



BOARD MEETING MINUTES December 20, 2005

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Staff Members Present</u>	
Patti Head, Chair	Superintendent McNeal	Maurice Boswell
Carol Parker, Vice Chair	David Holdzkom	Jo Baker
Lori Millberg	Del Burns	Mark Winters
Horace Tart	Ann Hooker	Peggy Churn
Eleanor Goettee	Donna Hargens	Danny Barnes
Susan Parry	Michael Evans	Julye Mizelle
Rosa Gill	Donald Haydon	
Beverly Clark	Mike Burriss	
Ron Margiotta	Linda Isley	
	Janice Shearin	<u>Board Attorney Present</u>
	Lloyd Gardner	Ann Majestic
	Toni Patterson	

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

INFORMATION

Chair's Comments

- On December 7, there was a joint meeting with the County Commissioners. At the meeting, student enrollment projections were discussed, and both the Board and the County Commissioners have agreed upon the numbers. The projected number of students for 2006-07 is 127,564, which is an increase of almost 7,000 students from this year. This huge increase in student population is a result of the quality of our school system and the quality of life in this area. Capital planning strategies were also reviewed at the meeting for closing the gap between enrollment and capacity as well as the pros and cons of multi-track high schools. Renovations and repairs of existing facilities were also discussed.
- Ms. Head attended the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council (STAC) meeting on December 7. She praised the teachers for the work they are doing, and she thoroughly enjoyed her time with this group.
- On December 9, Ms. Head attended the Wake County Community High Five meeting, focusing on helping to increase graduation rates in Wake County. This is an ongoing process, and the group will be meeting again in January.
- The last New Board Member Orientation Session was on held on December 12. Ms. Head thanked staff and administration for their help with these sessions, and she thanked Janice Shearin personally for gathering all the information. All three new Board members attended all five sessions, and Ms. Head thanked them for their commitment.
- Ms. Head shared an update on the special purpose audit with Summerford Accountancy. The process began on November 7. The communication between Summerford and WCPSS staff is going very smoothly. The process is as follows: Summerford asks for interviews or information through the Board Chair; the Board Chair then contacts the staff contact, Dr. Del Burns, who in turn, arranges for any of Summerford's requests. Some of the requests made by the auditors include: financial statements, budgets, internal audit reports, organizational charts, inventories, listings of controls, interviews with school staff, and site visits to many of the schools. Ms. Head

was pleased to report that the process is going very well. Kelly Todd with Summerford reported at the last Finance Committee meeting that she was encouraged with the cooperation of staff, and she gave high praise to the fact that the management of WCPSS places integrity and honesty as a very important part of our culture. The tone at the top, in her estimation, is very solid. Ms. Head expressed her thanks to staff for their cooperativeness and prompt response to requests from Summerford. Ms. Head reported that Summerford is projecting to be finished with their work around the beginning of February and is planning to tentatively report to the Board and community at the February 21 Board meeting or by the first meeting in March.

- Ms. Head reported that at today's Committee of the Whole, representatives from the North Carolina School Boards Association came and shared "Superintendent Search 101." The Board is beginning the process of structuring a superintendent search and will be looking at gathering community input to determine the desired profile of Bill McNeal's successor. The Board takes the responsibility of choosing a new superintendent very seriously and will keep the community updated as this process continues.
- Patti Head reported on the proposed draft student reassignment plan. There have been 24 Community Engagement Meetings over the past two years; twelve of which took place this fall. The draft proposal is made to fill 7 schools, with 5 schools being multi-track year-round elementary schools and two being high schools. In this draft proposal, 11,000 students will be re-assigned to better utilize available seats. Two schools of these seven will be opening in 2006-07 as early starts in modular facilities to help with the capacity-seating crisis. Ms. Head reiterated that this is a **draft** proposal, and it was announced a month in advance of last year for the purpose of allowing the community to have input. She asked that this input be emailed to the Office of Growth Management at: studentassignment@wcpss.net. Ms. Head asked for community understanding in that it is impossible for Board members to answer all questions and meet with all neighborhoods. She reiterated her encouragement to the community to send their input to the Office of Growth Management.
- Ms. Head congratulated Superintendent McNeal on being the commencement speaker at North Carolina State University's graduation ceremonies on December 14 and also congratulated him upon the great honor of receiving an Honorary Doctoral Degree from NCSU during the ceremony.
- Ms. Head reminded the Board that on January 18 from 6-7:30 p.m., there will be a Superintendent's Leadership Scholarship Kick-off Reception at Exploris.

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent McNeal reiterated the student reassignment process. He reassured the public that all of their voice mails are listened to and every email and letter is read. This information is catalogued and used against the proposal to see if there is some information that has been missed, areas that need to be deleted, or other adjustments that need to be made. Due to the tremendous growth in this county, many of the schools cannot handle the large numbers of students that are enrolling on these campuses each day. This serious overcrowding situation is the reason for the proposed reassignment of 11,000 students.
- The Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council (STAC), as stated previously by Patti Head, met on December 7. A great deal of time at the meeting was spent talking about the Teachers' Working Conditions Survey that was administered by the Governor's office and how that survey data is used by each school. STAC is looking at uniform ways for this district to use that information to improve working conditions for teachers.
- West Lake Middle Principal, Greg Decker, received the 2005 North Carolina Technology Educator Award by N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction.
- Oak Grove Elementary is one of 101 U.S. schools named as a winner of the second annual Hope for Education essay contest. A philanthropic program created by Samsung, the Hope for Education contest distributed two million dollars in prizes. Oak Grove earned \$20,000 in technology and software.

- Ann Hulslander received the NC Young Professional Award from the NC Alliance for Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance fall convention. She has been instrumental in coordinating WCPSS' 1.3 million Carol M. White PEP Grant.
- Superintendent McNeal gave an overview of Level 4 Joint Use agreements and explained how the agreements work. The Level 4 Joint Use agreement at Wakelon Elementary is on the agenda tonight.

After the Superintendent's Comments, Patti Head outlined the timeline for the proposed draft student re-assignment plan. The Office of Growth Management is taking input from citizens at this point. In January, Growth Management staff will be looking very closely at public comments and suggestions before bringing the plan before the Board. The Board will receive the proposed reassignment plan around the middle of February, and the Board will set public hearing dates and locations. This will take place in the first couple of weeks in March. The Board will then have a work session, and the plan will come to the Board on March 21 for a vote.

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.

- **Tim McBrayer, Chairman of the Legislative Committee for the Wakefield Middle School PTSA.** He presented a petition signed by more than 220 parents who are concerned about a dangerous crosswalk in front of Wakefield Middle School. He asked the Board to support this petition to the Raleigh City Council, the Raleigh City Police Department, and Mayor Meeker. He also asked the Board to look at all options and alternatives to the growth situation that may not be part of the current proposed plan.
- **Patricia Pilarinos, Concerned Citizens of Wakefield.** She offered the services of her group in educating the public and garnering support for the forthcoming bond. She also asked the Board to consider an early start for Heritage High School.

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE: *The 2006-07 Proposal for Student Assignment was posted to the district's website on Monday, December 12, 2005, for a two-week comment period. The Board will receive the proposed plan in February 2006. After that presentation is made, the Board of Education will set public hearing(s) to receive public comment on the proposed plan; therefore, student assignment comments **will not** be heard as part of the Board's regular business meeting public comment.*

RECOGNITION

1. RECOGNITION OF THE FALL NCHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) recognizes athletic accomplishments by providing state championships in 22 sports throughout the school year. The fall season is complete, and Wake County schools have received three state championships. They are:

- Leesville High School won the Girls' Golf State Championship for the second year in a row.
- Apex High School won the Boys' Soccer State Championship.
- Sanderson High School Cheerleaders won the State Championship.

Resolutions for each school recognizing this accomplishment will be presented to the head coaches for each of the respective teams. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: For recognition only.

Patti Head introduced Bobby Guthrie for the recognition of the three Wake County schools that have won NCHSAA Fall State Championships. Before Mr. Guthrie began the presentations, Superintendent McNeal commended and congratulated the high schools, the athletes, and the coaches for their accomplishments. Mr. Guthrie recognized the high schools and the student athletes in the order in

which the championships occurred: Leesville High School's Girl's Golf, Sanderson High School Cheerleaders, and Apex High School's Boys' Soccer. He read the resolutions of athletic accomplishment for each of these respective teams and presented the resolutions to the head coaches. Mr. Guthrie congratulated all of these student athletes on their outstanding accomplishments. Patti Head expressed thanks to Ron Margiotta for his encouragement in having these athletic recognitions, which will be continued for each season. Ms. Head thanked the student athletes for coming and shared her pride in what they represent as student athletes – they are both academically sound and physically sound and represent the best of the best. Ron Margiotta complimented all the student athletes for their achievements. The student athletes were given a standing ovation from the audience. Ms. Head thanked Bobby Guthrie for arranging this recognition.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Carol Parker made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add the consideration of suspension of Policy 2120 (policy governing the superintendent search) and also add to consider employment of a superintendent search consultant to the Action Agenda following Closed Session.

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

CONSENT ITEMS

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2005 – Committee of the Whole

December 6, 2005 – Open Meeting

December 6, 2005 – Closed Session

November 17 and 18, 2005 – Board Quarterly Planning Meeting

November 9, 2005 – Human Resources Committee

November 7, 2005 – Finance Committee

September 14, 2005 – Instructional Program Committee

PROGRAM

1. BROUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL TRIP TO COMPIEGNE, FRANCE

- Students participating will be representative of grades 10-12.
- Approximately 20 students will participate and 2 chaperones.
- Students will depart from RDU on Tuesday, March 21, and return on Tuesday, April 4, 2006. Only five days of school will be missed as this is over Spring break.
- This trip is part of a French Exchange Program. The students will live with French families, go to school, and see historic sites.

Fiscal Implications: The cost per student will be approximately \$600.00. The total cost will be approximately \$12,000.00. Scholarship funds are available to those unable to pay and students have held fundraisers for two years to offset the cost. Recommendation for Action: This item is recommended for consent.

2. DANIELS MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIP TO TOYKO AND SHIWA TOWN, JAPAN

- Students participating will be representative of grade eight.
- Approximately eight students will participate and two chaperones.
- Students will depart from RDU on Thursday, June 15 and return on Friday, June 23, 2006. No school will be missed as this is over the summer break.

- The purpose of this trip is to continue a three-year exchange with Shiwa Town Jr. High school to compare and contrast school cultures and to promote the intercultural awareness goal of the International Baccalaureate Programme.
- Participants are selected in an application process.

Fiscal Implications: The cost per student will be approximately \$2,800.00. The total cost will be approximately \$22,400.00. The PTA will contribute \$2500.00 for financial assistance and parents will organize a fundraiser to defray the cost of the trip. Recommendation for Action: This item is recommended for consent.

3. GRANT PROPOSALS

1. Competitive (#1009): Students Fueling the Future/Salem Middle School.
2. Competitive (#1014): Captain Planet Foundation/Pleasant Union Elementary School.
3. Competitive (#1016): Lowes Outdoor Classroom/Pleasant Union Elementary School.

Fiscal Implications: Any required cash and/or in-kind matching contributions vary by grant program. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

4. PARTICIPATION OF WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM WITH WAKE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP IN THE ASSET (ASSURING STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH EMPOWERING TEACHERS) INITIATIVE.

Wake Education Partnership and Wake Leadership Academy are collaborating with the Center for Teaching Quality, the Education Foundation for the Orange County Schools, and the Orange County Schools in a three-year initiative to reduce teacher turnover through the adoption of distributive leadership practices (development of teacher leadership). Four middle schools from WCPSS (Daniels, East Garner, North Garner, and Zebulon) would participate in year 1, joining two middle schools in Orange County. This initiative is funded by a grant from the Wachovia Foundation. Fiscal Implications: There are no new local funds required. \$18,000.00 will be provided to the four schools for substitutes and/or training materials. Recommendation for Action: Staff is requesting Board approval.

FACILITIES

1. UTILITY EASEMENT - BRIER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CENTER

In order to provide electrical service to Brier Creek Elementary School and Community Center property, Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., requires 10-foot easement within which to construct, maintain, and operate electric and/or communication facilities consisting of poles, cables, wires, underground conduits, enclosures and other pertinent facilities. The requested easement will not interfere with the Wake County Public School System's present or future use of the property. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

2. WATERMAIN EASEMENT: WEST LAKE MIDDLE

The Town of Cary requires that portion of the permanent water main easement be relocated on the West Lake Middle School campus. The purpose of the relocation of the easement is to revise the easement location to reflect the "as-built" location of the water lines that were installed outside of the original easement location. A copy of the plat is attached which indicates the areas of change. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval of the relocation of the permanent watermain easement at West Lake Middle.

3. THREE PARTY RIGHT OF WAY ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT: WAKELON ELEMENTARY (E15)

Wake County Public School System desires to encroach on the right of way of the public road designated as SR 2337 (Pippin Road), in a location approximately 900 linear feet north of the intersection of Zebulon Road (NC 96) and Pippin road (SR 2337) for the purpose of installation of a 12 inch water line under Pippin Road (bore and jack) and installation of a 12" x 12" tapping sleeve and valve to tap into the water main operated by the Town of Zebulon for provision of water service to Wakelon Elementary.

This three party right of way encroachment agreement is between the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Wake County Public School System and the Town of Zebulon. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

4. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WAKELON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PARK FACILITIES AT WAKELON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WCPSS has fee simple title to approximately 34.72 acres of land located on Pippin Road near the intersection of Pippin Road and Zebulon Highway, Zebulon, NC. The County and Town desire to contribute funding for recreational improvements not included in the standard elementary school program (i.e., additional multipurpose fields, shelter, additional play areas and hard courts. This agreement for the joint development is for a period of 25 years. Fiscal Implications: None. Town will maintain the recreational improvements not included in the standard elementary school program in accordance to the Level 4 Joint Use Agreement executed on October 13, 2005. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

5. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: HARRIS CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PARK FACILITIES

WCPSS has fee simple title to approximately 25.68 acres of land located on Forestville Road south of Mitchell Mill Road identified at Wake County PIN #1747.03 43 4096. Construction of the new Harris Creek Elementary School includes recreational improvements not included in the standard elementary school program. Funding for these improvements is being provided by Wake County and includes an irrigated multipurpose field, 44 additional parking spaces, picnic shelter, walking track, tot-lot and playground, associated infrastructure and landscaping improvements. This agreement for the joint development is for a period of 25 years. Fiscal Implications: Board agrees to maintain the recreational improvements constructed during the initial construction of the site not included in the standard elementary school program (i.e., irrigated multipurpose field, 44 additional parking spaces along the bus loop, associated infrastructure and landscaping improvements). Maintenance of future improvements is to be negotiated. Recommendation for Action: Board approval requested.

6. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: 2008-OPENING ELEMENTARY WITH PEARCE, BRINKLEY, CEASE & LEE, PA

The next school building program includes the construction of a new 2008-opening elementary school with school designation to be determined. Once the land is purchased, a designation will be assigned. Negotiations have been completed with Pearce, Brinkley, Cease and Lee, P.A., for the reuse of the prototype used at E-13 elementary (Jones Sausage Road). This is the first reuse of this prototype. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney for use with Construction Management At Risk projects. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately \$25,000,000, of which \$745,000 is currently available from the Start-Up component of the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$726,500. The design consultant is only authorized to provide services through construction documents, including design narrative, schematic design, and construction documents. Thus, this agreement is for \$363,250. The remaining amount will be authorized after passage of the next building program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

7. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AGREEMENT: 2008-OPENING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WITH BARNHILL CONTRACTING COMPANY

The next school building program includes the construction of a new 2008-opening elementary school with school designation to be determined. Once the land is purchased, a designation will be assigned. Negotiations have been completed with Barnhill Contracting Company for the construction management of this project. The form of agreement for Construction Management At Risk, previously reviewed and approved by the Board, is modified to address fee clarification and other minor corrections. Barnhill Contracting Company will construct the Pearce, Brinkley, Cease and Lee, PA, prototype for this 2008-

opening elementary school. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed project budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The current estimated budget is approximately \$25,000,000, of which \$745,000 is currently available from the Start Up component of the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the Construction Manager of \$106,000 for pre-construction basic services and 3.5% of the construction cost for the construction management fee. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

8. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: 2008-OPENING ELEMENTARY WITH CHERRY HUFFMAN ARCHITECTS, PA

The next school building program includes the construction of a new 2008-opening elementary school with school designation to be determined. Once the land is purchased, a designation will be assigned. Negotiations have been completed with Cherry Huffman Architects, PA, for the reuse of the prototype used at E-15 and E-18 Elementary Schools. This is an expanded version of the Holly Grove Elementary prototype. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney for use with Construction Management At Risk Projects. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately 25,000,000, of which \$745,000 is currently available from the Start Up component of the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$720,500. The design consultant is only authorized to provide services through construction documents, including design narrative, schematic design, and construction documents. Thus, this agreement is for \$360,250. The remaining amount will be authorized after passage of the next building program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

9. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AGREEMENT: 2008-OPENING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WITH CLANCY & THEYS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

The next school building program includes the construction of a new 2008-opening elementary school with school designation to be determined. Once the land is purchased, a designation will be assigned. Negotiations have been completed with Clancy & Theys Construction Company for the construction management of this project. The form of agreement for Construction Management At Risk, previously reviewed and approved by the Board, is modified to address fee clarification and other minor corrections. Clancy & Theys will construct the Cherry Huffman Architects, P.A., prototype for this 2008-opening elementary school. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed project budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately \$25,000,000, of which \$745,000 is currently available from the Start-Up component of the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the Construction Manager of \$80,000 for pre-construction basic services and 3.5% of the construction cost for the construction management fee. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

10. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: 2008-OPENING ELEMENTARY WITH SMALL KANE ARCHITECTS, P.A.

The next school building program includes the construction of a new 2008-opening elementary school with school designation to be determined. Once the land is purchased, a designation will be assigned. Negotiations have been completed with Small Kane Architects, P.A., for the reuse of the prototype used at Harris Creek. This is the fifth reuse of this prototype. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately 25,000,000, of which \$745,000 is currently available from the Start-Up component of the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$710,759. The design consultant is only authorized to provide services through construction documents, including design

narrative, schematic design, and construction documents. Thus, this agreement is for \$355,380. The remaining amount will be authorized after passage of the next building program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

11. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AGREEMENT: HERITAGE HIGH (H-2)

The next building program includes the construction of Heritage High (H-2). Negotiations have been completed with Heery International, PC, and DH Griffin Construction, LLC, Joint Venture for the construction management of this project. The form of agreement for Construction Management At Risk, previously reviewed and approved by the Board, is modified to address fee clarification and other minor corrections. Heery International, PC, and DH Griffin Construction, LLC, Joint Venture will construct the LS3P/Boney high school prototype for Heritage High (H-2) opening in 2009. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately \$63,000,000, of which \$1,564,638 is available from PLAN 2000 Start-Up funds and \$2,025,346 is from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the Construction Manager of \$250,000 for pre-construction basic services and 3.25% of the construction cost for the construction management fee. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

12. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: WENDELL MIDDLE (M-5)

The next school building program includes the construction of a new middle school located adjacent to on the site serving as the temporary location of Wakelon Elementary, in Wendell. Negotiations have been completed with Cherry Huffman Architects, P.A., for the reuse of the prototype most recently used at Salem Middle. This is the 4th reuse of this prototype. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The estimated current budget is approximately \$32,000,000, of which \$1,548,373 is currently available from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remainder of the funding will come from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$1,392,981. The design consultant is only authorized to provide services through construction documents, including design narrative, schematic design, and construction documents. Thus, this agreement is for \$696,491. The remaining amount will be authorized after passage of the next building program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

13. DESIGN CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: LYNN ROAD ELEMENTARY

The next building program includes the construction of an addition and renovations to the Lynn Road elementary school. Negotiations have been completed with Skinner Lamm & Highsmith Architects, for the design of this project. The form of agreement is the standard form approved by the Board attorney. Fiscal Implications: The total proposed budget will be determined with the development of the next building program. The current estimated budget is approximately \$19,000,000, of which \$1,206,943 is currently available from the PLAN 2004 School Building Program. The remaining funds will be provided from the next building program. The total project budget includes proposed compensation for the design consultant of \$1,205,808. A separate agreement for the Design Narrative in the amount of \$40,000 has already been issued. The design consultant is only authorized to provide services through construction documents, including design narrative, schematic design, and construction documents. Thus, this agreement is for \$698,275. The remaining amount will be authorized after passage of the next building program. Recommendation for Action: Board approval is requested.

FINANCE

1. GIFTS TO THE SYSTEM (Exhibit A)

Thirty-six gifts have been donated to the Wake County Public School System. The approximate value of the gifts is \$41,600.58. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable.

2. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION APPROVED CONTRACTS (Exhibit B)

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 November 2005. Fiscal Implications: Not applicable.

3. ANNUAL RENEWAL OF ORACLE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Original purchase of Oracle business applications was approved by the Board in November 1998 following a resolution approved by the County Commissioners. The first three years of technical support were financed over a three-year term. Beginning with the fourth year of support, renewal has been carried to the Board on an annual basis for approval. Renewal for Year 8 to extend support through November 19, 2006 is due. Support consists of updates and patches as well as telephone and other support services. This year's renewal fee is \$309,459.14, which is a 3% increase over last year's fee. Fiscal Implications: Amount of this year's renewal is \$309,459.14. Funding for contracted services was identified and planned for in the Technology Services 2005-06 current expense budget.

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's approval is requested.

The Board approved the following nominations:

Cindy K. Collins, Wilburn Elementary School, District 4

Tausha Dorsey, Bugg Elementary School, District 4

Tracey Dorsey, Carnage Middle School, District 4

Michelle Armistead, Powell Elementary School, District 4

Jonica Rowland, At Large Member, District 4

Julie Osman, Fuller Elementary School, District 4

Cynthia Brown, Longview School, District 4

Julie Phipps, At Large Member, District 4

Wayne Starnes, Southeast Raleigh High School, District 4

Karen Kuhns, At Large Member, District 4

Linda Gunn-Jones, Enloe High School, District 4

Tami Purdue, Poe Elementary School, District 4

Amy Jones, Ligon Middle School, District 4

Donna & Andre Peek, Conn Elementary School, District 4

Janie Johnson, Athens Drive High School, District 5

COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

Finance Committee

Carol Parker reported that the Finance Committee met on December 13. The committee received an audit report from Summerford Accountancy. In addition to information shared previously by Ms. Head, the committee discussed the seven billing categories in the first monthly billing statement from Summerford. The next topic discussed at the meeting was an audit committee, which, if formed, would be made up of individuals outside of the school system, the Board of Education, and may include some individuals within the school system. The audit committee would look at the results of the financial audit and the special purpose audit. Before any decision is made, the committee will hear a presentation by Greg Allison from the UNC School of Government at the next committee meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for January 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Facilities Committee

Lori Millberg reported that the Facilities Committee met on December 13. County Manager, David Cooke, and Johnna Rogers gave a presentation regarding the county financing situation and looking forward to the upcoming bond. This presentation will be made to the entire Board at the joint meeting on January 18. There was discussion at the meeting of short-term crowding solutions, in particular, the use of ninth grade centers to relieve overcrowding. There was further discussion of the five scenarios in planning for the upcoming bond referendum as well as discussion regarding the structure of contracts for real estate support services.

Instructional Program Committee

The Instructional Program Committee met on December 14. Beverley Clark reported that much of the discussion with staff focused on the challenge of over-age middle school students and how to develop programs for these students who have been retained for one or more years in order to help them accelerate and get back on track. Staff was asked to come up with more specific proposals using the input shared at the meeting.

Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee did not have a meeting this month, but Rosa Gill reported that they did have a “Human Resources 101” for new Board members.

Policy Committee

Susan Parry reported that the Policy Committee met on December 13 and discussed several policies. Toni Patterson brought a new Reduction in Force Policy revision that was discussed and will not appear on the Board agenda until the January meeting. There was also discussion of a new policy, Policy 7155, which is a bus idling policy. This policy is on tonight’s agenda for first reading with a request for waiver of second reading. Ms. Parry reported on two additional policies the committee, as well as a group of principals, have been working on – Policies 2420 and 2701. These policies deal with the distribution of materials, both to students and to employees. There has been a great deal of discussion and input regarding these two policies, and both of these policies will come to the Board tonight for first reading.

Community Relations Committee

The committee did not meet in December, but will be meeting in January.

ACTION ITEMS

POLICY

1. POLICY 2420: DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY NON-STUDENTS

Revised, First Reading

A new number “3” has been added to include information about the Superintendent being able to develop rules and procedures that will allow for limited distribution to students of materials that address activities or events primarily for school age children or which directly support the school program. The policy was revised with the guidance of Ann Majestic and the assistance of a group of principals. It was approved by the Policy Committee on November 8, 2005. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve, seconded by Carol Parker. Danny Barnes gave an overview of the policy and introduced Ann Majestic for her presentation to the Board. Ms. Majestic provided a handout of the R&P for informational purposes and discussed the reasons for the revision to this policy. Ms. Majestic then shared the overall structure of the revision and answered questions from the Board. The vote was unanimous.

2. **POLICY 2701: USE OF EMPLOYEE MAILBOXES RESTRICTED**

Revised, First Reading

The policy has been revised to provide principals with specific criteria regarding which items can be placed in employee mailboxes. The policy was revised with the guidance of Ann Majestic and the assistance of a group of principals. It was approved by the Policy Committee on November 8, 2005. Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Carol Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Rosa Gill. Danny Barnes gave an overview of the policy and introduced Ann Majestic who made a presentation to the Board. The vote was unanimous.

3. **POLICY 2208/3800/4800: BENEFITS AND EMPLOYMENT**

Revised, First Reading (Waiver of Second Reading Requested)

- 1) In conjunction with the implementation of a Workers' Compensation Return to Work Program, it was necessary to expand the current Workers' Compensation Supplement policy (§9.2.8) to include a provision allowing the Superintendent to develop procedures for returning employees to work.
- 2) Minor changes have been made to the Title Page, Table of Contents, and §20 Excessive Absenteeism in order to align with revisions made by DPI to the *Benefits and Employment Manual* as well as the school system's current technological trends to access information on-line.

Fiscal Implications: None. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Carol Parker made a motion to approve, seconded by Rosa Gill. Maurice Boswell made a presentation to the Board, and Mark Winters gave an update on the Self-insured Workers' Compensation Program. Self-insurance has saved the school system \$400,000 over the last three years. The vote was unanimous.

4. **POLICY 7155: SCHOOL BUS IDLING**

New, First Reading (Request Waiver of Second Reading Requested)

The policy is recommended to eliminate unnecessary idling of school buses and activity buses in an effort to reduce harmful pollutants and conserve financial resources. Fiscal Implications: DPI has advised that supplemental transportation funding will be available only to those LEAs that have a "no idling" policy in place. Recommendation for Action: Staff requests Board approval.

Beverly Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Rosa Gill. Don Haydon made a presentation to the Board. Beverly Clark voiced her praise and support of this policy. Eddy Adams elaborated on steps that have been taken to reduce bus emissions and reported that all yellow school buses use diesel fuel. The vote was unanimous.

Before going into Closed Session, Patti Head wished everyone a happy holiday season.

CLOSED SESSION

Rosa Gill made a motion to go into Closed Session at 5:27 p.m. to consider confidential personnel information protected under G.S. 115C-319; to consider confidential student information protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and G.S. 115C-402; and to preserve the attorney-client privilege pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3). The motion was seconded by Carol Parker. The vote was unanimous.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:05 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS (contd.)

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFERS

The following are the administrative transfers:

- Vicki Y. Brown, principal at Jeffreys Grove Elementary School, to principal at Carpenter Elementary School, effective date February 1, 2006.
- William H. Crockett, Jr., principal at Holly Ridge Middle School, to principal at Athens Drive High School, effective date January 1, 2006.
- Isobel (Gig) Harris, principal at Sough Elementary School, to principal at Brier Creek Elementary School, effective date February 1, 2006.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

Rosa Gill made a motion to approve the administrative appointment of Scott Scheuer, assistant principal at Lead Mine Elementary School, to principal at Baileywick Elementary School, effective date January 9, 2006; and Chuck Dulaney, Senior Director for Evaluation and Research, to Assistant Superintendent for Growth and Facility Planning, effective date to be determined. The motion was seconded by Susan Parry. The vote was unanimous.

Rosa Gill made a motion to recess Open Session at 7:15 p.m. to return to Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Lori Millberg. The vote was unanimous.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:10 p.m. Upon returning to Open Session, the Board noted that it would follow existing Board policy and proceed with an internal search for superintendent candidates. On a motion from Susan Parry, seconded by Eleanor Goettee, the Board unanimously agreed to employ NCSBA to manage the superintendent search process. The Board agreed to ask NCSBA to attend the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 3 to begin the process.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Rosa Gill, seconded by Beverley Clark. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Upton, Recording Secretary

Bill McNeal, Superintendent, WCPSS

Patti Head, Chair, Wake County Board of Education