

Charlotte, North Carolina
May 23, 2000

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on May 23, 2000 at 6:15 p.m. in the O.J. Miller Auditorium at Duke Energy, 536 South Church Street in Charlotte. The meeting followed the Student Achievement Celebration at Ericsson Stadium. It was not televised.

PRESENT: Arthur Griffin, Jr., Chairperson;
John W. Lassiter, Vice Chairperson;
Wilhelmenia I. Rembert, Member at Large
James H. Puckett (District 1); Vilma D. Leake (District 2);
George Dunlap (District 3); Molly Griffin (District 4);
Louise Woods (District 5); and Lindalyn Kakadelis (District 6)

ABSENT: No Board member was absent.

Also present at the request of the Board were Eric J. Smith, Superintendent; James L. Pughsley, Deputy Superintendent; Frances Haithcock, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services; Greg Clemmer, Associate Superintendent for Operations; other members of the Senior Staff; Leslie Winner, General Counsel to the Board; and Carol K. Gerber, Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Griffin, presiding, called the meeting to order and led the Board members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED 06/13/00

PRESENTATION ON ANNUAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT BY CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Tom Bradbury, president of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Education Foundation, presented to the Board the findings of the Foundation's 6th Annual Community Assessment, a survey conducted by KPC Research of 1,245 registered voters in March this year. He highlighted the results as follows:

- Of five issues investigated, education is the most important local issue, but there also appears to be a gap between support for public schools and support of the necessary funding for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.
- CMS gets a grade of "C."
- Parents report that communication is okay between schools and parents.
- There is high confidence in teachers, principals, and the Superintendent but much less in the School Board of Board of County Commissioners.
- The teaching profession is valued.
- There is strong support for equity and diversity.
- The community is polarized over student assignment.
- Understanding of vouchers, charter schools, and the new no-social-promotion policy is minimal.
- Voters strongly support community involvement in schools.

Speaking for the Foundation's Board of Directors, Mr. Bradbury said that the Board of Education must adopt a student assignment plan, and that if a mediator is needed to achieve consensus, then the Board ought to get one. He also said that full funding is necessary for CMS success.

ACTION ITEMS

PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENTS APPROVED

Dr. Smith announced the following transfers for certain CMS principals, noting that such transfers do not require Board approval:

Dr. M. Thomas Bridges, presently principal of Statesville Road Elementary, named principal at **Clear Creek Elementary**.

Lolita Carolyn Turner, presently principal at Beverly Woods Elementary, named principal at **Statesville Road Elementary**.

Nancy R. Hicks, presently principal at Nathaniel Alexander Elementary, named principal at **Beverly Woods Elementary**.

Dolores Saltrick, presently principal at Lincoln Heights Elementary School, named principal at **Nathaniel Alexander Elementary**.

Pamela Brown, presently principal at Reid Park Elementary, named principal at **Oaklawn Elementary**.

Mary Louise Jones, presently principal at J.T. Williams Middle, named principal at **Davidson IB Middle School**.

On motion by Mr. Dunlap, seconded by Dr. Rembert, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of eight principals, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Bonnie G. Schmidt was appointed principal at **Tryon Hills Elementary**. Presently an assistant principal at Devonshire Elementary, Ms. Schmidt has an Ed. S. in Educational Administration from Boston College.

Dekota G. McCullough was appointed principal at **Reid Park Elementary**. Presently an assistant principal at Coulwood Middle, Ms. McCullough has an M.Ed. in Administration from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Christine C. Vandiver-Tate was appointed principal at **David Cox Elementary School**, Presently an assistant principal at Nathaniel Alexander Elementary, Ms. Vandiver-Tate has an M. A. in Educational Leadership from East Carolina University.

Megan T. Thompson was appointed principal at **Lansdowne Elementary School**. Presently acting principal at Lansdowne Elementary School where she formerly was assistant principal and a teacher, has an M.S. Degree in Early Childhood from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Betty M. Cooper was appointed principal at **Westerly Hills Elementary School**. Presently at member of the State Assistance Team, she was formerly principal at Huntersville Elementary. Ms. Cooper has a Masters in Counseling from Winthrop College.

Bobby E. Bailey was appointed principal at **J.T. Williams Middle School**. Presently principal at Hattiesburg Middle in the Hattiesburg Public School District, Hattiesburg, MS, Mr. Bailey has an M. Ed. in Educational Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Homer L. Townsend was appointed principal at **Martin Middle School**. Presently principal at Flagstaff Middle School, Flagstaff Unified School District,

Flagstaff, AZ, Mr. Townsend has an M.A. in Elementary Education from Northern Arizona University.

SYSTEM INTEGRATOR FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAWSON SOFTWARE FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVED

Dr. Smith called upon Rick Rozzelle, Chief Information Officer, to explain the proposed business technology systems integration. Mr. Rozzelle said that the selection process had been reviewed by consultant, Arthur Andersen LLP, CPAs. His power point presentation included the following points:

Definition of System Integration Services

- Reengineering business processes and practices to best use the capabilities of the software
- Change management support (communications, departmental restructuring, role clarification)
- Training on new business processes
- Software customizations and installation

Mr. Rozzelle said that the need for new business technology was dire.

Review of Problems with Existing Business Technology

- 25-year-old applications (general ledger)
- Current Financial systems cannot support NC DDPI data requirements next year
- No vendor support
- No HR/ Payroll/Budget/Purchasing/Accounts Payable automatic interfaces
- Double and triple entry of data
- Long requisition cycle time
- Productive time lost tracking requisitions
- Paper-intensive employment process
- No applicant tracking system for non-instructional applicants
- Employment cycle time loses good teacher candidates.
- 83 school offices still use 1980s technology
- Historical data extraction is typically from file cabinets, not computer screens.

Preparations of the Business Technology Project: The following efforts position CMS to be able to replace our business technology:

- Year 2000 efforts successfully completed
- Connection of all schools to the WAN
- New data cabling for all school offices
- New computers and software for school offices
- Training in the use of Windows, Internet e-mail and Microsoft Office
- Intranet services

Selection Process

- Formed a selection team to assess system integration vendors
- Developed RFP using the Lawson RFP response
- Issued RFP to over 50 software integrators
- Received responses from seven vendors
- Narrowed the selection to three finalists – Deloitte & Touch, IBM/Balrae and The Revere Group
- Attended a half-day presentation by each finalist
- Requested and received best and final offers

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- Performed a reference check for each finalist
- Each vendor rated according to strength of the team proposed; implementation plan; vendor references and viability; cost of integration;
- Successful Lawson software experience and a commitment to the K-12 sector added weight to scores
- Arthur Andersen Consulting reviewed the selection process and tools (not content of RFPs)

Conclusions

The team of IBM/Balrae scored the highest in strength of team, implementation plan and lowest projected implementation cost and is recommended to be the systems integrator for the Lawson implementation for CMS

IBM/Balrae Strengths

- More than 150 Lawson engagements
- More than 200 certified Lawson consultants
- Each consultant has an average of 4.2 engagements
- Six of the proposed team members have implemented Lawson in a K-12 environment
- Proposed team has a total of 54 years Lawson experience and 30 years of K-12

Next Steps

- Final purchase of Lawson software
- Contract negotiations with IBM/Balrae
- Core team training for Lawson
- Relocate project team to Walton Plaza
- Bring in systems integrators by July 2000
- Project duration projected to be 19.5 months

On motion by Dr. Rembert, seconded by Mr. Lassiter, the Board voted unanimously to grant the Superintendent authority to proceed with contract negotiations with IBM/Balrae to perform systems integration services for CMS's implementation of Lawson.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING MADE BY AND AMONG MECKLENBURG COUNTY, THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG GOVERNMENT DISTRICT JOINT FACILITIES MASTER PLAN STUDY 2000-2020 APPROVED

Dr. Smith explained that the draft Memorandum of Understanding would provide agreement among the three elected bodies to proceed with a study of downtown office space in order to look to future needs and eventual restructuring of space. This is part of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Joint Government District Facilities Master Plan 2000-2020. CMS's share of the expense would be \$135,000 from the 1999-2000 Current Expense Budget.

Mr. Griffin expressed the hope that the Board of Education would get appropriate reports at appropriate intervals and have meaningful input in the Master Plan 2010.

Mr. Dunlap asked if CMS had been consulted about the selection of the consultant. Dr. Smith responded, "No."

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Mr. Lassiter moved to amend the Memorandum of Understanding by adding the following statement after the first sentence in paragraph 2:

FreemanWhite, Inc. will consult with and report to the Board of Education at appropriate intervals during the term of the contract to determine the Board of Education's space needs and to obtain the views of the Board of Education concerning the Master Plan.

Dr. Rembert seconded the amendment, and the Board voted unanimously to add the statement to the originally proposed document.

On motion by Mr. Lassiter, seconded by Dr. Rembert, the Board voted 8 to 1 to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding, as amended, made by and among Mecklenburg County, the City of Charlotte, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education regarding the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Joint Government District Facilities Master Plan 2000-2020. Voting for the motion were Mr. Lassiter, Dr. Rembert, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Puckett, Dr. Leake, Ms. Woods, Ms. Molly Griffin, and Ms. Kakadelis. Mr. Dunlap voted against the motion. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is on file in the Office of the Board of Education.

CONSENT ITEMS APPROVED IN ONE MOTION

On motion by Mr. Lassiter, seconded by Dr. Leake, the Board voted unanimously to approve in one motion items III. A. – L. on the Consent Agenda:

A. APPROVED MINUTES

The Board approved minutes from the April 10, 2000 Dinner with the Mecklenburg Legislative Delegation.

B. CONSTRUCTION ITEMS APPROVED

B. 1. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR SEDGEFIELD MIDDLE APPROVED

The Board approved construction contracts for Sedgefield Middle School to provide renovations and additions to the existing facility within the administrative offices; the Cafeteria and the Media Center will be expanded. Improvements will be made to the fire alarm system, public address system, and the mechanical system.

General Contractor:	Test & Wirth		
	Base Bid	\$1,099,000	
	Recommended Award		\$1,099,000

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Construction Contracts for Sedgefield Middle School continued:

Plumbing Contractor:	Cam-Ful Industries, Inc.		
	Base Bid	132,900	
	Recommended Award		132,900
Mechanical Contractor:	Action Mechanical		
	Base Bid	459,000	
	Recommended Award		459,000
Electrical Contractor:	W.E.G.Electric		
	Base Bid	293,700	
	Recommended Award		<u>293,700</u>
Total Recommended Award			<u>\$1,984,600</u>

Alternatives to be accepted if there are funds remaining in the project budget:

A1: Renovation of Classroom Building #6	\$ 93,600
A2: Renovation of Classroom Building #1,2,& 8	179,900
A3: Renovation of two operable wall panels	27,000
A4: Renovation of Upper Admin Building #4	144,250
A5: Planting around Media Center	7,000
A6: Unit Heater Replacement	40,500
A7: Renovation of Basement storage	10,000

Budget

<u>Use of Funds</u>	
Recommended Award	\$1,984,600
Designer's Fee	136,586
Program Manager's Fee	240,000
FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities	<u>1,197,520</u>
Total Use	<u>\$3,558,706</u>

<u>Source of Funds</u>	
1997 Bonds	\$2,114,000
1997 Plumbing Renovation	842,000
1996 HVAC Replacement	<u>602,706</u>
Total Source	<u>\$3,558,706</u>

B. 2. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR LANSDOWNE ELEMENTARY APPROVED

The Board approved construction contracts for Lansdowne Elementary School to provide renovations and additions to the existing facility including HVAC system improvements, Cafeteria and Media Center additions, and renovations of the plumbing system.

General Contractor:	J.D. Goodrum		
	Base Bid	\$1,582,000	
	Recommended Award		\$1,582,000

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Plumbing Contractor:	Cam-Ful Industries, Inc.		
	Base Bid	668,600	
	Recommended Award		668,600
Mechanical Contractor:	Cam-Ful Industries, Inc.		
	Base Bid	248,640	
	Recommended Award		248,640
Electrical Contractor:	Republic Electric		
	Base Bid	436,600	
	Recommended Award		<u>436,600</u>
Total Recommended Award			<u>\$2,935,840</u>

Alternatives to be accepted if there are funds remaining in the project budget:

A1: 20-Year Roof Warranty	\$ 2,800
A2: Renovation of Classroom Building #1,2,& 8	86,300
A3: Masonry Screen Wall	25,000
A4: Site Fencing	46,000
A5: Bekert Fencing	65,000
A6: Bookshelves	39,000
A7: Paving Lots 3 and 4	6,000
M1: Replace Gym Dx	4,000

Budget

Use of Funds

Recommended Award	\$2,935,840	
Designer's Fee	264,000	
Program Manager's Fee	223,783	
FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities	<u>1,113,751</u>	
Total Use		<u>\$4,537,374</u>

Source of Funds

1996 Bonds	<u>\$4,537,374</u>	
Total Source		<u>\$4,537,374</u>

B. 3. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR MYERS PARK HIGH SCHOOL APPROVED

The Board approved construction contracts for Myers Park High School to provide for new vehicular parking, additional classrooms, a new administrative area, and moving services to accommodate the planned capital improvements. Renovations will include upgrading the existing site water supply, kitchen/cafeteria area, administrative area and media center. Upgrades will be made to the electrical, lighting, and fire alarm.

General Contractor:	Liles Construction Company, Inc.		
	Base Bid	\$3,449,900	
	Alternate #1	<u>(9,301)</u>	
	Recommended Award		\$3,440,599

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Plumbing Contractor:	Cam-Ful Industries, Inc.		
	Base Bid	406,400	
	Recommended Award		406,400
Mechanical Contractor:	Cam-Ful Industries, Inc.		
	Base Bid	1,029,600	
	Recommended Award		1,029,600
Electrical Contractor:	ANECO Inc.		
	Base Bid	858,000	
	Alternate #3	<u>10,000</u>	
	Recommended Award		<u>868,000</u>
	Total Recommended Award		<u>\$5,770,959</u>

Alternatives to be accepted if there are funds remaining in the project budget:

A1: Stone veneer in lieu of rock-face CMU veneer on new building

A2: VCT in lieu of terrazzo in new building

A3: Provide fire alarm system manufacturer identified in Section 16720

Budget

Use of Funds

Recommended Award	\$5,770,959	
Remaining Construction Budget	4,700,502	
Designer's Fee	969,600	
Program Manager's Fee	736,291	
FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities	<u>2,051,505</u>	
Total Use		<u>\$14,228,857</u>

Source of Funds

1997 Bonds	\$6,891,000	
1997 Inadequate Facilities	5,137,858	
1997 Plumbing Replacement	<u>2,200,000</u>	
Total Source		<u>\$14,228,857</u>

B. 4. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR NORTH MECKLENBURG HIGH SCHOOL APPROVED

The Board approved two construction contracts for North Mecklenburg High School, with scope as follows:

To replace floor finishes in Buildings A, B and C. Also included will be Building H bathroom upgrades, plumbing replacements, partial HVAC replacements, general renovation of floor finishes, window replacements, and painting.

Construction contracts for North Mecklenburg High continued:

Contractor: LeChase Construction Services
 Recommended Award \$322,300

The following contract will provide services for the purchase and installation of student hall lockers.

Contractor: Lyon Metal Products.
 Recommended Award 27,600
 Total Recommended Award \$349,900

Budget

Use of Funds
 Recommended Award \$ 349,900
 Remaining Construction Budget 3,728,396
 Designer's Fee 474,000
 Program Manager's Fee 379,419
 FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities 1,273,285
Total Use \$6,205,000

Source of Funds
 1997 Bonds \$6,205,000
Total Source \$6,205,000

B. 5. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR DRUID HILLS ELEMENTARY APPROVED

The Board approved a construction contract for \$605,788 with Southern Engineering, the lowest bidder, to construct the structural steel building shell frame at Druid Hills Elementary. Total budget for the project is as follows:

Use of Funds
 Recommended Award \$ 605,788
 Remaining Construction Budget 8,902,181
 Designer's Fee 514,617
 Program Manager's Fee 676,551
 FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities 1,307,863
Total Use \$12,007,000

Source of Funds
 1996 Bonds \$ 1,700,000
 1997 Bonds 10,307,000
Total Source \$12,007,000

**B. 6. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR WESTERLY HILLS
ELEMENTARY APPROVED**

The Board approved a construction contract for \$28,833 with HM Hunter Company, the lowest bidder, to install a perimeter vinyl coated fence. The current budget for the entire project is as follows:

<u>Use of Funds</u>		
Recommended Award	\$28,833	
Remaining Construction Budget	833,830	
Designer's Fee	150,000	
Program Manager's Fee	112,055	
FF&E/Fees/Surveys/Utilities	<u>1,147,282</u>	
Total Use		<u>\$2,272,000</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>		
1997 Bonds	<u>\$2,272,000</u>	
Total Source		<u>\$2,272,000</u>

**B. 7. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR HVAC TESTING AND
BALANCING FOR VARIOUS SCHOOLS**

The Board approved construction contracts for HVAC testing and balancing for various school sites in the 1996/97 Capital Improvement Program. as follows:

Contractor:	Airion Associates		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	\$200,000	
	Recommended Award		\$200,000
Contractor:	Hall Technology		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	100,000	
	Recommended Award		100,000
Contractor:	Medley Service Co.		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	200,000	
	Recommended Award		200,000
Contractor:	Bohart Services Inc.		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	100,000	
	Recommended Award		100,000
Contractor:	HVAC Balancing and Commissioning		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	100,000	
	Recommended Award		100,000
Contractor:	TAB Services, Inc.		
	Unit Price Award – Not to exceed	<u>300,000</u>	
	Recommended Award		<u>300,000</u>
	Total Recommended Award		<u>\$1,000,000</u>

Total source of funding is 1996/97 Bonds.

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B. 8. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR SECURITY SYSTEMS AT INDEPENDENCE HIGH AND NORTH MECKLENBURG HIGH APPROVED

The Board approved a construction contract for \$319,747 with Grinnell Fire Protection, the lowest bidder to install video surveillance systems at Independence High School and North Mecklenburg High School.

Contractor:	Grinnell Fire Protection	
	Base Bid – Independence High	\$146,245
	Base Bid – North Mecklenburg High	158,200
	Alternate #2	2,500
	Alternate #3	<u>12,800</u>
	Total Recommended Award	<u>\$319,745</u>

Alternate #1: Furnish and install four rack-mounted 12GB DDS-3 tape archives.

Alternate #2: Provide a full two-year service agreement

Alternate #3: Furnish and install the nine cameras in the new Building E and the new crosswalk at Independence High

Source of funds is 1996 Bonds – Burglar Alarms.

B. 9. ADDITIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR DEVONSHIRE ELEMENTARY APPROVED

The Board approved a construction contract for \$73,100 with Bryant Baker Architect to provide design services for repairing the deteriorating brick on the existing exterior walls at Devonshire Elementary School. Source of funding is 1996 Bonds.

B. 10. MOVING SERVICES FOR RANSON MIDDLE AND WILSON MIDDLE APPROVED

The Board approved a contract with Sheer Management to provide moving services for Ranson Middle School, \$30,000, and Wilson Middle School, \$27,000, to accommodate the planned capital improvements. The total contract is \$57,000; the source of funding is 1996 Bonds.

B. 11. MOVING SERVICES FOR ALEXANDER GRAHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL APPROVED

The Board approved a contract for \$37,730 with Facility Resources to provide moving services to accommodate the planned capital improvements. Source of funds is 1997 Bonds.

B. 12. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT AND DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT IN CONSULTATION WITH BOARD CHAIRPERSON, OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON, TO AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AND ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES UNTIL THE NEXT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULED ON JUNE 13, 2000 APPROVED

The Board authorized the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent in consultation with the Board Chairperson, or, in his absence, the Vice Chairperson, to award construction contracts and additional construction services until the next Board of Education Meeting, scheduled for June 13, 2000. A copy of the authorization is on file in the Office of the Board of Education.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES FOR TENURE, NON-TENURE CONTRACTS, AND NON-RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS APPROVED

The Board approved various certified employees for tenure, non-tenure contracts, and non-renewal of contracts, as recommended by the Superintendent and in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, § 115C-325. The Career Status List was available in the Office of Human Resources for Board members to review prior to the Board Meeting.

D. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR MARCH & APRIL, 2000, APPROVED

The Board approved the Budget Amendments for March and April, 2000, as required by the FY 1999-2000 Budget Resolution, Section IV (A), (B) and (C), adopted August 24, 1999, a report of budget amendments to the Board Education on a monthly basis. A copy of the Budget Amendments is on file in the Finance Office.

E. CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCES AMENDMENTS FOR APRIL 2000 APPROVED

The Board approved the Capital Project Ordinance Amendments for March 2000, as required by NC. Public School Law §115C-443. A copy of the Capital Project Ordinance Amendments for April 2000 is on file in the Finance Office.

F. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR APRIL 2000 APPROVED

The Board approved the CMS Monthly Financial Statements, dated April 30, 2000, in accordance with §115C-436 of the North Carolina School Budget and

Fiscal Control Act. The statement included two graphs: one presenting General Fund cumulative revenue by month and the other presented General Fund expenditures as a percent of budget expended through the date of the statement. A copy of the April Financial Statement is on file in the Finance Office.

G. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SUPPLY SERVICES TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS SCHOOL VEHICLES ADOPTED

The Board adopted a Resolution authorizing the Director of Supply Services to dispose of surplus school property (vehicles) at a public auction.

Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Director of supply Services, according to N.C.G.S. §160A-270, to dispose of surplus school vehicles at a public auction.

RESOLVED, FURTHER that the sale of surplus school vehicles and mowing equipment be at the Mecklenburg county Auction on Saturday, June 24, 2000. The public auction shall be conducted according to the attached terms and conditions and shall only consist of the vehicles on the attached surplus property listing.

RESOLVED, FURTHER that the Finance Officer may delegate the authority to transfer titles for the vehicles to an appropriate agent of Mecklenburg County.

H. RESOLUTION FOR INTERIM APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2000-2001 ADOPTED

The Board adopted a Resolution authorizing the Finance Officer to continue paying salaries and the usual ordinary expenses in amounts not to exceed those set in the current budget until adoption of the FY 2000-01 Budget.

Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Finance Officer for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education be, and hereby is, authorized to continue paying salaries and the usual ordinary expenses in amounts not to exceed those set in the current budget. This authorization is to be effective from July 1, 2000, until adoption of a new budget resolution pursuant to N.C.G.S. §115C-434. Any such interim appropriations which are expended shall be charged to the proper appropriations in the 2000-01 budget upon adoption.

I. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING REQUEST FOR *WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT/CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG'S IN-SCHOOL YOUTH ACADEMY* APPROVED

The Board approved a supplementary funding request for *Workforce Investment Act/Charlotte-Mecklenburg's In-School Youth Academy*. This competitive grant from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Workforce Develop Board is for \$127,041. The grant would provide the In-School Youth Academy the continuity and coordination necessary to ensure that rising 9th graders will make successful transitions through graduation and into employment or post-secondary education. The proposal targets 500 rising freshman performing at Levels I or II in either or both of the 8th grade Language and/or Math End-of-Grade Tests. Participating will be five Equity Plus II high schools: Garinger, Independence, Olympic, West Charlotte, and West Mecklenburg. The grant would begin July 1, 2000 and run through June 30, 2001.

J. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING REQUEST FOR *MIDDLE SCHOOL DRUG PREVENTION AND SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM COORDINATORS PROGRAM* APPROVED

The Board approved a supplementary funding request for *Middle School Drug Prevention and School Safety Program Coordinators Program*. This competitive grant from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (U.S. Department of Education – Safe and Drug Free School Funds) is for \$795,000 over a three-year period. The grant would carry out a comprehensive drug and violence prevention program for middle school students that is designed to:

- Prevent the use, possession and distribution of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs by students.
- Prevent violence, promote school safety and create a disciplined environment conducive to learning.
- Include activities to promote the involvement of parents and coordination with community groups and agencies.
- Provide professional development for staff and administrators.

The grant would begin July 1, 2000 and run through June 30, 2003.

J. MONTHLY PERSONNEL REPORT FOR APRIL 2000 APPROVED

The Board approved the Personnel Report listing Licensed and Non-Licensed Hires for the month of April 2000. A copy of the April Personnel Report is on file in the Office of Human Resources.

L. REQUESTS FOR STUDENT REASSIGNMENT APPROVED

For the 1999-2000 school year the Board approved the requests for reassignment of two students (Category I). No requests were denied (Category II), and there were no requests to transfer to other school systems in North Carolina. For the 2000-2001 school year, the Board approved the requests for reassignment for 10 students

(Category I); denied no requests (Category II); and one student was released to another district in North Carolina (Category III).

The Consent Items conclude at this point.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

REPORT ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT® DIPLOMA AND SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVANCED PLACEMENT® DIPLOMA CERTIFIED HIGH SCHOOL RECEIVED

Dr. Smith called upon Jimmy Chancey, Coordinating Director for High School Curriculum and Instruction, to report on the current and future Advanced Placement (AP) Diploma Program and the AP Certified Schools Program. Mr. Chancey summarized the programs with a power point presentation. He said that at present CMS has 203 students who are candidates for the AP Diploma. To earn an AP Diploma a student is required to take one AP course in each Core Domain (Languages, Sciences, Mathematics, History/Social Studies, and Electives), plus one additional course in a Core Domain or an elective domain and achieve a grade of 3 or higher in each course. The AP Diploma itself has gradations of achievement (AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors, AP Scholar with Distinction; and National AP Scholar), depending upon how many AP courses a student takes and his or her average score.

To become an AP Diploma High School, a high school must meet certain criteria in AP curriculum, pre-AP curriculum, degreed staffing and their professional development, and student access to and support for the program. Mr. Chancey said that at present CMS high schools offer 12 AP courses. Next year they will offer 14; and the goal is to raise the number of offerings to 21, which is 60% of all AP courses. A copy of the details of the Superintendent's Certified Advanced Placement Diploma® High School is on file in the Office of the Board of Education.

Dr. Smith commented that in support of the pre-AP program, AVID would be re-organized and a Pacesetter Program would be developed. He said the goal is to have 500 student candidates for the AP Diploma next year.

Board Discussion of AP Report

Ms. Molly Griffin asked if German and Latin were included in the language course offerings. Mr. Dunlap said that he supported the inclusion of more minority students in AP courses. The Superintendent said that the percentage of minority students should increase from 11% to at least 22% minority. In response to a question from Dr. Leake, Dr. Smith said that high schools could apply to meet criteria to grant the AP Diploma. Dr. Leake said that she wanted teachers in poverty schools to have the same training that AP teachers have. Dr. Smith agreed that that goal is intent.

Ms. Woods asked how many CMS teachers have been trained as AP teachers. She commented that as the number of students enrolled in AP courses expands, the success

rate might go down. Dr. Smith cautioned the Board not to look too closely at the success rate, citing multiple reasons for low test scores. He emphasized, instead, that a rigorous curriculum in the whole school is important. In response to another question from Ms. Woods, Dr. Smith said that a minimum of 12 students is the goal for an AP course but that he would support all students who want to take the academic risk.

In response to a question from Ms. Kakadelis, Dr. Smith said that pre-AP courses are offered only immediately preceding AP courses. To build high school "bench strength," the Superintendent would offer AP summer workshops to 9th grade teachers.

REPORT ON 2000 NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Dr. Smith called upon Eric Becoats, Chief Officer for Demographics and Planning, and Steve Allen from the City of Charlotte Neighborhood Development Key Business, to present to the Board a report entitled "Charlotte Neighborhood Quality of Life (NQL) Study. Mr. Becoats said that CMS is a planning partner with several other area institutions and that this study had been led by the Urban Institute at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Mr. Allen gave a power point commentary on the NQL, which he called a three-generation report, with studies done in 1993, 1997, and in 2000. Using categories for neighborhoods, such as "Stable, Threatened, and Fragile, the NQL report has been widely published in the community. (A copy of the complete power point presentation is on file in the Office of the Board of Education.)

Mr. Allen said that the measurement index provides an assessment of neighborhood's social, crime, physical, and economic conditions, and the study provides a baseline for measuring cumulative and individual changes in the neighborhoods in the future. Mr. Allen said that in 2000, there were 173 Neighborhood Statistical Areas. Eighteen different variables, primarily locally derived, were used this year. Because both neighborhood boundaries and variables have changed, the three studies are not comparable, he noted.

In summary, Mr. Allen said that the citywide analysis has raised the quality of life benchmark for all neighborhoods. Overall, he said, a large majority of Charlotte neighborhoods are classified as stable. A comparison of certain areas of the "City Within a City (CWAC)" illustrates overall improvement in the quality of life, and evidence that neighborhood initiatives are working. But challenges remain, Mr. Allen said, because quality of life issues are not limited to CWAC neighborhoods.

Board Discussion of Neighborhood Quality of Life Report

Dr. Rembert asked Mr. Allen which variables were most closely related to improvement in quality of life. Ms. Woods asked which areas had improved and why. Mr. Allen responded that the data is not yet in written form but is available.

Ms. Kakadelis said that it would be helpful to have a report by neighborhood on student achievement on competency exams.

MOTION TO HIRE A MEDIATOR TO ASSIST THE BOARD REGARDING STUDENT ASSIGNMENT CONSIDERED AND APPROVED

Ms. Woods moved that the Board of Education act immediately to retain a mediator to assist the Board in reaching consensus in adopting a student assignment plan or, if the Board is not able to do that, to assist the Board in determining how to proceed with student assignment decision-making. The Board will engage in mediation for no more than two days unless a majority of the board votes to continue for a longer amount of time. Mr. Dunlap seconded the motion.

The Board first discussed who would choose the mediators, several Board members preferring that the Superintendent make the selection and others preferring the choice to be a Board decision.

Ms. Woods moved to amend the agenda in order to add an action item concerning student assignment: *Consideration of hiring of a mediator to help the Board reach consensus on student assignment issues.* Mr. Dunlap seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the addition to the agenda.

Dr. Leake's request to call the question failed by a vote of 6 to 3. After further discussion, when Dr. Rembert called the question, the Board voted unanimously to end the debate.

By a show of hands, the Board then voted on Ms. Woods' motion to hire a mediator, and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION THAT SUPERINTENDENT CHOOSE MEDIATORS WITH ADVICE OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON APPROVED

Ms. Woods moved that the Superintendent choose the mediator with the advice of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Ms. Molly Griffin seconded the motion, and Board adopted it unanimously.

MAY 23, 2000 RESOLUTION ON STUDENT ASSIGNMENT DEFEATED

Mr. Lassiter commented on the dual sides of the debate on student assignment: one being the role of the Stay and value it has to many people in the community, allowing the judicial system to work its way through the issue. Others see the Board's inability to

reach a conclusion as having impact on the psyche of the community, on the economic viability, and on the willingness of the community to provide resources and bond money.

Mr. Lassiter then offered the following Resolution on Student Assignment to the Board and moved its adoption. Mr. Puckett seconded the motion.

**Resolution
Student Assignment: May 23, 2000**

BE IT RESOLVED that, if the student assignment aspects of the September 9, 1999 Judgment of the U.S. District Court in *Capacchione et al v. CMBE* are reversed or substantially modified on appeal, then any previous action of the Board of Education adopting a student assignment to comply with Judgment will be considered null and void. The Board of Education recognizes that it will then be obligated to adopt a new student assignment plan in compliance with the resulting modified court order or judgment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if the student assignment aspects of the September 9, 1999, Judgment of the U.S. District Court in *Capacchione et al v. CMBE* are wholly or substantially affirmed, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education adopts the student assignment plan approved by the Board on December 16, 1999, with the modifications the Superintendent presented to the Board on April 25, 2000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recommits itself to providing equity of resources in all schools, to making every school a viable choice for families, and to providing a learning environment for every student which is challenging and rigorous. To this end the Board:

1. Recommits itself to the measures in "Achieving the CMS Vision: Equity and Student Success," as adopted by the Board on March 18, 1999, which provide for equity in the areas of educational opportunities, family and community involvement, instructional materials and supplies, media centers, and technology, faculty, instructional facilities, organizational capacity, and accountability;
2. Pledges to work with the Superintendent to evaluate the equity recommendations of the Student Assignment Oversight Committee, reaffirm or clarify measurable standards for equity in all schools, set priorities, including budgetary priorities, that will improve and maintain equity, and monitor, at least annually, progress towards these goals;
3. Requests the Superintendent to identify schools that are most at risk of losing students under a choice plan and who have the greatest potential for attracting economically diverse students, and to work with the school community of each of these schools to develop a unique school focus and rigorous curriculum that will attract students to each of these schools and to provide resources needed for their success; and

4. Commits itself to providing resources in accordance with the Board of Education's Budget Request for 2000-2001 to schools with high concentrations of low income or low achieving students.

The Board further requests that, at the June 13, 2000, Board meeting, the Superintendent provide the Board with a list of transitions which he recommends to delay beyond the 2001-02 school year in order to facilitate the renovation and construction of school facilities.

Discussion of Mr. Lassiter's Resolution

The Board engaged in debate on Mr. Lassiter's motion to adopt the Resolution. Dr. Leake said the Resolution was unfair because it was presented at the last minute. Ms. Woods said that she appreciated any attempt by any member of the Board to bring about consensus, but that the Board knew all along that it would have to have a new plan for student assignment in the event of a reversal in the court. Mr. Griffin said that he hoped the Board could move forward with mediation. Mr. Puckett said that using a mediator did not guarantee that the Board would reach a decision. Dr. Rembert said that she preferred to support hiring a mediator, who will hear from everyone on the Board and bring the Board members to a shared resolution.

Mr. Dunlap offered an amendment to the motion to include the May 9, 2000 plan and its modifications. There was no second to Mr. Dunlap's motion to amend, and Mr. Lassiter said that he was not in agreement with Mr. Dunlap's proposal.

After further discussion, the Board voted 4 to 5 to defeat Mr. Lassiter's Resolution. Voting to adopt the Resolution were Mr. Lassiter, Mr. Puckett, Ms. Molly Griffin, and Ms. Kakadelis. Voting against adoption of the Resolution were Mr. Griffin, Dr. Rembert, Dr. Leake, Mr. Dunlap, and Ms. Woods.

REPORT FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no reports from individual Board members at this time.

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Smith thanked Duke Energy for hosting the Board Meeting in its O.J. Miller Auditorium.

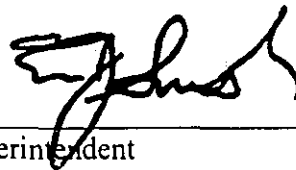
The Superintendent reported that the just-released CMS Writing Scores for 4th and 7th grades and high schools showed an increase this year over last. He gave a verbal summary of the data, which demonstrated gains in all grades and showed that African-American students were narrowing the achievement gap. A more detailed report was given in the May 24th Media Release about the Writing Scores, which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

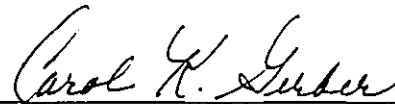
The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dr. Rembert, seconded by Mr. Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:34 p.m.



Superintendent



Clerk



Media Release

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May 24, 2000
For immediate release
** Corrected version*

CMS writing scores increase; gap closes

Writing scores climbed in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in 2000, with African-American students showing the greatest gains as the achievement gap in CMS continues to close, according to preliminary results from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

North Carolina measures student writing proficiency in the fourth and seventh grades, and in high school. Here is a look at CMS's results:

Fourth Grade

More than 62 percent of CMS fourth graders write at or above grade level, up from 54.5 percent in 1999. "A 7.6 percentage point increase is phenomenal," said Dr. Susan Agruso, CMS Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Accountability. "These results really are an indicator that our schools are doing a better job teaching students how to write effectively."

More than half of all African-American students write at or above level, an 8.1 percentage point increase over 1999. "We are closing the achievement gap, which is one of the school system's four primary goals," Dr. Agruso said.

CMS fourth graders also shot past their peers statewide in 2000. Less than 58 percent of North Carolina's fourth graders write at grade level, a 2.6 percentage point increase but 4.3 percentage points less than CMS fourth graders.

Seventh Grade

In seventh grade, 71.5 percent of CMS seventh graders write at or above grade level in 2000, up from 69.8 percent in 1999. More than 60 percent of African-American students write at grade level, a 2.4 percentage point increase over 1999.

"Just as in the fourth grade, African-American seventh graders made impressive progress in closing the achievement gap while the percentage of white students writing at or above grade level also increased," Dr. Agruso explained. "This is the best of both worlds."

With the 2000 gains, CMS seventh graders have virtually equaled students statewide. Just half of a percentage point now separates CMS from the state.

-more-

High School

High School students are tested on the English II Exam. In 2000, nearly 60 percent of CMS students who took the exam were graded as proficient on the state-administered test, a nearly four percentage point increase over 1999. CMS students surpassed their peers statewide by more than one percentage point.

Breakdowns by race for high school students are not yet available.

The writing tests at all three levels are rigorous measures of students' writing proficiency, Dr. Agruso noted. The tests are sent to NCS Corp., a professional testing company, where they are graded by professional writers. The grading is monitored by professionals who have undergone rigorous training to ensure accuracy and consistency.

School-by-school data is still being finalized and should be available later this month.