Cary Middle School; and Susan Taylor of Panther Creek High School.
- Melody Moore was nominated and selected as the N.C. Music Middle School Teacher of the Year by the N.C. Music Educators Association. Ms. Moore is the music teacher at Ligon Middle School. She received the award on Sunday, November 12 at the N.C. Music Educators' Conference held in Winston Salem. Dr. Burns congratulated Ms. Moore on this recognition, and he thanked her for her support of "teaching and learning" every day.
- At the North Carolina Alliance for Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance annual meeting, four WCPSS teachers were recognized as follows:
  - Joanna Caves of Martin Middle School has been named the 2006 Middle School Dance Educator of the Year.
  - Rebecca Clark of Enloe High School has been named the 2006 High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year.
  - Fernando Ortega of Lufkin Road Middle School has been named the 2006 Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

- Betsy Beals of Northwoods Elementary School has earned the 2006 Service Award for her on-going contributions to the field of education.

- Middle Creek High School teacher Carrie Jones has earned the North Carolina Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award from the NC Geological Survey. She was recognized at the N.C. Science Teachers Association state banquet. This is a presentation that recognizes outstanding Earth Science teachers for “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the Earth Sciences at the secondary level. Ms. Jones has also been named NCSTA District 3 Director for 2006-08.
- Fuquay-Varina High School teacher, Randy Senzig, has earned the 2006 Environmental Educator of the Year Award from the Environmental Educators of North Carolina. Mr. Senzig competed against members such as: museum naturalists, park rangers, and nature educators from all over North Carolina. Dr. Burns congratulated Mr. Senzig on this achievement.
- Last week was American Education Week. Schools and PTAs held many activities to recognize and proclaim this week. Dr. Burns had the opportunity to visit and read at several schools. He cited Olds Elementary, in particular, as “quite a joy.” Dr. Burns humorously shared that while in fifth grade teacher Molly Harmon’s class, he suggested to her and the assistant principal that they take a break and let him have the class for the better part of the hour. They reluctantly agreed to Dr. Burns’ request. Dr. Burns thoroughly enjoyed his visit. He recognized all the schools and PTAs for their support of American Education Week.
- November is Indian Education Heritage Month. Many schools have celebrated this event. There have been a number of activities that begin in the fall that align with the Standard Course of Study. On November 18, a Native American Heritage Celebration took place to help celebrate and highlight this event.
- Last week was School Psychologists’ Awareness Week. Dr. Burns thanked the school psychologist and all support staff for everything they do every day to support “teaching and learning” in WCPSS.

Other Board members shared the following comments:

- Beverley Clark referenced Superintendent Burns’ report and commented that what makes the tremendous number of accolades received by WCPSS staff so special is that the teachers are from all parts of the county. She feels that every school in WCPSS is blessed with incredibly talented teachers and leadership.
- On Sunday, Beverley Clark reported that she attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony at North Raleigh United Methodist Church where six boys from Troop 313 received their Eagle Scouts. All six of these Eagle Scouts were either current or former WCPSS students.
- On November 8, Eleanor Goettee reported that she and Susan Parry had the opportunity to visit Apex High School’s Academy of Information Technology. Ms. Goettee was very impressed with these ninth through twelfth grade students’ demonstrations of excellence in the various areas of technology. Susan Parry echoed Ms. Goettee’s admiration of these students. Ms. Parry shared that one of the most interesting aspects was listening to the students’ very articulate and sophisticated oral presentations about their internship experiences.
- Eleanor Goettee shared that last Tuesday, she and Dr. Ken Branch attended the University Council on Teacher Education at North Carolina State University. The university has a new elementary program in place that is going very well. Most of the meeting was devoted to the presentation of standards for teaching training. Ms. Goettee applauded the efforts of the staff at NCSU in keeping a program of excellence in place.
- Susan Parry reported that she attended a magnet daycare information session at Bright Horizons in North Raleigh. There were 35-40 daycare providers in attendance, all of whom had an interest in trying to better understand how they could serve the children who will need care during track out times. There was a panel discussion that focused on sharing best practices and “tricks of the trade.” Caroline Massengill played a key role in this event. Ms. Parry found the session to be extremely interesting.
- Susan Parry reported that she, Patti Head, and Carol Parker attended an IB site visit at East Millbrook Magnet Middle School. This is the 5-year assessment in their re-certification. School

administrators from around the country came to review the program and determine if the programs in WCPSS are making progress and up to the high standards of the IB program. Ms. Parry shared that it was very interesting to hear their comments.

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

#### **1. 2008-2009 TRADITIONAL CALENDAR**

The 2007-08 calendar was adopted in 2005. The calendar presented is for 2008-09.

- This calendar meets all requirements of the Calendar Law.
- This calendar contains 180 student days, 11 paid holidays, 10 paid vacation days, and 9 of 14 teacher workdays. The Division of Principals will make recommendations for the remaining teacher workdays.
- The first day for students will be Monday, August 25, 2008. The last day will be Wednesday, June 10, 2009.

Fiscal Implications: There are no fiscal implications. Recommendation for Action: This item is presented for information.

Donna Hargens introduced Dawn Dawson for her presentation of the 2008-2009 traditional calendar. Dr. Hargens reminded the Board that the 2007-2008 traditional calendar was approved in 2005.

Ms. Dawson reported that the calendar committee met in October. The committee is made up of a variety of teachers, principals, community representatives, and parents. She cited the list of committee members provided in Board materials. She gave an overview of the parameters for development of the 2008-09 traditional calendar as well as an overview of the actual calendar. Ms. Dawson answered clarifying questions from the Board. Several Board members commented that they would like to see more overlap in the traditional calendar with Track 2 in the year-round calendar, if possible. One suggestion was the possibility of moving spring break week on the traditional calendar, and discussion ensued. Based on comments from the Board, Patti Head asked Ms. Dawson to generate an alternative calendar that creates more overlap with Track 2 on the year-round calendar to be brought before the Board as an action item at the first meeting in January. Beverley Clark felt that while the Track 2 issue is certainly an important concern, the Board should be mindful that there are other valid concerns that have an impact on the calendar. Ms. Head thanked Dawn Dawson for her presentation.

#### **2. PROPOSED 2008-2009 YEAR-ROUND MULTI-TRACK CALENDAR**

Attached is the proposed calendar for 2008-2009 Multi-Track Year-Round schedule. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Presented for information only.

Caroline Massengill made a presentation to the Board. She reported that five drafts were sent to current year-round schools to review with parents and staff to give feedback on which one was preferred. Ms. Massengill outlined the proposed calendar and pointed out that instead of having a vacation day or holiday on Memorial Day, more schools preferred having off the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. She also shared that there is very little flexibility in the calendar when it comes to providing 180 days of instruction on all four tracks. Ms. Head thanked Ms. Massengill for her presentation and confirmed that this calendar will be coming before the Board in January.

### 3. 2008-2009 MODIFIED CALENDAR

The 2007-08 calendar was adopted in 2005. The calendar presented is for 2008-09.

- The modified year-round instructional calendar combines features of the traditional and year-round calendar.
- The first semester is similar to Track 4 of the year-round calendar and the second semester is similar to Track 1.
- The calendar provides a summer break of approximately seven weeks.
- The first day for students will be Thursday, July 24, 2008. The last day will be Tuesday, May 27, 2009.
- Plans are to use this calendar at Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School, Centennial Campus Magnet Middle School, Moore Square Magnet Middle School, Carver Elementary School, and Partnership Elementary School.

Fiscal Implications: There are no fiscal implications. Recommendation for Action: This item is presented for information.

Ken Branch made a presentation to the Board. The modified calendar combines features of the traditional and year-round calendars. Dr. Branch gave an overview of the 2008-2009 modified calendar. Dr. Branch answered clarifying questions from the Board. Dr. Branch clarified that new schools cannot be brought onto the modified calendar, and Caroline Massengill reiterated that calendar law prohibits more modified instructional calendars. She clarified that the calendar law does allow single-track calendars. There was discussion of calendar alignment and continuity, and Ms. Massengill and Dr. Branch answered numerous clarifying questions from the Board. Dr. Branch advised the Board of the six-week single track calendar that could be adopted to align magnet schools of the same theme. In hearing comments from the Board, Ms. Head asked Dr. Branch to explore the calendar continuity issue before bringing this item back for action.

### 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.*

- **John Bell, President of the Farmington Woods Elementary PTA.** Mr. Bell was representing concerned parents regarding rumors of losing magnet status at Farmington Woods. He asked for clarification of this issue, and Ms. Head referred to him to staff.
- **Carol Oates, member of the Turner Creek Parents United Task Force.** The mission of this task force is to keep Turner Creek united. The Board received a petition on November 7 and a follow-up email requesting a meeting to present the petition. She respectfully reminded the Board that there has been no response to the request. Ms. Oates stated that Turner Creek is going to be adversely affected by the current student assignment plan since up to 88% of the student population will be removed. Separation of siblings creates an undue hardship on families, both financially and emotionally. She feels the school district has a moral obligation to keep elementary siblings together.
- **Lauren Beckman, member of the Turner Creek Parents United Task Force.** Ms. Beckman continued the presentation that was begun by Ms. Oates. She shared the successes of Turner Creek Elementary. She respectfully requested that the Board of Education and WCPSS restore Turner Creek's magnet status and refrain from unnecessarily including Turner Creek's student body in the upcoming reassignment plan proposal.
- **Gayle Sabol, concerned parent.** She has asked the Growth Management Department several times how the schools to be converted to year-round were chosen, and was given the quick answer of "the high growth areas." She expressed her disappointment that so many schools are going year-round, and she passed around a flyer from a home builder that is advertising assurance of a traditional calendar school if parents buy in certain high dollar sections of Cary.

Following Public Comment, Ms. Head reminded the public that there are two remaining Community Engagement Meetings that are scheduled from 7 – 9 p.m. on November 27 at Knightdale High School and on November 30 at Middle Creek High School. Ms. Head explained the format of the Community Engagement Meetings. She encouraged today’s speakers to attend those meetings and ask their questions. Ms. Head thanked the speakers for coming to share their thoughts.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS (cont’d.)**

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

##### **4. SUCCESS SERIES/SUPPORT FOR END OF COURSE TESTING**

The Success Series is a multi-media resource that students can use to review for EOC or AP exams. Students are able to view segments of WCPSS teachers teaching mathematical concepts from AP Calculus, AP Statistics, Geometry, and Algebra 1. Algebra 2 slated for completion well in advance of the January EOC. Students can access the Success Series through one of our Resource Centers on the Internet as well as through DVDs provided to each school. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None.

Richard Murphy introduced Athena Kellogg for her presentation of the Success Series. The Success Series is a multi-media means for students to review for the EOC and AP exams. She read the following quote from Einstein: “Do not worry about your difficulties in mathematics; I can assure you mine are still greater.” Ms. Kellogg explained that there are students who find themselves in Einstein’s shoes, and the Success Series is a new and novel way to provide additional support for those students that need extra help. She gave a history of the development of the Success Series that was done in collaboration with the Communications Department. Ms. Kellogg recognized each of the teachers who are the “stars of the show” on the DVD. She introduced Cathy Hairr, the geometry teacher featured on the DVD, and Simone Lynch, a student, who shared their experiences with the Success Series. Superintendent Burns commented that this is an outstanding example of Central Services supporting “teaching and learning” for all students. He called it “educational continuity at its best.” Dr. Burns stated that as great as this is, it will not replace outstanding teachers, and he recognized Cathy Hairr as one of those outstanding teachers. He thanked Ms. Hairr for her work and congratulated Simone on her success. Patti Head also recognized Michael Evans and the Communications Department for their part in this joint effort.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

September 20, 2006 – Joint Meeting of Board of Education and Board of County Commissioners Minutes  
 October 11, 2006 – Instructional Program Committee Minutes  
 October 11, 2006 – Community Relations Committee Minutes  
 October 11, 2006 – Human Resources Committee Minutes  
 October 18, 2006 – Joint Meeting of Board of Education and Board of County Commissioners Minutes  
 November 7, 2006 – Board Meeting Minutes

#### **FINANCE**

##### **1. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION APPROVED CONTRACTS (Exhibit A)**

The attached summaries are provided as information in accordance with Board Policy 8361. The summaries list all change orders, and contracts having a value greater than \$50,000 and not over \$100,000, and purchase orders in excess of \$250,000 for September and October 2006. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: Not applicable.

## 2. GIFTS TO THE SYSTEM (Exhibit B)

Eighty-five gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$34,477.17. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable. Recommendation for Action: No action is required.

## FACILITIES

### 1. BIDS: ENLOE HIGH - EAST CAMPUS ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

Bids for asbestos abatement at the east campus at Enloe High were received on October 31, 2006. Staff and EEC, Inc. recommend award of the single-prime contract to Demolition and Asbestos Removal Inc. in the amount of \$105,386. Fiscal Implications: Funding is available from the total project budget of \$34,719,197 of which \$9,151,942 is from PLAN 2000 School Building Program, and \$25,567,255 is from PLAN 2004 School Building Program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

### 2. FORM OF AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SERVICES

A committee consisting of the Board attorney, Director of Construction, Senior Fiscal Administrator, Supervisor of Program Controls, and a Senior Administrator, developed proposed modifications to the Agreement Between Owner and Construction Manager. Staff also reviewed the major changes with the Finance Officer and the Chief Business Officer and received their concurrence. A summary of the major changes is attached in addition to the complete changes being shown as shaded on the attached blank contract. The purpose of the changes is to incorporate lessons learned from the earlier contract and provide greater clarity in the contract. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

### 3. RESOLUTION: PLAN 2000 LONG-RANGE BUILDING PROGRAM FUNDING REALLOCATION

Resolution requests reallocation of project savings from various PLAN 2000 projects to Program Contingency. Total reallocation amount is \$1,373,786. Fiscal Implications: No additional appropriation of funding is necessary. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

## BOARD ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

This represents new nominations to the Board Advisory Councils. The nomination forms are attached for the Board's review and consideration. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

The Board approved the following nominations:

Sarah Cobb, Middle Creek High School, District 5

Alice Hunt Davis, Partnership Elementary School, District 5

Diana Levey, Wiley Elementary School, District 5

Kimberly Dail Newman-Clifford, Lockhart Elementary School, District 1

Myra Westmoreland, Harris Creek Elementary School, District 1

Renee Minella, Heritage Elementary School, District 1

Pam Camacho, Wake Forest-Rolesville High School, District 1

Donna Moore, Carver Elementary School, District 1

Debra Williamson-Dunn, Hodge Road Elementary School, District 1

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

### Community Relations Committee

Lori Millberg reported that the Community Relations Committee met on November 8. With the previous day being Election Day, there was discussion of passage of the bond and how the community members on the committee had perceived what had taken place "before the vote and after the vote." Ms. Millberg further reported that the intended topic of the meeting was the possibility of having a special insert in *The News and Observer*. Committee members discussed items they felt would be appropriate for this. Because of the large

number of ideas that were generated, the committee will discuss this initiative again at a future meeting in order to reach a consensus. Michael Evans spoke of the possibility of a regular TV show; possible ways to finance it; how it could be broadcast; and what type of content it would contain. Ms. Millberg commented on the expertise and enthusiasm of the committee members, and she expressed appreciation for their service.

### **Human Resources Committee**

Eleanor Goettee reported that the Human Resources Committee met on November 8. The meeting began with a review of the discussion on the process for track assignments for teachers in the newly converted year-round schools. The meeting continued with discussion of year-round staff track preferences. Ms. Goettee reported that the Board has given a “thumbs up” agreement that the principals’ assignment of track will be made in alignment with supporting the health of the school and of each track, and based on the teacher’s:

- preference
- personal circumstances
- experience
- certification
- skills
- seniority in WCPSS

Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler joined the meeting, and the discussion segued into the roles of specialists in the newly converted year-round schools. Ms. Grimes-Droessler also attended the Board work session to outline options that have been put in place for the special area teachers. Ms. Goettee expressed her pleasure with the sound, solid information that has come from staff and teachers, and she reiterated that the Board gave its support of the recommendations from the Human Resources Committee at the work session last Thursday.

### **Instructional Program Committee**

Beverly Clark reported that the Instructional Program Committee met on November 8. The committee discussed the increase in exit standards for high schools. A large portion of the meeting was focused on looking at the math EOG test results for 2005-06. The test has been completely re-standardized. New testing standards are being applied, and there is increased rigor. Ms. Clark emphasized that a school’s results from the old test cannot be compared with the new one. Central office is analyzing the various math strands and will be working with schools to focus on the best instructional practices. The math curriculum at the elementary and middle school levels was also a topic of discussion at the meeting. Further information on the seventh and eighth math EOGs was shared as well. Ms. Clark expressed appreciation to staff for all of their work.

### **Facilities Committee**

Horace Tart reported that the Facilities Committee met on November 14. Staff talked with the committee about construction management at risk and public-private partnerships. The committee had been having on-going discussion regarding construction management at risk, but they are now at the point of implementation. Staff has shared information that shows an anticipated cost savings through using construction management at risk. Staff also provided information on public-private partnerships. They discussed the opportunities and comparisons of capital lease financing for public schools. Mr. Tart clarified that contrary to what was reported in the newspaper about public-private partnerships being put on hold, staff was directed to consider pursuing this at the meeting. At the Board work session on November 16, the Board decided to bring in outside advisors to offer assistance and advice on how to pursue and continue on the public-private partnerships. Mr. Tart further reported that the next meeting of the Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC) will be held on November 28 at 4 p.m. at Salem Middle School. CFAC will also be holding a meeting on December 18 at Daniels Middle School. At that meeting, there will be continued discussion of public-private partnerships.

### **Finance Committee**

Carol Parker reported that the Finance Committee met on November 14. Committee members were given a “homework assignment,” to view the *School Connections* DVD on the budget. The committee critiqued the DVD and pulled out some of the good ideas that it contained. The committee’s task is to try to simplify the

budget and financial information for the general public. The committee has a report that will be forthcoming. Ms. Parker reported that the committee will not be meeting in December.

### **Audit Committee**

Carol Parker reported that the Audit Committee had its first official meeting on Friday, November 17. Ms. Parker commented that it was a milestone for her to see it come to fruition. The purpose of the meeting was to review the external financial report. The Audit Committee consists of seven citizens, the majority of which are CPAs. The committee members were satisfied with the financial report and did vote to approve the report. The report will be presented to the Board at the December 5 Board Meeting. Gordon Brown, chair of the Audit Committee, representatives from Cherry, Bekaert, and Holland, as well as WCPSS staff, will be in attendance for this presentation.

### **NCSBA Annual Conference**

Carol Parker and Rosa Gill gave a very detailed and thorough report of the NCSBA Annual Conference that was held from November 13 – 15. Ms. Parker reviewed the events that took place on Sunday, November 12, prior to the general meeting. Each Board member was provided with a placemat from NCSBA. Ms. Parker pointed out that one side listed the *Code of Ethics for Board Members* and on the reverse side was a chart showing *Robert's Rule of Order* motions. Ms. Parker noted that Board members had been provided with a folder of handouts from the meeting that she and Rosa Gill would be reviewing as they continued their reports.

Carol Parker reported that both she and Ms. Gill attended the first session on No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The presenter was Mike Resnick, Executive Director of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), and Ms. Parker reviewed the highlights of this session. Many of the concerns around the nation about No Child Left Behind have been gathered, and Bill 5709 will be presented in the next session of Congress. This bill is to rectify some of the issues that school systems around the nation have with NCLB, and Ms. Parker shared a number of these issues.

Rosa Gill reported on the second part of the NCLB session which focused on highly qualified teachers and the NCLB legislation. Dr. Katherine Sullivan from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction made a presentation. Ms. Gill reviewed the highlights from this session. Dr. Sullivan emphasized the timeliness of sending the notice to parents after four consecutive weeks in which a child has been in the classroom of a teacher that is not highly qualified. Dr. Sullivan spoke about licensure and gave an update on the highly qualified status statewide. Ms. Gill noted that all of the information from this session was contained in the handouts.

Carol Parker gave a report from the luncheon session of the conference. Ms. Parker had provided Board members with a button and a brochure on the *Pledge to American School Children*. This is a campaign kick off by NSBA to work with Congress to get a pledge on funding for the NCLB mandates and other national mandates that are not fully funded. Rosa Gill reported on the presentation made by the second speaker at this session. That presentation centered on how changing times require changing the way teachers are teaching in the classroom. Ms. Gill gave a very detailed look at this issue.

Both Rosa Gill and Carol Parker attended a session on school board self assessment. Ms. Parker referred to the handout of the matrix which contained the areas of: leadership; strategic planning; stakeholder and market focus; measurement, analysis, and knowledge management; human resource focus; process management; and performance results. Ms. Gill shared that this assessment tool was developed over a three-year period with the assistance of a consultant.

Rosa Gill reported that she also attended the *Selling Your School and Selling Your Students* workshop presented by professors from the UNC School of Government. They spoke about selling names and naming rights and the donation of land by developers. Board members were cautioned on accepting funds from private donors. It was emphasized that regardless of who is negotiating the selling of the naming rights or

endorsement, the school board should have the final say. Ms. Gill shared additional information on tips for drafting legislation and/or policies.

In closing, Carol Parker, who served as the voting delegate at the Delegate Assembly, shared information about the Legislative Agenda. Ms. Parker also gave an additional report on the movement in the Legislature to present the kindergarten birthday cut-off date as moving from October 16 to August 31. There was much discussion of this issue, and Ann Majestic was present as the parliamentarian. The assembly voted to put this item in the Legislative Agenda and support moving the cut-off date. Ms. Parker also shared that NCSBA did take a position against lottery funds for construction going to charter schools.

Patti Head thanked Carol Parker and Rosa Gill for a very thorough report and for representing the Board at the NCSBA Annual Conference. Ms. Head also expressed appreciation to Carol Parker for serving on the NCSBA Board of Directors.

Lori Millberg made a motion to recess the meeting at 4:07 p.m., seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting reconvened at 4:21 p.m.

Patti Head gave an update on the Board Work Session that took place on November 16. Ms. Head shared for the public that a great deal of the meeting focused on looking at all the different aspects of the magnet program. The Board also discussed its work plan and “tweaked” it a bit. The Board has asked Horace Tart and the Facilities Committee to take the lead in looking at public-private partnerships.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **FACILITIES**

#### **1. RESOLUTION REQUESTING FUNDS FOR NEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP 2006)**

The new Capital Improvement Program will build new schools to accommodate growing enrollment; renovate existing school buildings; provide life-cycle replacements system-wide; and replace aging technology, furniture, and equipment. This resolution requests that the Wake County Board of Commissioners provide the initial appropriation of funding for the design and construction of projects scheduled for completions in 2008-2010, in accordance with the master schedule. Fiscal Implications: The total CIP 2006 Building Program amount is \$1,055,874,837. Total of this first quarterly appropriation request is \$281,993,748. The second quarterly appropriation is planned for the February 20, 2007 Board meeting. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. Mike Burriss made a presentation to the Board. He stated that the new CIP 2006 started November 8 with the passage of the bond. The responsibility of the Facilities Department is the implementation of this plan. Mr. Burriss reviewed the list of projects that are included in the first appropriation request of \$281,993,748, and he answered clarifying questions from the Board. There was discussion of costs involved in site preparation for Heritage High School, as well as discussion of the timeframe for technology updates in schools. The vote was unanimous.

#### **2. RESOLUTION: LONG-RANGE BUILDING PROGRAM FUNDING REALLOCATION (CIP 2006)**

Resolution requests reallocation of permit fee costs from CIP 2006 various projects to Building Permit Fee project. Total reallocation amount is \$731,319. Fiscal Implications: No additional appropriation of funding is necessary. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. Mike Burriss made a presentation to the Board. Beverley Clark reiterated that impact fees are not collected for schools, and she expressed concern over spending hard-earned money from the bond on building permit fees. The vote was unanimous.

### **3. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK SELECTIONS: PACKAGE 06-D (CIP 2006)**

In accordance with the professional services selection procedures (policy 7265) adopted by the Wake County Board of Education August 9, 2005, the selection committee recommends the selection of the Construction Management At Risk firms of D.H. Griffin Construction Company, Barnhill Contracting Company, and Clancy & Theys Construction Company, each for the construction of from one-to-five new elementary schools. The exact number will depend upon the prototype used and the site parameters once land is purchased.

The selection committee also recommends the selection of Construction Manager At Risk firms for renovation and addition projects at various schools. The recommended construction managers at risk are New Atlantic Contracting for Root Elementary; Skanska USA Building, Inc. for Smith Elementary; Devere Construction Company for Lacy Elementary; Gilbane Building Company for Poe Elementary; and Heery/D.H.Griffin Construction Company Joint Venture for East Wake High. Recommendation for Cary High School will be made at a later date. Fiscal Implications: Construction Management fees will be negotiated in accordance with professional services procedures using the Board approved Construction Manager At Risk contract. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Beverley Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Rosa Gill. Mike Burriss made a presentation to the Board. He listed the recommended construction management at risk firms for the construction of from one to five new elementary schools. Mr. Burriss shared clarifying information regarding this process. Mr. Burriss listed the recommended construction manager at risk firms for renovations and addition projects at various schools. He made reference to the list of firms that were interviewed and the ranking of the three firms recommended for each project. Mr. Burriss explained the reason for the ranking of firms. Beverley Clark questioned the use of new contractors on the list, and Mike Burriss responded. The vote was unanimous.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Beverley Clark made a motion to go into Closed Session at 4:50 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) and 115C-319. The motion was seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

Open Session reconvened at 5 p.m.

### **RECOGNITION**

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS**

Nineteen students will be recognized as Spotlight on Students award winners. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: None

Eric Sparks presented each of the students for recognition. Patti Head thanked Mr. Sparks for introducing these students to the Board and sharing their stories. Ms. Head spoke to the students about the meaning of Thanksgiving and counting one's blessings. She shared with the students how special they are in being the only Spotlight on Students award winners from their school this year. They represent the very finest – always doing things for the community and serving as role models for fellow students. Ms. Head warmly expressed to the students that the Board counts each one of them as a special blessing. These outstanding students received a standing ovation from the Board and the audience.

Patti Head called for a five-minute recess at 5:20 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 5:25 p.m.

### **ACTION ITEMS (cont.'d)**

#### **FACILITIES (cont'd.)**

##### **4. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AGREEMENT: E17 ELEMENTARY (CIP 2006)**

The new building program includes the construction of E-17 Elementary located on Leesville Road north of I-540. Negotiations have been completed with Barnhill Contracting Company, for the construction manager's pre-construction services only. The form of agreement for Construction Management at Risk has been previously reviewed and approved by the Board at this meeting. Small Kane Architects was previously selected as the designer for this project. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed project budget is \$21,955,184, of which, \$1,708,291 is from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program and \$20,246,893 is from CIP 2006. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the Construction Manager of \$66,000 for pre-construction basic services. Funds for this present contract are encumbered from PLAN 2004 Program Contingency. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve, seconded by Eleanor Goettee. Ken Fuller made a presentation to the Board. Mr. Fuller asked the Board to note the asterisk on page 2 of their Board materials regarding the tight deadline for the opening of E-17 in July of 2008. Beverly Clark made the suggestion of sending a letter to the Mayor of Raleigh and the Secretary of the Department of Transportation from the Board Chair to put them on notice in an affirmative way in order to avoid something "slipping through the cracks." Patti Head stated that she and the Vice Chair would be glad to do whatever they could to help with this situation, and a letter will be forthcoming. The vote was unanimous.

##### **5. CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: HERITAGE HIGH (CIP 2006)**

Staff has reviewed the construction documents and requests Board approval and authorization to advertise for the construction of Heritage High (H-2) to be located in Wake Forest. This is a Construction Management (CM) at Risk project and the second reuse of the Knightdale High prototype. The construction manager is Heery/Griffin Joint Venture. All subcontract work will be competitively bid. Fiscal Implications: The total budget is \$60,943,025 of which \$1,564,638 is currently available from the PLAN 2000 Startup School Building Program and \$513,391 is from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. An additional \$55,808,600 will come from CIP 2006, and \$3,056,396 will be provided by the Town of Wake Forest and the Wake County Parks and Recreation Department for additional ball fields and upgrades to the school's ball fields. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve, seconded by Lori Millberg. Ken Fuller made a presentation to the Board and gave an overview of the site plan. Beverly Clark commented on the extraordinarily expensive cost of the site work and Mike Burriss answered clarifying questions posed by Ms. Clark regarding this issue. Lori Millberg shared that it was her understanding that the Town of Wake Forest had been flexible in the placement of the school in order to minimize the site prep work and had tried very hard to make this work for everyone. Mike Burriss responded that they have been very accommodating. Mike Burriss and Ken Fuller answered clarifying questions from the Board. The vote was unanimous.

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

##### **1. ABC ACCOUNTABILITY COMPONENTS FOR ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS**

Alternative schools are included in the 2006-2007 ABCs under a special policy adopted by the North Carolina Board of Education (HSP-C-013). The evaluation of alternative schools will be based on two state mandated achievement-based components and three local options. Local options defined by the state include attendance, dropouts, school safety/student conduct, higher expectations for student achievement, student progress and proficiency, parent involvement, community involvement, and

customer satisfaction. Schools achieving five of the five components will be determined to have made high growth, at least three of the five will be expected growth, 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 2006-2007, 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. Mt. Vernon School, Mary E. Phillips High School, and River Oaks Middle School are designated as alternative schools. Longview is designated as a special education school, which does not submit local objectives. Fiscal Implications: ABC incentive funds will be received from the state for the system's three alternative schools, Mt. Vernon School, Mary E. Phillips High School and River Oaks Middle School if they achieve their objectives. Recommendation for Action: Board Approval is requested.

Carol Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Beverley Clark. David Holdzkom made a presentation to the Board. He stated that the North Carolina State Board of Education has adopted special rules for alternative schools. Dr. Holdzkom referenced the handouts provided to Board members of the statements of the goals from three alternative schools: Mt. Vernon, Mary E. Phillips, and River Oaks. It was recommended that the Board approve these evaluation plans so they can be submitted to the State Board of Education in order for these schools to participate in the ABCs Program. Dr. Holdzkom answered clarifying questions from the Board. The vote was unanimous.

## **POLICY**

### **1. POLICY 1323-RULES OF ORDER**

As currently written, the WCPSS Board Policy 1323.12 allows the Board Chair to vote only in order to break a tie. The Policy Committee recommends that we pursue revision of this policy in order to allow full voting rights to the Board Chair. Prior to Board policy 1323 being revised, there must be a change in the local legislation. The Policy Committee is requesting approval of this recommendation from the Board so that a request can be initiated with the local legislative delegation. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Requesting Board approval.

Horace Tart made a motion to approve. No second was needed. Danny Barnes made a presentation to the Board. Susan Parry highlighted the discussions that have taken place in the Policy Committee regarding this policy. There were no questions from the Board. The vote was unanimous.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **1. RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT**

Eleanor Goettee made a motion to approve the following administrative appointments:

- Tina Y. Hoots, Assistant Principal at Wake Forest-Rolesville High School, to Principal at Davis Drive Middle School, effective December 1, 2006.
- Helen T. Lovett, Applicant, to Assistant Principal at Leesville Road Middle School, effective January 2, 2007.

The motion was seconded by Rosa Gill. The vote was unanimous.

### **2. ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER**

Eleanor Goettee read the following administrative transfer:

- Michael Williams, Assistant Principal at Knightdale Elementary School, to Interim Principal at Knightdale Elementary School, effective November 22, 2006 through May 31, 2007. Michael Williams will resume his current position as Assistant Principal at Knightdale Elementary School on June 1, 2007.

Patti Head ended the meeting by again wishing everyone a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before the Board, Rosa Gill made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Beverley Clark. The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Melanie A. Upton, Recording Secretary

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Del Burns, Superintendent, WCPSS

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Patti Head, Chair, Wake County Board of Education