

Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
August 8, 2006
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

July 11, 2006

**REGULAR MEETING
of the
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on July 11, 2006. The meeting began at 4:34 p.m. and was held in Room CH-14 of the Government Center.

Present: Joe I. White, Jr., Chairperson;
Vilma D. Leake (District 2);
Tom Tate (District 4);
Molly Griffin (District 5); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Vacant Seat, Member At-Large;
Kaye McGarry, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1); and
George Dunlap (District 3)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; James G. Middlebrooks, attorney from Helms Mulliss & Wicker, PLLC, representing the Board; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

Upon motion by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Tate, the Board voted unanimously of those present for approval to go into Closed Session for the following purposes:

- **To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged, confidential, and not a public record pursuant to Sections 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-402 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.**
- **To consult with counsel regarding the case of *Hawkins v. the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education* pursuant to Section 143-318.11(a)(3) of the North Carolina General Statutes.**

Chairperson White reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Government Center. CMS TV Channel 3 televised the meeting.

Present: Joe White, Chairperson;
Kaye McGarry, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);
Vilma D. Leake (District 2);
George Dunlap (District 3);

Tom Tate (District 4);
Molly Griffin (District 5); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Vacant Seat, Member At-Large

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; Members of Executive and Senior Staffs; James G. Middlebrooks, Attorney from Helms, Mulliss & Wicker, PLLC, representing the Board; Carole Hamrick, Manager of Board Services; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chairperson White welcomed everyone to the Board's first meeting of the month. Chairperson White said this is the start of a new era and announced the following points of interest:

- The Board of Education would hold only one Regular Board meeting in July. There would not be a meeting on the fourth Tuesday of July.
- Kit Cramer, Member At-Large, resigned as a Board of Education member. Chairperson White will address this in more detail later in the meeting.
- Welcome to Gil Middlebrooks, attorney from Helms, Mulliss & Wicker, who will serve as General Counsel to the Board until the Board makes a final decision for its future legal representation.
- Welcome to Dr. Gorman. Chairperson White said although Dr. Gorman has been Superintendent for just a short period of time, he has been out among the public. Dr. Gorman is working hard, listening to the public, and will start to develop a game plan for leading the school system forward.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson White called upon Mr. Tate to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Tate invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. McGarry moved that the Board approve the adoption of the agenda, seconded by Ms. Leake, and a discussion followed. Chairperson White asked the Board to approve amending the agenda to add Action Item IV. C. which would be the approval of the process for replacing Kit Cramer. The four step process would be as follows:

1. Board to officially accept the resignation from Kit Cramer at a Regular Board Meeting.
2. Board to approve the process to apply for the vacancy. The process will begin on July 12, 2006 and last for twenty days ending on August 1, 2006. Those interested may call 980.343.5139 to receive an application.

3. Applicants will each have three minutes to present to the Board on August 3, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center.
4. Board to elect a Member At-Large Representative to complete the remaining term ending December 2007 at the August 8, 2006 Regular Board Meeting.

Ms. Griffin moved to amend the agenda to add Action Item IV.C. (Recommend approval of the process for electing a Member At-Large representative to complete the remaining term ending December 2007), seconded by Ms. McGarry, and the Board voted 8-0 to approve amending the agenda.

Ms. McGarry moved to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Ms. Griffin, and the Board voted 8-0 to approve the motion.

II. REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Alicia Durand represented the Rosecliff Homeowners Association and spoke on behalf of the neighborhoods of Olde Providence southwest, Thornhill, and 64% of the voters in District 6. She expressed concerns about the Board of Education, CMS bureaucracy, overcrowding, instability, wasteful spending, the Choice Plan, and Board student reassignment decisions. She is opposed to the Board's decision to assign the Old Providence southwest area to elementary and highs schools that are not close to their homes. She encouraged Dr. Gorman to be bold and courageous in his leadership of CMS.

Rhonda Lennon and Malachi Green are members of the School Building Solutions Committee. Ms. Lennon and Mr. Green welcomed Dr. Gorman to Charlotte and encouraged the Board members to support the recommendations of the School Building Solutions Committee.

Nicholas Rose said the average performance of CMS schools is good and some are excellent. This average masks variances at the bottom of the distribution curve which will have some schools designated as failures if they are not turned around. Mr. Rose does not support social engineering or transporting higher achieving students to lower achieving schools in an attempt to bring up the average. This process puts a burden on parents; increases bus rides, fuel costs, and pollution; and does not help the students who have issues with their studies. He encouraged the Board to focus on the root cause of the problems and provide neighborhood schools close to home. The Olde Providence southwest area would support a Bond issue if CMS allowed them to attend the schools close to their homes. Mr. Rose said this issue will not improve until the support environment of failing students is addressed. He provided solutions to this concern which included courses in Parenting 101.

Pam Hunt welcomed Dr. Gorman to CMS and congratulated the Board on selecting a capable and strong leader. She is encouraged by Dr. Gorman's comments on the need for a dramatic reform for CMS as well as his desire for accountability and transparency. She expressed concern that the Board's past decisions on student assignment have negatively impacted families and lacked accountability and transparency. She hopes there will be solutions to correct the problems. She encouraged the Board to be responsive and accountable for their future decisions for the students.

Rosemary DiGiovanni said she would be a third class ticket holder and a participant on Dr. Gorman's CMS stagecoach. She wants to stay on the stagecoach and is excited about the future of CMS. She encouraged the Board to support making schools close to home.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of minutes
 - June 27, 2006 Joint Meeting
 - June 15, 2006 Closed Session
 - June 2-3, 2006 Special Meeting
 - May 30, 2006 Regular Board Meeting
 - May 9, 2006 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Construction Items
 - 1. Recommend approval of construction contract for Randolph Middle School
- C. Recommend approval of requests for release of students to other school districts
- D. Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel
- E. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request from US Department of Education for *Emergency Response and Crisis Management Project2* for system-wide emergency response and crisis management

Ms. Griffin moved that the Board approve Consent Items A. thru E., seconded by Mr. Dunlap, and the Board voted 8-0 to approve the motion.

Dr. Gorman presented the following administrative appointments:

- Darius Adamson named principal of Sedgefield Middle School. Mr. Adamson previously served as principal at Alcorn Middle School in Columbia, SC.
- William Leach named principal of Alexander Graham Middle School. Mr. Leach previously served as assistant principal at Carmel Middle School.
- Tyrone McDonald named principal of Spaugh Middle School. Mr. McDonald previously served as assistant principal at Piedmont Open Middle School.
- Andrew Thiel named principal of McClintock Middle School. Mr. Thiel previously served as assistant principal at Spaugh Middle School.
- Carrie Miranda named Director of Compensation and Benefits. Ms. Miranda previously served as an attorney with Lubrani & Smith, LLP, in Riverside, CA.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of proposed boundaries for the new Mallard Creek High School

Chairperson White called upon Dr. Gorman to present the recommendation. Dr. Gorman said this item is to approve the boundaries for the new Mallard Creek High School. He introduced Scott McCully, Executive Director of Planning, Student Placement Services, and Student Records, to present the proposed boundaries.

Mr. Dunlap moved, seconded by Ms. Griffin, that the Board approve the proposed boundaries for the new Mallard Creek High School, which is scheduled to open August 2007 with grades 9-11, and the associated changes for the home school areas of North

Mecklenburg, Vance, and Garinger high schools, and a discussion followed. Mr. McCully said this process began one year ago; staff thoroughly reviewed boundaries, populations, and surrounding high schools in the area; boundary scenarios were presented to the public at meetings in October and February and staff incorporated their input in the proposed boundaries; the proposed boundaries were presented to the Board at the May 9, 2006 Regular Board meeting; and a Public Hearing was held at the June 27, 2006 Regular Board meeting and no one spoke to this item. This plan reduces enrollment at North Mecklenburg High School; allows room for growth at Mallard Creek; provides enrollment relief at Vance High School; and increases the enrollment at Garinger High School which is under-utilized at this time.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the motion.

- Chairperson White recognized the Youth Civics 101 group who were attending tonight's meeting. He said the League of Women Voters felt it was important that people in the community understand the elected bodies, the courts, and the press. They developed a program which allows participants to attend the meetings of the elected bodies, visit the courts, and meet with the press. The Youth Civics 101 Program is a new venture in local politics for young people. Students from local schools can participate in a five-part series of learning about the City of Charlotte Government. This group attended the City Council Meeting on June 26, tonight's Board of Education meeting, and the County Commission meeting on July 18. They will also visit a courtroom on July 25, and meet the press and attend a graduation dinner at *The Charlotte Observer* on August 1. He recognized Mary Klenz, past president of the League of Women Voters; Dr. Chris Folk, instructor for the course; and Fannie Flono, representing the *The Charlotte Observer*.

B. Recommend approval of recommendations as developed by the School Building Solutions Committee

Chairperson White invited Dr. Gorman and Governor Jim Martin to make comments to this item. Dr. Gorman said he has been listening and he is struck by the intensity of feeling and the diversity of opinions about our schools and what needs to be done next to improve them. He has read and often heard that CMS is the best urban school district in the nation. He believes CMS is a county-wide school district and we must take a county-wide view. We are an urban, suburban, rural, and somewhere in between school district. Two things are clear. This community is passionate about education and wants something done now. Dr. Gorman said we, and especially the Board, have the opportunity and the obligation to lead. Governor Martin and the School Building Solutions Committee were charged to reach out to the public, thoughtfully analyze the capital needs of CMS, and craft a solution that the community could support. He believes they accomplished their mission in an exemplary fashion. More importantly, they demonstrated that our diverse community, and sometimes fractious community, can pull together if individuals are willing to focus on what unites us rather than what divides us. As Governor Martin and the committee have shown, true leadership often requires compromise and we cannot mistake preference for principle. Whether you prefer more dollars for COPs or for Bonds, a Bond issue in 2006 or 2007, a package focused on growth and new construction or a package focused on renovation and replacement, the needs of the school system are undeniable. There are already more than 20,000 students in mobile

classrooms and 4,400 new students are anticipated in August. CMS needs new schools and also needs to renovate and expand some existing facilities. Relieving overcrowding in the suburbs and school repairs are desperately needed. Dr. Gorman said we owe it to the community to investigate fully and question how taxpayers' dollars are spent. As leaders, we cannot allow the differences of opinion and passion for certain issues cloud our judgment. Principle demands that we do something now to start meeting the needs of our children. Dr. Gorman said the package Governor Martin and the committee have outlined provides for an immediate \$172 million in COPs to finance a high priority list of projects and up to \$400 million in a school Bond Referendum in November 2007. The COPs package would provide roughly a ratio of 2:1 for growth to renovations. The COPs package will also help to get a jump start on critically needed projects such as the new Matthews-Mint Hill area high school in the south, the new Bailey Road High School, the new Ridge Road Middle School, and the new Belmeade Road area middle school which are in the northern part of the county. Dr. Gorman supports the recommendation to pursue a Bond package using citizen input to develop specific projects and recommendations. Dr. Gorman said we need to put dramatic reforms in place to address the new issues that led to a Bond failure this past November. We need to balance construction with building trust and support. Dr. Gorman said he has been listening to the community. He does not believe a Bond package will pass this fall and CMS cannot afford another failed bond issue. This is a county-wide district and we must take a county-wide view. It is important to send the right message to parents, students, teachers, taxpayers, and the community. He believes there should be dramatic reform where we listen, learn, and lead. He has begun working with County Manager Harry Jones, along with members of staff, to start addressing these issues and begin the work needed to address the School Building Solutions Committee's recommendations. The committee was chosen by elected officials to represent a wide-range of views. The committee represents the community and the community is telling us how the community believes we should proceed. The committee had overwhelming support for the final resolution. Dr. Gorman urged the Board to govern the school system by enthusiastically endorsing and approving the recommendations put forth by the School Building Solutions Committee. Dr. Gorman reviewed the proposed motion that will be presented and recommended that the Board approve the motion. Governor Jim Martin provided a summary of the process the committee followed to participate in a consensus-building effort regarding school capital needs. He thanked the Board for enabling that process to take place. He encouraged the Board to support the Committee's recommendations that were presented at the Joint Meeting of the Board of Education and the Board of County Commissioners on June 27, 2006. Governor Martin reviewed the recommendations. He said the Committee is asking the Board of Education to endorse, and the Board of County Commissioners to immediately issue, Certificates of Participation in the amount of \$172 million to fund eighteen critical projects for both capacity expansion and renovations. Funding for the COPs would preferably come from the proceeds of the education lottery. Issuing the COPs now would allow CMS to get back on track in addressing growth and renovation needs that were substantiated by the Committee. The Committee also recommended a Bond package of up to \$400 million to be submitted to the voters in the general election of November 2007. This referendum would manage the most urgent remaining capital needs for CMS through 2009. Other recommendations included that the project list for the November 2007 Bond package would be developed by the Board with input from a Citizens Advisory Group; the Board and staff to evaluate ways to reduce future construction costs by at least ten percent; CMS must address public concerns about

accountability and responsiveness; and a Bond referendum cannot be successful until recommended changes are implemented and should not be scheduled before November 2007. Governor Jim Martin asked the Board to set aside other agendas and to support the School Building Solutions Committee's recommendations. Chairperson White thanked Governor Jim Martin and the committee members for their hard work in developing the recommendations.

Ms. Leake moved that the Board approve the following:

- 1. Request that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the issuance of Certificates of Participation in the amount of \$171,831,648 for the projects listed on page 5 of the Final Report of the School Building Solutions Committee, dated June 27, 2006.**
- 2. Direct the Superintendent to take the next steps for the Board of Education to submit a request to the Board of County Commissioners for a November 2007 Bond referendum that would cover all capital needs for CMS until November 2009, anticipated to be no more than \$400 million.**
- 3. Direct the Superintendent to continue working with the County Manager to propose a collaborative process for examining and evaluating additional cost saving methods in new construction, renovation and additions, with a target of achieving at least a 10% reduction in total construction costs without reducing square footage of buildings.**

It was seconded by Ms. McGarry, and a discussion followed.

Mr. Gauvreau made a substitute motion to reprioritize the funding in the projects listed on page 5 of the Final Report of the School Building Solutions Committee as follows:

- **Total reallocations (deletions) of \$51.8 million:**
 - **Reduce total cost of four elementary schools to \$14 million each for a total reduction of \$11 million.**
 - **Remove land only purchases for a total reduction of \$8.7 million.**
 - **Remove the projects at Harding University High School, Alexander Graham Middle School, and Idlewild Elementary School for a total reduction of \$32.1 million.**
- **Add \$125.1 million to accelerate and fully construct the new Bailey Road High School, the new Matthews-Mint Hill High School, the new Ridge Road Middle School, and the new Belmeade Road Middle School. These additional funds will be applied to the \$20.9 million in proposed "preconstruction" funds to total \$146 million (\$50 million for each high school, \$23 million for each middle school).**

Total package for recommended approval would be for \$245.3 million (\$172 million (-) \$51.8 million + \$125.1 million). It was seconded by Ms. McGarry, and a discussion followed. Mr. Gauvreau made the following comments in support of the substitute motion:

- **The Committee's recommendations are a rubber stamp with an emphasis on inner-city/middle ring construction projects even though this district is already heavy in that area. CMS has spent \$1.5 billion in this area since 1985.**

- CMS needs more in the suburban areas or ten miles and out. CMS has only spent \$500 million in this area.
- Need to spend and apply resources to the growth in the current higher density areas and the COPs proposal does not do that.
- The COPs proposal puts three new schools in the center-city/middle ring areas and the projects have not been correctly prioritized.
 - Harding University High School should not be a priority project. It is located next to Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology with only 1,000 students.
 - Idlewild Elementary School should not be a priority project as it is located within three miles of other elementary schools (Billingsville, Oakhurst, Winterfield, Windsor Park, and Merry Oaks) which are all half empty. The committee, this Board, and staff did not do analysis of the consolidation that must first occur.
- The elementary schools in the proposal are costing \$16.5 million to \$18.5 million whereas Torrence Creek Elementary School two years ago was built at a cost of \$11 million.
 - This reflects a 60% increase and there has not been restraint by the Committee or CMS staff. The Board must show restraint and his proposal already includes a 10% reduction.

Mr. Gauvreau completed his three minutes for the first round of discussion. Chairperson White invited other Board members to make comments. No other Board members made comments to the item. Mr. Gauvreau continued his discussion to encourage Board members to support the substitute motion. His comments included the following:

- The four suburban area schools in the original motion are design only.
 - This hoodwinks the public to thinking they are getting new schools.
 - CMS must build the schools and prioritize where the need is located. The substitute motion builds the schools and does not wait until 2007 to see if the public gains enough trust to support a new Bond referendum.
- The original motion will fail because CMS will not be able to catch up properly as they are still applying too many resources in the under-utilized, high-density areas and are not applying the proper amount in the higher-density growth areas of the district that have been years behind, particularly in the north, northeast, and northwest areas of District 1.

The Board voted 1-7 and the substitute motion failed. Mr. Gauvreau voted in favor of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. McGarry, Ms. Leake, Mr. Dunlap, Mr. Tate, Mr. Gjertsen, and Ms. Griffin voted against the motion.

The Board discussed the original proposed motion. Comments were as follows:

- Ms. Leake thanked the committee for their work. Her vote is her conviction. She values the decision, what the Board is about to undertake, the community, what she does, and every child in the district. Her motto is, "It is all about the children."
- Mr. Tate thanked Dr. Gorman for his comments and the committee for their important work. He will support the motion because it will request COPs for a balance of urgent

needs including growth, renovations, life cycle, and land acquisition; the 2007 Bond referendum is balanced and will provide for all capital needs; and it asks that cost reductions that do not negatively impact the education of the students be reviewed. This is a balanced request. He will vote for the proposed COPs and General Obligation Bonds (GOBs) at this time because it supports the education of all students in the district.

- Mr. Gjertsen thanked the committee for reaching a solution. He may have selected different schools as priorities. The committee reached a solution and that has earned his respect. He will support the motion. Student reassignment requests are being denied because of lack of space. CMS has huge facility needs. He is concerned about the motion because it requests COPs and Bonds. The Board is not the funding source and they should be discussing the need for renovations and building new schools. He believes the Board, at some point, should move away from discussing the funding decisions because they are the purview of the County. This is a short-term solution. The Board must discuss adaptive use, how we build schools, the factory size of schools, consolidation considerations, and how to build smarter with more flexibility. He would support a stable funding stream from the County for capital needs. He believes the Board should focus on the needs and the education of students, and the County should address the funding.
- Ms. McGarry has two reservations. Does this tread on ground that may lead to a path of status quo mentality? Are we listening to the greater public in Mecklenburg County that has been screaming for change? She has thoroughly reviewed and discussed the recommendations. She will support this motion because she believes Dr. Gorman offers hope for change. She hopes by voting yes to this motion, it will provide Dr. Gorman some funds on the capital side to work with and he will be our agent for change.
- Ms. Griffin thanked the committee for their commitment and hard work on the behalf of the children in our community. She supports the recommendations without reservations. She believes the Committee's report reveals what the community as a whole believes and wants. She respects the process the committee used to reach a collaborative consensus. She urged the Board members to follow their example, from this point forward, as they work to provide every child in the County the very best education possible.
- Mr. Dunlap has concerns about the process and how it took place. He will share with the community that everything is not necessarily the way the media prints it. He believes people become focused on whether it is COPs or Bonds but the fact is we need schools. He voted for Bonds because we needed schools and renovations. The fact that Bonds failed did not mean we needed schools any less. The people who voted for Bonds still believe we need schools and renovations. Mr. Dunlap will support the motion because CMS needs schools and renovations but he does not like the way the conclusion was reached or the process. He hopes the public will understand that the Committee stated that did not find waste, mismanagement, or misappropriation.
- Mr. Gauvreau said this is a matter of prioritization and not a matter of COPs or Bonds. His original motions, dating back to November 22, 2005, were to accelerate schools via COPs. He is glad this is being done nine months later and the Board has come to the conclusion that is the only thing to do. The reality is the Board has missed the prioritization mark and are not using prioritization in their planning. He will not

support the motion. This should be a matter of prioritizing the taxpayers' dollar properly and getting the most for the dollars. The Board should question the data they receive from staff. This motion puts CMS down a perilous path, particularly in the suburban areas and most certainly in District 1, where the needs are greater than most will admit.

- Ms. Leake encouraged the Board to be fair, legal, and consistent in the process to ensure that every child in the district will have an adequate site for education. She noted to the public that every student in CMS has a seat. She noted that Mr. Gauvreau has been requesting COPs and this motion provides COPs in the hopes of meeting the needs of every district and every child.
- Chairperson White thanked Dr. Gorman for his strong, bold statement to address the motion. He thanked Governor Jim Martin and the committee for taking on a tough task and doing an outstanding job. He said throughout life there come times that in order to reach a destination that is important, you may have to travel a road that you are not particularly fond of. This is a similar issue for him. He sincerely believes this is the best road available for this Board to travel at this place and time to do the most to serve the most children of this community. He will support the motion.

The Board voted 7-1 to support the proposed motion regarding the recommendations of the School Building Solutions Committee. Chairperson White, Ms. McGarry, Ms. Leake, Mr. Dunlap, Mr. Tate, Mr. Gjertsen, and Ms. Griffin voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion.

C. Recommend approval of the process for electing a Member At-Large Representative to complete the remaining term ending December 2007

Chairperson White said this item was added to the agenda and is the timeframe for replacing Kit Cramer's seat. The four step process would be as follows:

1. Board to officially accept the resignation from Kit Cramer at a Regular Board Meeting.
2. Board to approve the process to apply for the vacancy. The process will begin on July 12, 2006 and last for twenty days ending on August 1, 2006. Those interested may call 980.343.5139 to receive an application.
3. Applicants will each have three minutes to present to the Board on August 3, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center.
4. Board to elect a Member At-Large Representative to complete the remaining term ending December 2007 at the August 8, 2006 Regular Board Meeting.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the process outlined for electing a Member At-large Representative to complete the remaining term ending December 2007.

Ms. Leake asked would it be appropriate to elect a new Vice-Chairperson at this meeting? Chairperson White said there will not be another meeting this month. It would be his intention, unless the Board objected, that the first item on the agenda for the August 8th Regular Board meeting would be the election of the new Board member and the second item would be the election of the new Vice-Chairperson which would allow all nine Board

members to participate in that vote. No Board members objected to this procedure. Ms. Griffin noted that the new Board member would need to be sworn in. Chairperson White said that will be arranged as well as a short recess for a reception. The details will be decided upon in the near future.

V. REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report/first reading on proposed Policy JL, Student Wellness

Chairperson White called upon Ms. Griffin. Ms. Griffin said before the Board for first reading is proposed Policy JL, Student Wellness. This new policy is required by federal law to be in place before school starts on August 25, 2006. The federal law requires a policy that includes goals for nutrition, physical activity, and other activities designed to promote student wellness; assures compliance with federal Child Nutrition guidelines; and establishes a plan to measure implementation and compliance with this policy. The CMS policy also incorporates requirements of the North Carolina statutes establishing nutrition standards for food and beverages sold in school vending machines, school meals, and after school snacks. In addition, the policy incorporates the new requirements of the North Carolina Board of Education regarding physical activity for students K-8. The proposed policy was created by the joint effort of parents, students, members of the public, the School Board, and CMS staff. The policy will be posted on the CMS website beginning July 12, 2006. There will be a public hearing and Board vote on this policy in August.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gorman said this was his first Board meeting as Superintendent. He made the following comments:

- He is very happy to be with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.
- He thanked the Board for selecting him as Superintendent.
- He had a world-wind first week and every minute was full but it was worth it.
- He is fully engaged in the aspects of CMS.
- He previously stated that he wanted to serve the community and his first week was a start on that broad goal.
- He will continue to build his relationship with community members, citizens, students, the Board, staff, and everyone else.
- He is looking forward to working to improve CMS. He is confident that if we all work together we will get it done.
- He is appreciative of this opportunity and it is his pleasure to serve the Board.

VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

George Dunlap said he had attended several elementary and high school graduations and thanked staff for their efforts in making them successful. He noted our high school students and the district receive millions of dollars in scholarship funds each year. He noted that many of the churches in the district have "Graduation Sunday" which also provides scholarships to

high school students. He would like the public to be aware that the faith community and other organizations offer many scholarships to students for academic success. He would like CMS to develop a process to include these types of scholarships in the total CMS scholarship dollars received each year to provide a more accurate view of the support being offered to CMS students.

Kaye McGarry is excited about school reform and CMS. She stated, "Let the transformation begin."

Ken Gjertsen said District Six has passionate, involved, and dedicated parents as displayed by the public speakers tonight. He held a District Six meeting on July 8th. Dr. Gorman attended the meeting and parents were able to meet with him and ask questions regarding their concerns. Mr. Gjertsen was impressed that his parents concerns were not centered on the quality of education but were focused on the issues of lack of respect, lack of responsiveness, and lack of reasonableness in some of the student assignment boundaries. He believes these issues can be easily solved and the Board has within their grasp the ability to re-engage the parents and students in the suburbs. He believes if the Board follows the example of the School Building Solutions Committee, they can get it right and also address the needs of the parents in District Six.

Tom Tate said he would be attending the North Carolina School Board Association's School Board Training this week and the Broad Training Introduction in Salt Lake City, Utah next week. He thanked Dr. Gorman for joining CMS. He is impressed with Dr. Gorman's first week and his taking the time to meet people and learn about the district. He has reviewed Dr. Gorman's entry plan to lead the district forward and believes it will lead to great things and an increase in student achievement for every student.

Vilma Leake said she enjoyed attending Saint Paul's Baptist Church with Dr. Gorman and Mr. Dunlap on Sunday. She encouraged the community to read the many articles that are appearing in the newspapers that discuss tackling school needs, funding schools, and placing better teachers with the students that need them because these are the things that the Board is also discussing. She congratulated Maurice Green, Chief Operating Officer, for receiving an award from the Black Women's Caucus. She thanked Mr. Green for his work as General Counsel to the Board and noted that his presence at the dais is missed. Ms. Leake reported she attended fifteen high school graduations. She encouraged all Board members to be supportive of the events occurring in all the districts of CMS.

Coach White thanked Dr. Gorman for hitting the ground running on his first week. He congratulated Cindy Moss, Director of Science K-12, for being appointed to the Commission of the National Science Board. She is one of thirteen people from across the country who received this appointment. He reported CMS needs bus drivers and encouraged the public to apply for those positions. He also reported the Board members would be attending a Board Retreat on July 28th and 29th, and more details would be forthcoming. Chairperson White expressed his appreciation to Kit Cramer for her service to the Board and noted that her husband was doing well.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Tate, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Chairperson, Joe. I. White, Jr.

Clerk to the Board, Nancy Daughtride