



Approved by the Charlotte-  
Mecklenburg Board of Education  
May 12, 2009  
Regular Board Meeting

Charlotte, North Carolina

November 12, 2008

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on November 12, 2008. 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, Member At-Large;  
Molly Griffin, Vice-Chairperson, (District 5);  
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;  
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);  
Tom Tate (District 4); and  
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Kaye McGarry, Member At-Large;  
Vilma D. Leake (District 2); and  
Vacant Seat (District 3)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; Regina H. Bartholomew, General Counsel; Hugh Hattabaugh, Chief Operating Officer; 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:**

- 1. To consult with the Board's attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege including but not limited to the following:**
  - a. To consider the following litigation matters:**
    - i. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education v. Schenkel & Shultz, et al. 3:05-CV-69 (WDNC);*
    - ii. Sheree Marre v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, WC Claim #WCBE2004062428;*
    - iii. Eleanor Montgomery v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, WC Claim #WCBE2006069916;*
    - iv. Lela Sloan v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, WC Claim #WCBE2007074510;*
    - v. Zora Bradley v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, WC Claim #WB568824, and*
- 2. To consider a personnel matter of an administrative employee.**

**The motion was made pursuant to Section 143-318.11(a) of the North Carolina General Statutes.**

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 4:34 p.m. until 6:04 p.m.

Chairperson White reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Government Center. CMS-TV Channel 3 televised the meeting.

Present: Joe I. White, Jr., Chairperson, Member At-Large;  
Molly Griffin, Vice-Chairperson, (District 5);  
Kaye McGarry, Member At-Large;  
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;  
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);  
Vilma D. Leake (District 2);  
Tom Tate (District 4); and  
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Vacant Seat (District 3)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; Regina H. Bartholomew, General Counsel; Members of Executive and Senior Staff; Judy Whittington, Manager of Board Services; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson White called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Chairperson White welcomed everyone to the Board's first meeting of the month. He apologized for the delay in starting the meeting and noted that the Board had been conducting business in Closed Session.

### **A. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson White introduced Sean Gartland, a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student at Mallard Creek High School, to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak to the November character trait of "honesty." Sean has displayed admirable leadership qualities and athletic skills. After being assigned to the new high school, Sean became active in student committees involved in the process to select the school name, mascot, and school colors. Sean was a member of Mallard Creek High School's first leadership class, senior class, and student council. Sean exhibits excellent athletic skills while playing soccer and has earned All Conference and All Region Honors. School staff believes Sean has a bright future and he is exploring his college options after graduation. Chairperson White introduced Sean's parents, Bill and Fariba Gartland, and his assistant principal, Laura Rosenbach. Sean said he has attended Mallard Creek High School since it first opened in 2007. Over the last two years, he has been blessed with many opportunities and faced many challenges. Sean and his school have always conquered the challenges together. Sean said honesty is defined as fairness and straight forwardness of conduct as well as adherence to the facts even when that adherence constitutes a negative outcome in your favor. Honesty goes beyond the realms of truth and is a distinguished trait that incorporates every aspect of life from morality to integrity. Honesty is a judgment of character and reflects one's conscience and frankness. Everyone is capable of honesty because honesty is a choice. Sean invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Adoption of Agenda

**Mr. Tate moved, seconded by Ms. Leake, that the Board adopt the agenda as presented, and a discussion followed.**

Ms. Griffin said the following motion is at the recommendation of the Policy Committee:

**Ms. Griffin moved that that the Board delete Action Item IV.B. (Recommend approval of draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 1), Board Member Compensation and Expenses, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

**Dr. Gorman asked the Board to Pull I.D. (Public Hearing on draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 1), Board Member Compensation and Expenses) which is aligned with the above deleted item. Dr. Gorman also asked the Board to pull Consent Item III. D. (Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel) as he did not have any personnel appointments to present.**

**Mr. Gjertsen moved, seconded by Ms. Griffin, that the Board approve pulling agenda items I.D. and III.D. from the agenda, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

Mr. Gjertsen expressed concern regarding the number of people in the audience awaiting the Board's decision on Action Item IV.E. (Recommend approval of Superintendent's Magnet Program Recommendations) and he made the following motion:

**Mr. Gjertsen moved that the Board move Action Item IV.E. (Recommend approval of Superintendent's Magnet Program Recommendations) to be the first item reviewed under Action Items (move IV.E. before IV.A.), seconded by Ms. Griffin, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

**Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Ms. Leake, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

C. Public Hearing on proposed amendments to Policy JIE, "Pregnant Students"

**Ms. Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, declared the Public Hearing on Policy JIE, Pregnant Students, open, a second was not required because it was being presented through the Policy Committee.**

There were no speakers to speak to this item.

**Mr. Gjertsen moved that the Board close the Public Hearing on Policy JIE, seconded by Ms. McGarry, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

D. Public Hearing on draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 1), "Board Member Compensation and Expenses"

Item deleted with the adoption of the agenda.

E. Public Hearing on draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 2), "Board Member Compensation and Expenses"

**Ms. Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, declared the Public Hearing on Policy**

**BID (Version 2), Board Member Compensation and Expenses, open.**

There were no speakers to speak to this item.

**Ms. Leake moved that the Board close the Public Hearing on Policy BID, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

F. Public Hearing on proposed Boundaries and Feeder Patterns

**Ms. Leake moved that the Board open the Public Hearing on the proposed Boundaries and Feeder Patterns, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

The following people represented the Mt. Island Community and voiced their concerns regarding the boundary recommendations for Mt. Holly/Huntersville Road elementary school and urged the Board to keep the community together grades K-12.

- Melissa Hershberger
- Kelly Pledger

The following people discussed why they do not support the boundary recommendations for Lake Wylie/Youngblood Road and the Red Fez Club elementary schools. They urged the Board to support the community recommendation.

- Lori Diggs
- Thomas Fortenberry
- Kevin Campbell

**Ms. Griffin moved that the Board close the Public Hearing on the proposed Boundaries and Feeder Patterns, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

**II. REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The following people discussed the success of the Magnet Program at Beverly Woods Elementary School and urged the Board to grandfather the existing students because that would support the Board's previous commitments.

- Stacy Monroe
- Vivian Connell

Mary Katherine Dickert, senior at North Mecklenburg High School, presented the Board information to support incorporating Sign Language as a foreign language.

The following people discussed the successes of the Magnet Programs at Oaklawn Language Academy and urged the Board to keep the French Program at the school.

- Stacy Busky
- Henry Black
- Romano Katz
- Dr. Trasha Black
- Christina Pasola

The following people discussed the successes of the Talent Development Program at Villa Heights Academic Center and encouraged the Board to maintain the full Talent Development

Magnet Schools and to keep the Magnet Program at Villa Heights Academic Center.

- Art Johnson, president of the PTA at Villa Heights Academic Center
- Terroll Joiner
- Frederika Angus
- Annah Pysch, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Villa Heights Academic Center

The following people discussed the strengths of the Montessori Magnet Program and urged the Board to maintain that program and to support a middle school program.

- Bill Aheron
- Renee Sanders
- Russell Long
- Jason Kay
- Connie Cabbs

Nina Andersen discussed the importance of media centers and encouraged the Board to not cut media specialist and media assistant positions.

Laura Croy encouraged the Board to provide a guarantee for the parents who want to continue on a World Language track. She expressed concern that the recommendations change the feeder patterns and Collingswood will not continue to Smith Language Academy. Adding a middle school to Collingswood will not meet their needs. She wants her children to continue at Smith.

Steve Bucci expressed concern that the recommendation for Chantilly Magnet Program has changed within the last twenty-four hours. He encouraged the Board to grandfather the families (including siblings) with transportation to the current schools they are attending.

Lacie Wallace and her father spoke to support the Language Immersion Magnet Program. Their family has been in a German program for sixteen years. Mr. Wallace urged the Board to provide equity across the county because not everyone lives in the southern area of the County. He expressed concern that Lacie must take German on-line.

Michelle Lopez encouraged the Board to not change the program at Smith Language Academy, to keep the feeder pattern from Collinswood Language Academy to Smith Language Academy, and to maintain the sibling guarantee. Her children take Spanish, which is their native language, and she wants them to attend Smith Language Academy.

Marie Philippe expressed concern that she has had difficulty in getting a response from staff regarding a special request due to her daughter's medical condition (her autistic child is anorexic and mother wants her dismissed 2½ hours early each day from Davidson Elementary School for extensive feeding).

### **III. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Recommend approval of minutes.
- July 22, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.
  - August 26, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.
  - September 23, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.
  - October 2, 2008 Work Session.
  - October 14, 2008 Closed Session.

- B. Construction Items.
  - 1. Recommend approval of additional construction services at the new Mint Hill high school.
- C. Recommend approval of the North Carolina ABCs Local Option Goals for Alternative Schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.
 

*Local Option Goals for Hawthorne High School, Turning Point Academy, and Midwood High School.*
- D. Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel.
 

*Consent Item D. was deleted with the adoption of the agenda.*
- E. Recommend approval of licensed/non-licensed hires and promotions for October 2008.

**Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through E., seconded by Mr. Merchant, and a discussion followed.**

Ms. Leake pulled Consent Item C.

**Mr. Merchant moved, seconded by Mr. Tate, that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through E. excluding C., and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

The Board discussed Consent Item C.

- Ms. Leake expressed concern that these are the same local option goals presented in previous years and she wants to ensure these are right. She has reviewed the information for Hawthorne High School and it is important that reading is taking place. She asked clarifying questions regarding what measures have been taken to ensure the students are reading on grade level prior to entering Hawthorne and what is being done to ensure students are on grade level while attending Hawthorne. She expressed concern that many of these students are not on grade level before arriving at Hawthorne and those staff members at their previous schools should be held accountable for not adequately teaching these students. She discussed the importance of holding staff and parents accountable for student learning. Dr. Gorman responded to her concerns.
- Mr. Gauvreau said he is opposed to the goals because parental and community involvement are not the criteria that will change the academic outcome in students. These local option goals dumb down the CMS goals and the alternative goals should default to academics. Jonathan Raymond, Chief Accountability Officer, reviewed the requirements and the basis of the criteria for Local Option Goals and School Improvement Plans.
- Ms. Leake wants to ensure CMS is providing what they should be providing and impacting the success of all students.

**Ms. Griffin moved that the Board adopt Consent Item C, seconded by Mr. Merchant, and the Board voted 5-3 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Ms. McGarry, Mr. Gauvreau, and Ms. Leake voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

#### IV. ACTION ITEMS

- E. Recommend approval of Superintendent's Magnet Program Recommendations

Chairperson White called upon Dr. Gorman to present the recommendations. Dr. Gorman

called upon Ann Clark, Associate Superintendent for Education Services; Scott McCully, Executive Director for Student Placement Services; Mike Raible, Executive Director for Planning and Project Management; Robbie Kale, Director for Magnet Programs, and Dennis LaCaria, Facility Planning Specialist. Dr. Gorman called upon said Ms. Clark to review clarifications to the recommendations regarding the Montessori schools. Ms. Clark called upon Mr. McCully to provide clarification regarding the recommendation for transportation for Chantilly Montessori and Park Road Montessori. This is not a change but a clarification of the intent of the recommendation. Mr. McCully said the clarification regarding the two Montessori schools is that if a student chooses to remain at their current school transportation would not be provided by CMS and the sibling rule would remain in effect. The recommendation is such that those students who currently live in the Green Transportation Zone and are assigned to Park Road Montessori may have the option of attending Chantilly but transportation would not be provided and those students who live in the Blue Transportation Zone and are currently assigned to Chantilly Montessori may have the option to attend Park Road Montessori but transportation would not be provided. Dr. Gorman said students would be allowed to remain at their current school with the zone change without transportation. If they go to the school in their transportation zone, transportation would be provided. In both cases, the sibling guarantee would remain in place. Ms. Clark said the second recommendation for clarification involves the three current elementary Montessori Programs (Chantilly, Highland Mill, and Park Road). The adjustment to that recommendation is to include the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in each of the three schools with the acknowledgement that Chantilly Montessori will grow into that opportunity whereas Highland Mill Montessori and Park Road Montessori currently have a 5<sup>th</sup> grade program. The Chantilly Montessori Program is in the process of growing one grade level at a time. The recommendation following the Montessori Model of three grade level increments is to have all the Montessori Programs be grades Pre-K thru 6<sup>th</sup>, and the middle school program at Sedgefield Middle School would begin in the fall of 2010-2011 with grades 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> only.

Mr. Merchant, Ms. McGarry, and Ms. Leake asked clarifying questions and staff responded.

The final recommendations for Magnet Programs include the following:

No Changes:

1. International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (PYP) at Cotswold, Huntingtowne Farms, Irwin, Lansdowne and Statesville Road elementary schools (K-5).
2. Learning Immersion and Talent Development Program at Barringer, Idlewild, Shamrock Gardens and Tuckaseegee elementary schools (K-5).
3. Military and Global Leadership Program at Marie G. Davis Academy (6-12).
4. Montessori Program at Highland Mill Elementary School (Pre-K-5).
5. Technology Program at Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology (9-12).
6. Traditional Program at Elizabeth Traditional and Myers Park Traditional elementary schools (K-5).
7. Visual and Performing Arts Program at Dilworth and University Park elementary schools (K-5) and Northwest School of the Arts (6-12).
8. World Language Immersion Program at Smith Language Academy for Chinese, French, German and Japanese (K-8).

### Eliminations:

1. Remove Accelerated Learning Program from First Ward Elementary School. No grandfathering of students for placement or transportation except for rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders (effective 2010-2011).
2. Remove the Leadership and Global Economics Program from Beverly Woods Elementary, Eastway Middle, Kennedy Middle, Garinger High and Olympic High schools. No grandfathering of students for placement or transportation except for rising 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders (effective 2009-2010).
3. Remove the Communication Arts Program from Hornets Nest Elementary and John Taylor Williams Middle schools. No grandfathering of students for placement or transportation except for rising 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (effective 2009-2010).
4. Remove Early College Program from E. E. Waddell High School (two-year phase-out ending in 2010-2011).
5. Remove Math, Science and Environmental Studies Program from Cochrane Middle. Middle school component to be added to Morehead Elementary School. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will continue at Morehead Elementary School (effective 2010-2011).
6. Remove Open/Paideia Programs from Irwin Elementary, Piedmont Middle, Randolph Middle and West Charlotte High schools. (Open/Paideia students are assigned the same program code at middle school level.) No grandfathering of students for placement or transportation except for rising 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders (effective 2009-2010).
7. Remove Paideia Program from Sterling Elementary School. No grandfathering of students for placement or transportation except for rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders (effective 2009-2010).

### Modifications:

1. Strengthen the middle and high school IB Programs. Middle school and high school students must be promoted for continuation. Middle Year Program (MYP) students, grades 6 thru 10, must take all MYP level courses for which they have the prerequisites. High School Diploma candidates must successfully complete Theory of Knowledge course and six IB courses/exams. Eliminate IB certificate/concentrated studies option of three courses/exams (effective 2009-2010).
2. Convert the Leadership and Global Economics Program at Winding Springs Elementary School into a county-wide K-5 program and implement a continuation to Marie G. Davis Military and Global Leadership Academy, pending that the magnet expectations agreement for Marie G. Davis are met (effective 2009-2010).
3. Move Learning Immersion-Talent Development Program at Villa Heights Academic Center to Lincoln Heights Elementary School. Make Lincoln Heights a full-Magnet school (effective 2010-2011).
4. Expand the Math, Science and Environmental Studies Program at Morehead Elementary School from K-5 to K-8 (effective 2010-2011).
5. Strengthen Math, Science and Environmental Studies Program entrance requirements at secondary level. Students must score level III or IV on Math and Science End of Grade (EOG) tests (spring prior to admission). Rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders must have successfully completed Algebra I at grade 8 or have achieved level IV on Math 8<sup>th</sup> grade EOG test (effective 2009-2010).
6. Change Montessori transportation eligibility to Chantilly Montessori serving the Green Magnet Transportation Zone and Park Road Montessori serving the Blue Magnet



- Transportation Zone (effective 2009-2010).
7. Add 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the Montessori Program at the three elementary schools (Chantilly, Highland Mill, and Park Road). Implement a middle school Montessori Program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades at Sedgefield Middle School. Home school students at Sedgefield Middle School will remain at the school (add 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2009-2010, add 7<sup>th</sup> grade 2010-2011, and add 8<sup>th</sup> grade 2011-2012 at Sedgefield Middle School).
  8. Convert Paideia Program at Oakhurst Elementary School to a county-wide program (effective 2009-2010).
  9. Move the middle school Spanish Program from Smith Language Academy to Collinswood Language Academy and Oaklawn Language Academy, converting Collinswood and Oaklawn to K-8 schools. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Collinswood and Oaklawn will continue on-site beginning 2010-2011 and growing the program one grade each year until K-8 (effective 2010-2011).
  10. Move the French Program from Oaklawn Language Academy to Smith Language Academy (effective 2009-2010).
  11. Move the World Language Program from E. E. Waddell High School and West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School (effective 2009-2010).

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposed changes to the Student Assignment Plan for magnet programs as set forth in the "Magnet Programs Recommendations and Impacts" presented to the Board on October 14, 2008, with the following modifications:**

- 1) **Allow students enrolled in partial magnets which are eliminated effective with the 2009-2010 school year under the Superintendent's proposal to remain enrolled in the regular comprehensive school programs at those schools without eligibility for CMS transportation. Younger siblings of those students would not have a sibling guarantee for admission to the school.**
- 2) **Keep the Learning Immersion/Talent Development Magnet Program at Villa Heights Academic Center and make no changes to the programs at Lincoln Heights Elementary School.**
- 3) **Modify the proposal for the World Language program as follows:**
  - a. **Keep the World Language Program at West Mecklenburg High School;**
  - b. **Institute a World Language Program at South Mecklenburg High School;**
  - c. **Eliminate the World Language Program at E. E. Waddell High School (students may remain at Waddell in the regular comprehensive program under the provisions of #1 above or may automatically be reassigned to the World Language Program at either South Mecklenburg High School or West Mecklenburg High School depending on the transportation zone in which they live).**

Chairperson White said Board members would be allowed to pull items for discussion and a separate Board vote.

Ms. Leake pulled the following items under Modifications with the original recommendations:

- Number 9: Move the middle school Spanish Program from Smith Language Academy to Collinswood Language Academy and Oaklawn Language Academy, converting Collinswood and Oaklawn to K-8 schools. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Collinswood and Oaklawn will continue on-site beginning 2010-2011 and growing the program one grade

each year until K-8 (effective 2010-2011).

- Number 10: Move the French Program from Oaklawn Language Academy to Smith Language Academy (effective 2009-2010).
- Number 11: Move the World Language Program from E. E. Waddell High School and West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School (effective 2009-2010).

Ms. Leake said she would like to speak to Number 3 under Modifications (Move Learning Immersion/Talent Development Program at Villa Heights Language Academy to Lincoln Heights Middle School). Make Lincoln Heights a full-Magnet school (effective 2010-2011). Ms. Leake thanked the parents at Lincoln Heights for welcoming the parents at Villa Heights to Lincoln Heights in hoping that the issue would be resolved through the Board vote. She said we all must take care of every child in the district and every child must receive a quality education. She would never say “no” to a program that is successful. She commended Davidson IB Middle School for being a small and successful school, and she encouraged the Board to duplicate that program at other schools. She said the parents at Villa Heights want to maintain that same environment at their school but she would hope that a program at Lincoln Heights Elementary School could also offer that same quality. The success of the small schools should tell the Board that they should consider reducing the size of our schools to help schools have quality staff. Ms. Leake discussed the importance of equity in the district to include quality of staff and equal resources. The students at Lincoln Heights can learn and that learning would be further enhanced with the appropriate staff and resources.

**Ms. Leake moved that the Board approve the motion as presented by Ms. Griffin excluding the pulled items Numbers 9, 10, and 11 under Modifications. This was a division of the question and a seconded was not required.** A Board discussion followed.

Chairperson White said the Board would now vote on the motion as presented by Ms. Griffin excluding the pulled items Number 9, 10, and 11 under Modifications.

- Mr. Tate said the modifications and eliminations include language about grandfathering clauses and other criteria. He asked does the new motion supersede that language and is that language no longer in effect? Dr. Gorman said, yes.
- Ms. McGarry asked clarifying questions regarding Modification Number 1 under the modifications (partial Magnets without transportation) motion as presented by Ms. Griffin. She asked how many schools and students would that impact? Mr. McCully said the schools include Hornets Nest Elementary, Sterling Paideia Elementary, Kennedy Middle, Eastway Middle, Olympic High, and Garinger High. Ms. McGarry said she would like the number of students impacted by this modification. She asked that Number 1 under the motion be pulled until she has that additional information.
- Mr. Gjertsen said six months ago the Board said the proposed recommendations were not enough. He appreciates staff’s work but the recommendations are still not enough. He would like an expansion of the programs that are successful in the northern and southern areas. He would also like the long waiting lists of students wanting to get into Magnet Programs reduced by creating more successful programs. He would support the recommendations but he would like staff to understand that this is just a first step towards expanding Magnet Programs.

- Mr. Gauvreau expressed concern that this is routine with the parent and media involvement, and CMS stating there are sweeping changes to the programs when in reality there is little change. He said the CMS Magnet Programs are desegregation schemes from 1992 that have been blown out of proportion. National research indicates Magnet Programs cause white flight. He expressed concern that the Magnet Programs include minimal changes and the Board has been working on this for months. He also expressed concern that half of the buses circling the county are half empty and that is a result of too many Magnet Programs; there are Learning Immersion/Talent Development students who can't read; and this approval will legitimize a failed Magnet Program in CMS that should have been changed a long time ago. He does not understand the need to change the program at Villa Heights. The recommendations are not making sweeping and bold changes and he would not support the recommendations.
- Ms. McGarry asked does the motion include her request to pull Modification Number 1 under the motion as presented by Ms. Griffin because she had asked for the number of students that would be impacted? Mr. McCully said there are approximately 1,400 students that would potentially be grandfathered without transportation.
- Mr. Gauvreau expressed concern regarding the recommendations and that future considerations for additional Magnet Programs include an Afrocentric Program.

**The Board voted 7-1 to approve the Superintendent's recommendations with the modifications as presented by Ms. Griffin excluding Numbers 9, 10, and 11 under Modifications of the original recommendation as presented by Dr. Gorman. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Ms. Leake, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. District 3 is a Vacant seat.**

The Board discussed pulled item Number 10: Move the French Program from Oaklawn Language Academy to Smith Language Academy (effective 2009-2010).

**Ms. Leake made a substitute motion that the Board approve maintaining the French Program at Oaklawn Language Academy, seconded by Mr. Gjertsen, and a discussion followed.**

- Ms. Leake said the parents have strongly spoken to maintain the French Program at Oaklawn Language Academy and strongly support having two languages at that school. She encouraged the Board to not reduce the language programs at Oaklawn because those programs are growing and the school is successful. It is important to have more than one foreign language at that school. Having two language programs will impact the lives of the students at Oaklawn and foster diversity.
- Mr. Gjertsen asked staff to address the comment from the parents at Oaklawn that the option was not on the application form and not promoted by CMS. Ms. Kale said the program was on the original application for all the lottery processes since the program began but it was not included on the Open Seat Lottery in 2007-2008. At that time, discussions regarding the elimination of the program began and it was determined to not include the French Program at Oaklawn on the lottery information. This past year, Kindergarten French was on the Open Seat Application and there were twenty-five available seats in Kindergarten at the end of the second lottery process.

**The Board voted 2-6 and the substitute motion to maintain the French Program at Oaklawn Language Academy failed. Ms. Leake and Mr. Gjertsen voted in favor of the substitute motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, and Mr. Tate voted against the substitute motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Chairperson White said Ms. Leake could now address pulled item Number 9 or Number 11. Ms. Leake discussed pulled item Number 11: Move the World Language Program from E. E. Waddell High and West Mecklenburg High to South Mecklenburg High (effective 2009-2010).

- Ms. Leake expressed concern that the Board may not support this item because the media talks negatively about E. E. Waddell High School and the Board added to this by not fostering good programs where they are needed.

Chairperson White asked Ms. Leake to make a motion and then discuss the item.

**Ms. Leake made a substitute motion that the Board maintain the World Language Program at E. E. Waddell High School, the substitute motion did not receive a second and the substitute motion died.**

**Ms. McGarry made a substitute motion that the Board approve moving the World Language Program from West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School, seconded by Mr. Gjertsen, and a discussion followed.**

- Ms. McGarry said World Languages are important but the programs are expensive and it would make better sense to keep the program at one school or the other. Staff is recommending the program be located at South Mecklenburg High School and she is supporting staff's recommendation to move it from E. E. Waddell High School and West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School. She believes the resources would be better spent to strengthen one program and this only impacts a few students. She believes languages should be at all elementary schools and home schools, and the rigor should be increased at all elementary schools.

Chairperson White said the attorney has ruled that since the substitute motion by Ms. Leake regarding the French Program at Oaklawn Language Academy failed, the Board would now need to vote on the recommendation in the original motion regarding Number 10 under the Modifications. Following the vote on Number 10, the Board will return to Ms. McGarry's substitute motion regarding World Languages.

**The Board voted on the original motion as presented by Ms. Griffin that the Board approve Number 10 under Modifications (Move the French Program from Oaklawn Language Academy to Smith Language Academy (effective 2009-2010)), and the Board voted 5-2 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, and Mr. Tate voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Leake and Mr. Gjertsen voted against the motion. Mr. Gauvreau abstained. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

The Board continued the discussion on Ms. McGarry's substitute motion regarding pulled item

Number 11 under Modifications (Move the World Language Program from E. E. Waddell High School and West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School (effective 2009-2010)). Ms. McGarry said her substitute motion would revert back to Dr. Gorman's original recommendation as follows:

**Ms. McGarry made a substitute motion that the Board approve moving the World Language Program from E. E. Waddell High School and West Mecklenburg High School to South Mecklenburg High School effective 2009-2010, seconded by Mr. Gjertsen, and a discussion followed.**

- Mr. Merchant said there has been some discussion about dropping the World Language Program at E. E. Waddell High School, keeping it at West Mecklenburg High School, and adding it at South Mecklenburg High School. He understood that CMS would be pressed for resources to have the program at both South Mecklenburg and West Mecklenburg high schools. Ms. Clark said several options for a World Language high school component have been considered. One option was to designate certain school sites for particular languages and assign students based upon a transportation zone. The recommendation from staff to Dr. Gorman was to align it by transportation zone versus attempting to designate languages. This would allow the registration process to drive the program. Staff does not wish to take languages away from either school so it would be a matter of adding languages based on student registration from the middle school program. Mr. Merchant asked how many students of those students currently attending West Mecklenburg High School or E. E. Waddell High School in the World Language Program would be zoned for South Mecklenburg High School. Ms. Clark said it would be two students from West Mecklenburg High School. Mr. McCully said there are approximately eighty students currently in the program at West Mecklenburg High School and some of those are seniors. Mr. Merchant asked what are the costs associated with this program? Ms. Clark said the primary costs are listening aids and textbooks. High School students currently can make eight choices of classes and if they choose a foreign language class they are opting out of another class so the number of staff at the school should not be impacted. It is more challenging to find some foreign language teachers, such as Chinese and Japanese, than others. Dr. Gorman said this also impacts the master schedule. The fewer students that are in a particular program the fewer students in a particular classroom. If a class does not carry its full load, those seats will need to be accounted for somewhere else in the master schedule. There is an impact on the master schedule when programs are small. Mr. Merchant said staff's recommendation is to put the World Language Program only at South Mecklenburg High School and that is the motion that is currently on the table. Mr. Merchant asked if the program could be offered at South Mecklenburg High School and West Mecklenburg High School with high fidelity? Dr. Gorman said this would take time to review because it would depend on the number of students at Smith Language Academy and Collinswood Language Academy who would choose to take a Foreign Language Program closer to their home or who may choose to take IB courses or another option. Ms. Clark said historically many of the Language Immersion students opt to move to the IB Program and that was the driving force in recommending one high school site until we could get enough demand to warrant two different geographic locations. Dr. Gorman said there would have to be some give and take from other areas within a school's master schedule to have two smaller programs compared to one larger program.

- Ms. Leake said she would hope there are resources to support programs, academia for every school in the district, and a high quality education. She expressed concern that this is not supporting the weakest of the schools, which are the schools on the west side of the county. She expressed concern that CMS has money to operate Davidson IB and the other small schools but not to support the schools with the weakest students in the district.
- Ms. McGarry encouraged the Board to put the World Language Program at South Mecklenburg High School and build a strong program at that school rather than dilute the resources by having two smaller programs. She said the Magnet options are sending many students back to their home schools. She encouraged the Board to put the resources in the home schools by increasing the rigor of science and math courses and having a foreign language teacher at every elementary school in the district rather than dilute a program at the high school level.

**The Board voted 2-6 on Ms. McGarry's substitute motion (Number 10 under the Modifications as pulled by Ms. Leake) and the motion failed. Ms. McGarry and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the substitute motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, Ms. Leake, and Mr. Tate voted against the substitute motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

The Board voted on the original motion as presented by Ms. Griffin.

**The Board voted 6-2 to approve Modification #3 as presented by Ms. Griffin in the original motion which reads as follows: Modify the proposal for the World Language Program with the following:**

- Keep the World Language Program at West Mecklenburg High School;**
- Institute a World Language Program at South Mecklenburg High School;**
- Eliminate the World Language Program at E. E. Waddell High School (students may remain at Waddell in the regular comprehensive program under the provisions of #1 above or may automatically be reassigned to the World Language Program at either South Mecklenburg High School or West Mecklenburg High School depending on the transportation zone in which they live).**

**Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Mr. Merchant, Ms. Leake, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Ms. McGarry and Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Ms. Leake discussed Number 9 under Modifications (Move the middle school Spanish Program from Smith Language Academy to Collinswood Language Academy and Oaklawn Language Academy, converting Collinswood and Oaklawn to K-8 schools. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Collinswood and Oaklawn will continue on-site beginning 2010-2011 and growing the program one grade each year until K-8 (effective 2010-2011).

**Ms. Leake moved that the Board approve maintaining the Spanish Program at Smith Language Academy and not convert the Collinswood and Oaklawn facilities to a K-8 Program, the substitute motion did not receive a second and the motion died.**

The Board voted on the original motion as presented by Ms. Griffin.

**The Board voted 6-2 to approve #9 under the Modifications (Move the middle school Spanish Program from Smith Language Academy to Collinswood and Oaklawn facilities, converting Collinswood and Oaklawn to K-8 schools. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Collinswood and Oaklawn will continue on-site beginning 2010-2011 and growing the program one grade each year until K-8 (effective 2010-2011)) as presented by Dr. Gorman with the original recommendations. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau and Ms. Leake voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Dr. Gorman clarified that the grandfathering that was voted upon by the Board did not include terminal grades (grades 5, 8, and 12) and those grades would fall under the traditional grandfathering program and those are the only grades that include transportation.

A. Recommend approval of proposed amendments to Policy JIE, Pregnant Students

Chairperson White called upon Molly Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the recommendation. Ms. Griffin said before the Board for adoption is the recommended changes to Policy JIE, Pregnant Students. Under this amendment the policy is rewritten and renamed as “Pregnant and Parenting Students.” The language is verbatim from the new state law requiring that a school system have a policy with these provisions. The amendments to the policy come from the Policy Committee.

**Ms. Griffin moved that the Board adopt the proposed amendments to Policy JIE, Pregnant Students, a second was not required because it is the recommendation of the Policy Committee, and a discussion followed.**

- Ms. Leake said regarding attendance, do students need to provide a doctor’s note verifying that they have been to the doctor? Ms. Griffin said they would then be treated as any other student and would follow the regular regulations regarding excused absences. Ms. Leake asked do they have to make up the time they have missed? Ms. Griffin said, yes, that is covered by the attendance regulations.
- Mr. Gauvreau discussed the reasons he is opposed to this policy and does not believe it is necessary to follow state action. The Board should run this school as opposed to allowing the state and federal government telling us how it should be run. This policy goes too far and it is wrong to put a policy in place for pregnant and parenting students. This is endorsing this type of behavior and blaming the state for allowing us to do it. There are too many other students that deserve as much special attention as we are going to give pregnant students.

**The Board voted 6-2 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Ms. Leake, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Merchant and Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

B. Recommend approval of draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 1), Board Member Compensation and Expenses

Agenda Item IV.B. was deleted with the adoption of agenda.

C. Recommend approval of draft amendments to Policy BID (Version 2), Board Member Compensation and Expenses

Chairperson White called upon Ms. Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the recommendation. Ms. Griffin said before the Board for adoption is a proposed amendment to Policy BID, Board Member Compensation and Expenses. The amendment provides that Board members on the Board of Education shall receive a technology expense allowance equal to the technology expense allowance of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at any given time. In addition, a Board member may choose to authorize the transfer of an unexpended portion of his or her technology expense allotment to another Board member.

**Ms. Griffin moved that the Board approve the proposed amendments to Policy BID (Version 2), Board member Compensation and Expenses, and a discussion followed.**

- Mr. Gauvreau said this amendment is not necessary because the Board does not need a technology allowance. This is an attempt to get more money but this is the public's money. Putting this in policy is wrong and it makes the Board look like cheap politicians.
- Ms. McGarry said she supports a technology expense because this would allow her the ability to get rid of her antiquated equipment. She asked what is the dollar value for the technology allowance? She does most of her business on her personal BlackBerry which was not an authorized CMS Board member expense. She would like to be able to transfer her allowance to the equipment that she uses to conduct her business. She is opposed to transferring an unexpended portion of his/her allotment to another Board member.
- Ms. Griffin said the amount currently received by the BOCC for technology expenses is \$2,900 per year. She said the authorization to transfer unexpended expenses to another Board member was included to make this policy consistent with the Board's policy on travel expenses which allows travel expenses to be shared with the consent of the Board member.

**Ms. McGarry made a substitute motion that the Board amend the motion to eliminate the provision authorizing the transfer of unexpended technology expenses to another Board member. The substitute motion did not receive a second and the motion died.**

- Mr. Gauvreau encouraged the Board to not support the motion.
- Chairperson White expressed concern that this could become personally costly. Currently, CMS is responsible should his computer, printer, or fax machine need repairs or replacing. If this is approved, those costs would be his responsibility and that could become costly. He would not support the motion.

**The Board voted 4-4 on the original motion and the motion failed. Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, and Ms. Leake voted against the motion.**

D. Recommend approval of proposed Boundaries and Feeder Patterns

Chairperson White called upon Dr. Gorman to present the recommendation. Dr. Gorman called upon Scott McCully, Executive Director for Student Placement Services, to review the recommendations and answer Board member questions. Mr. McCully said the proposed



recommendations were presented to the Board at the October 28, 2008 Regular Board meeting. He said if no objection from the Board, he would review each recommendation separately for a Board discussion and a Board vote. There was no objection from the Board.

Ms. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for the new Salome Church Road elementary school as follows:

I. New Salome Church Road elementary school.

Grade Levels: K-5.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: The northernmost part of the University Meadows Elementary School attendance area as depicted on the accompanying map.

Affected Schools: Newell, University Meadows, and Hidden Valley elementary schools.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: New Salome Church Road Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at University Meadows.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at University Meadows and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend University Meadows for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at University Meadows.

II. Associated Boundary Shifts for Newell, University Meadows, and Hidden Valley elementary schools.

Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year

Affected Area: Parts of the 2008-2009 attendance areas for Newell, University Meadows and Hidden Valley elementary schools would be changed as follows:

- The northwest area of Newell's attendance area (north of University City Blvd.) will be reassigned to University Meadows as depicted on the accompanying map.
- The southwest area of Newell's attendance area (south of Reagan Drive) will be reassigned to Hidden Valley as depicted on the accompanying map.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: University Meadows and Hidden Valley elementary schools.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at Newell Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at Newell Elementary School and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Newell Elementary School for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Newell.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new Salome Church Road elementary school and associated boundary changes in Newell, University Meadows and Hidden Valley elementary schools, and the Board voted 7-0 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, Ms. Leake, and Mr. Tate voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gjertsen was out of the room at the time of the vote. District 3 is a**

**vacant seat.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for the new Ridge middle school as follows:

Grade Levels: 6-8.

Effective Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Background: Boundaries for new Ridge Road middle school (opening in August 2009) were adopted in November 2007. Because of a January 2008 adjustment in the previously adopted boundaries for Croft Community and David Cox elementary schools, the Superintendent is proposing a change in the boundaries for new Ridge Road and J. M. Alexander middle schools resulting in twelve students attending J. M. Alexander instead of new Ridge Road.

Home School Boundary: The portion of the new Ridge Road attendance area shown by the dotted yellow line on the accompanying map would be assigned to J. M Alexander Middle School.

Affected Schools: new Ridge Road and J. M. Alexander middle schools.

Default Assignments, rising 6-8: J. M. Alexander Middle School.

Assignment Option for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students: J.M. Alexander Middle School.

Sibling Guarantee: n/a (school has not yet opened).

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for changes in the boundaries for new Ridge Road and J.M. Alexander middle schools, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for new Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road elementary school as follows:

I. New Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road elementary school.

Grade Levels: K-5.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: The western part of the Paw Creek Elementary School attendance area as indicated on the accompanying map.

Affected Schools: Paw Creek and Mountain Island elementary schools.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: New Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at Paw Creek Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at Paw Creek Elementary School and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Paw Creek Elementary School for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Paw Creek Elementary School.

II. Associated Boundary Shift for Mountain Island and Paw Creek elementary schools.

Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

Affected Area: The 2008-2009 attendance areas for Mountain Island and Paw Creek elementary schools would be changed as follows:

- The southeast portion of the Mountain Island Elementary School attendance area will be reassigned to Paw Creek Elementary School as indicated on the accompanying map.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: Paw Creek Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at Mountain Island Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at Mountain Island Elementary School and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. Younger siblings of rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Mountain Island Elementary School will not have a sibling guarantee to attend Mountain Island Elementary School.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded Mr. Merchant, that the Board approves the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road Elementary School and associated boundary changes in Paw Creek and Mountain Island elementary schools, and the Board voted 7-0 in support of the motion. Ms. McGarry was out of the room at the time of the vote.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for the new Belmeade middle school as follows:

I. New Belmeade middle school.

Grade Levels: 6-8.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: An area encompassing the 2008-2009 home school areas of Whitewater Academy, Pawtuckett and Allenbrook elementary schools that are currently assigned to Coulwood and Wilson middle schools, as described below.

Affected Schools: Elementary attendance areas will become part of the attendance area for new Belmeade as follows:

- Whitewater Academy and Pawtuckett elementary schools – entire attendance areas will be in the new Belmeade home school area rather than the Coulwood Middle School attendance area.
- Allenbrook Elementary School – entire attendance area will be in the new Belmeade home school area rather than the Wilson Middle School attendance area.

Default Assignments, rising 6-8: new Belmeade Middle School.

Assignment Option for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students: May choose to remain at Coulwood or Wilson middle schools and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. Younger siblings of rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Coulwood or Wilson middle schools will not have a sibling guarantee to attend those schools.

II. Associated Boundary Shifts for Wilson and Kennedy middle schools.

Grade Levels: 6 – 8

Affected Area: The 2008/2009 attendance areas for Wilson and Kennedy middle schools would be changed as follows:

- The southernmost tip of the Wilson area (part of the Berryhill Elementary area) will be reassigned to Kennedy. Note: This is the part of the Berryhill attendance area that is proposed to be assigned to new Dixie River elementary school.

Default Assignments, rising 6-8: Kennedy Middle School

Assignment Option for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students: May choose to remain at Wilson; must indicate this intent on lottery application

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Wilson for younger siblings of rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Wilson.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new Belmeade middle school and the associated boundary changes for Wilson and Kennedy middle schools, and a discussion followed.**

- Mr. Merchant asked clarifying questions regarding the boundaries and relief to overcrowded schools and Mr. McCully responded. The new Sunset Road middle school will relieve Bradley, Coulwood, and Ranson middle schools and it is scheduled to open 2016-2017.
- Mr. Tate expressed concern regarding the K-12 feeder patterns and Mr. McCully clarified the feeder patterns. The Mountain Island northwest area is currently assigned to Coulwood and that community is seeking assignment to Bradley Middle School. Bradley Middle School is at approximately 120% capacity and this request would add ninety students which would further overcrowd Bradley at this point. Bradley is expected to be further overcrowded by further growth in the area.
- Ms. Leake asked clarifying questions regarding school enrollment and boundaries, and Mr. McCully responded.
- Mr. Merchant expressed concern regarding the comments made by parents about the proposed boundaries not aligning with the Learning Communities. He encouraged the Board to consider aligning the Learning Communities with the attendance zones; otherwise, they are random field offices with no sense of ownership. Mr. Merchant expressed concern that CMS has different Learning Communities, different elected districts, and different transportation zones. He said if CMS is going to sell Learning Communities as anything more than a scheme they must be utilized and honored. Dr. Gorman said he would be glad to discuss the purposes of the different areas with Mr. Merchant at a later time.

**The Board voted 7-1 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Gauvreau, Ms. Leake, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Merchant voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for new Dixie River Road elementary school as follows:

I. New Dixie River Road elementary school.

Grade Levels: K-5.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: The southernmost part of the 2008-2009 attendance area for Berryhill Elementary School and the southwestern part of the 2008-2009 attendance area for Steele Creek Elementary School as depicted on the accompanying map.

Affected Schools: Berryhill, Steele Creek and Lake Wylie elementary schools.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: New Dixie River Road elementary school.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at their current home schools.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at their current schools and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Berryhill or Steele Creek elementary school for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at those schools.

## II. Associated Boundary Shifts for Steele Creek and Lake Wylie elementary schools

Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

Affected Area: The 2008-2009 attendance areas for Steele Creek and Lake Wylie elementary schools would be shifted as follows:

- The middle part of Steele Creek Elementary School's southern boundary (north of Westinghouse Blvd. and south of Sandy Porter Road) would be reassigned to attend Lake Wylie Elementary School as indicated on the accompanying map.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: Lake Wylie Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at Steele Creek Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at Steele Creek Elementary School and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. Younger siblings of rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Steele Creek Elementary School will not have a sibling guarantee to Steele Creek.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new Dixie River Road elementary school and associated boundary changes in Berryhill, Steele Creek, and Lake Wylie elementary schools, and a discussion followed.**

- Ms. Leake asked clarifying questions regarding the students being reassigned and Mr. McCully responded.
- Mr. Merchant expressed concern that parents in the Yorkshire area are not receiving e-mail blasts from CMS. Mr. McCully said he would follow-up because typically staff will respond to those individuals who provide an e-mail address at the community meetings and staff is diligent in keeping those individuals informed.
- Mr. Gauvreau expressed concern that this boundary recommendation geographically is not compact, contiguous, and regularly drawn. Mr. McCully said this was part of a regional approach for a crowded area. Its purpose was to provide relief to Steele Creek, Winget Park, and Lake Wylie elementary schools as well as to open new schools within capacity and planning for future growth in the area.
- Mr. Gjertsen expressed concern that students would be passing each other going to

different schools.

- Ms. Griffin asked is there another new school planned to open in this area soon? Mr. McCully said, yes, there is a middle school, high school, and an elementary school planned in this area.

**The Board voted 6-2 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, and Mr. Tate voted in support of the motion. Ms. Leake and Mr. Gjertsen voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendation for new Youngblood/Steele Creek Road elementary school as follows:

Grade Levels: K-5.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: The eastern corner of the 2008-2009 Winget Park Elementary School attendance area and the southernmost part of the 2008-2009 Lake Wylie Elementary School attendance area as depicted on the accompanying map.

Affected Schools: Winget Park and Lake Wylie elementary schools.

Default Assignments for rising K-5 students: new Youngblood/Steele Creek Road elementary school.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at their current home schools.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at their current schools and must indicate this intent on the lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Winget Park or Lake Wylie elementary schools for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at those schools.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Ms. Leake, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new Youngblood/Steele Creek Road elementary school and associated boundary changes in Winget Park and Lake Wylie elementary schools, and the Board voted 6-2 in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Gauvreau, Ms. Leake, and Mr. Tate voted in support of the motion. Mr. Merchant and Mr. Gjertsen voted against the motion. District 3 is a vacant seat.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for the new York Road/Red Fez Club Road elementary school as follows:

Grade Levels: K-5.

Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2010-2011 school year or upon completion of the facility.

Home School Boundary: The southernmost portion of the 2008/2009 Winget Park Elementary School attendance area as depicted on the accompanying map.

Affected School: Winget Park Elementary School.

Default Assignments for rising K – 5 students: new York Road/Red Fez Club Road elementary school.

Assignment Options for rising K-4 students: No option to remain at Winget Park Elementary School.

Assignment Options for rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade students: May choose to remain at Winget Park Elementary School and must indicate this intent on lottery application.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend Winget Park Elementary School for younger siblings of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at Winget Park.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded by Ms. Leake, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) for the boundaries for new York Road/Red Fez Club Road elementary school, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

Mr. McCully reviewed the boundary recommendations for West Mecklenburg and Olympic high schools as follows:

Grade Levels: 9-12.

Effective Date: Beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

Boundary Changes: The attendance areas for West Mecklenburg and Olympic high schools would change as depicted on the accompanying map. The area proposed to be assigned to new Dixie River Road elementary school (opening in 2009/2010) and Kennedy Middle School is currently assigned to West Mecklenburg High School. Under the proposal, this area would instead be assigned to Olympic High School.

Affected Schools: New Dixie River Road elementary school (students currently living in the southernmost part of the 2008-2009 attendance area for Berryhill Elementary School).

Default Assignments for rising 9-11 students: Olympic High School.

Default Assignments for rising 12<sup>th</sup> grade students: West Mecklenburg High School.

Assignment Options for rising 9-11 students: No option to remain at West Mecklenburg High School.

Assignment Options for rising 12<sup>th</sup> grade students: May request assignment to Olympic High School.

Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to attend West Mecklenburg High School for younger siblings of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who choose to remain at West Mecklenburg.

**Ms. Griffin moved, seconded Mr. Merchant, that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal (presented at the Board meeting on October 28, 2008) to change the attendance areas for West Mecklenburg and Olympic high schools, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion.**

E. Recommend approval of Superintendent's Magnet Program Recommendations

Agenda IV. E. was presented as the first item under Action Items.

F. Recommend approval of the process for electing District 3 Representative to fulfill the remaining term ending December 2009

Chairperson White called upon Tom Tate to present the recommendation. Mr. Tate announced that the Board has a vacancy in the District 3 seat and this will begin the twenty-day period of accepting applications for this vacancy effective immediately. This would mean that all applications must be received in the Board Office by Tuesday, December 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

The seat became vacant effective October 30, 2009 when George Dunlap, District 3 Board member, was appointed to the Board of County Commissioners for their District 3 seat. The potential candidate for District 3 will fulfill the remaining term ending December 2009. Mr. Gauvreau said he would like the Board to consider a different approach. Mr. Tate said the Board has a policy in place that outlines the procedure for replacing a Board member and he is trying to outline the process in place by the Board. Ms. McGarry and Ms. Leake said they would like a copy of the timeline.

**Mr. Merchant moved that the Board announce the vacancy for the District 3 seat and move forward as outline by Board policy to fill the vacant District 3 seat for the remaining term ending December 2009, seconded by Mr. Gjertsen, and a discussion followed.**

- Chairperson White said the Board's Bylaws state that following the announcement the Board must advertise the vacancy for twenty-days. By this Board's precedent, the Board has set a date and time for all applicants to come before the Board to present an oral presentation of their qualifications and the Board has selected an individual at the next scheduled Regular Board meeting. The earliest date for election would be at the December 9, 2008 Regular Board meeting.
- Mr. Merchant said he would like to speak to his motion. He said it would be appropriate to amend the motion with the specific timeline.

**Mr. Tate made a friendly amendment to the motion that all applications for the District 3 seat must be received in the Board Office by 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2008, seconded by Ms. Griffin, and a discussion followed.**

Chairperson White called upon Mr. Tate to review the proposed timeline. Mr. Tate said the twenty-day announcement period would begin effective November 12, 2008. The application period will end December 2, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. and all applications must be received in the Board Office of the Education Center by or before that date. The Board will not be responsible for postal or courier delays. All applications following that date and time will be deemed late and returned unopened to the applicant. The Board will hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, December 4, 2008 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center in which each applicant will have up to three minutes to provide the Board an oral presentation. The Board will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 beginning at 4:00 p.m. and the majority membership of the Board of Education will elect an individual from the pool of qualified applicants to fill the District 3 vacancy for a term ending December 2009. A Board discussion followed.

- Ms. Leake asked if this process is following Board Policy. Regina Bartholomew, general counsel, reviewed the Board Bylaw. Ms. Leake asked if the Board could change the Bylaw? Chairperson White said the Board can change the Bylaw but it must be advertised and must receive a 2/3 Board vote of approval. Ms. Bartholomew said the Bylaw could not be changed tonight without proper advertisement and without the unanimous decision of the Board. Ms. Leake asked what would be the timeline for advertising to change a Bylaw. Ms. Bartholomew said a change in the Bylaw would need to be advertised at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting to notify the public that the Board intends to



change the Bylaw.

- Mr. Gauvreau said he would like to make a proposal to the Board. He believes it is silly to discuss only one vacant seat at this point when we know Ms. Leake will be vacating the District 2 as well. The smarter approach would be to wait and handle both vacancies at the same time. He encouraged the Board to take the opportunity to leave both seats vacant. He said the Board could run as a seven member Board and citizen committees have indicated that would be a better approach. The Board would still have three republicans and three democrats. This would give the Board the opportunity to be more substantive with a smaller working committee of the public. Next year is an election year and leaving the seats vacant would allow the public to elect the seats. He encouraged the Board to delay this process and to change the bylaws. Mr. Gauvreau encouraged the Board to take no action tonight. Mr. Gauvreau said this would be a great opportunity to discuss change.
- Chairperson White said he believes it is arrogant to say it is okay for Mr. Gauvreau's district to be represented but not okay to have District 3 represented.
- Mr. Gauvreau said these districts have been gerrymandered and this is an attempt to have more Democrats on the Board.

**Mr. Gauvreau made a substitute motion that the Board take no action on this matter and that the Board consider at a later meeting leaving the District 2 and 3 seats vacated until next year's election, seconded by Ms. McGarry, and a discussion followed.**

- Mr. Gauvreau expressed concern that this process is about who is going to be Board Chairperson next year.

Mr. Merchant *Called for the Question*, and there was no objection from the Board.

**The Board voted 3-5 on the substitute motion and the motion failed. Ms. McGarry, Mr. Gauvreau, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Mr. Merchant, Ms. Leake, and Mr. Tate voted against the substitute motion.**

Chairperson White said the Board would now vote on the original motion with the friendly amendment and the timeline as outlined by Mr. Tate which follows the Board's Bylaw. Ms. McGarry requested a copy of the proposed timeline.

**The Board voted 7-1 in support of the motion and friendly amendment. Chairperson White, Ms. Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Merchant, Ms. Leake, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion.**

Chairperson White said staff will ensure the vacancy is properly advertised and the process is followed.

## **V. REPORT/INFOMRATION ITEMS**

### **A. Report on Financial Statements for September 2008**

Chairperson White called upon Dr. Gorman to present the report. Dr. Gorman said Report Items A., B., and C., are the monthly reports and they are as presented.

B. Report on Final Budget Amendments for June 2008 and Budget Amendments for September 2008

Report Item V. B. was presented with V. A.

C. Report on Capital Project Ordinances for September 2008

Report Item V.C. was presented with V. A.

D. Report/First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy JCA, Student Assignment Plan

Chairperson White called upon Ms. Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the report. Ms. Griffin said before the Board for First Reading is proposed amendments to Policy JCA, Student Assignment Plan. The recommendations are presented to the Board with unanimous support of the Policy Committee. The major impact of the changes streamline the process for assigning students to schools. The first amendment streamlines the process for assigning new students who submit applications after the first and second lotteries have been conducted. Rather than completing a lottery application, these students will be assigned to their home schools. They may then submit a request for reassignment or transfer if they wish to be assigned to a different school. The second amendment applies to students who are not attending their home schools. This amendment would permit the Superintendent to reassign these students to their home schools if they are not following attendance or disciplinary rules or if they do not have reliable transportation to and from school (evidenced by numerous tardies or remaining on campus after school has dismissed). The proposed amendment also reiterates the district's rule requiring magnet students to fulfill all requirements of the Magnet Compact or be subject to reassignment. The proposed amendments is scheduled for a Public Hearing and Board vote at the December 9, 2008 Regular Board meeting and it will be posted on the CMS website effective November 13, 2008.

E. Report/First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements, and its accompanying Exhibit, IKF-E, CMS/North Carolina Course of Study Graduation Requirements

Chairperson White called upon Ms. Griffin, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the report. Ms. Griffin said before the Board for First Reading is proposed amendments to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements, and its accompanying Exhibit, IKF-E, CMS/North Carolina Course of Study Graduation Requirements. The proposed amendments reflect the new North Carolina Graduation Standards and the proposed new CMS Graduation Standards as recommended by staff as a result of Board Work Sessions and Community Meetings conducted over the last six months. In addition to the changes as required by North Carolina law including a four unit concentration for a student this does reduce the required courses to twenty-four. Staff has met with the Policy Committee to discuss how this option would create greater flexibility for all students in their senior year with opportunities for study abroad, internships or apprenticeships, employment, early college enrollment, and Virtual Learning. Ms. Griffin said staff will present this information to the Board at the November 25, 2008 Regular Board meeting and staff would be happy to meet with Board members on an individual basis. The proposed amendments is scheduled for a Public Hearing and Board vote at the December 9, 2008 Regular Board meeting and it will be posted on the CMS website effective November 13, 2008.

## **VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Gorman did not have a report to present.

## **VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Kaye McGarry congratulated the 2009 CMS Wachovia Principal of Year, Steve Hall, principal at Bruns Avenue Elementary School. She thanked Janice Davidson, principal at University Park Elementary School for giving her a tour of the school and showing her the importance of maintaining the Magnet Program. Ms. McGarry commended Dr. Gorman and the community representatives for holding a press conference on October 22, 2008 regarding gun violence. Ms. McGarry will hold "Kaye About Town" at Smelly Cat Coffeehouse on Dec 19<sup>th</sup>. She attended the Freedom Breakfast which honored Veterans for serving America.

Ken Gjertsen was pleased to attend the dedication ceremonies for the three new elementary schools (Elon Park, Ballantyne, and Polo Ridge) that recently opened in District 6.

Vilma Leake thanked the parents and principals at Beverly Woods Elementary Schools, Villa Heights Academic Center, and Lincoln Heights Elementary School for their hospitality on her recent visits. She commended the staff and students for the successful opening of the Military & Global Leadership Academy at Marie G. Davis. Ms. Leake commended the CMS Custodial Team and was pleased to attend the recent luncheon held to honor them for their service to CMS.

Chairperson White said Ms Leake will be sworn in as a member of the Board of County Commissioners on December 1, 2008. The next Regular scheduled Board meeting following that process for this Board will be December 9, 2008 and Ms. Leake's vacancy will be announced at that time. The Board will determine the timeline to fill the District 2 vacancy at that meeting. The Board will schedule a reception in January to honor George Dunlap and Vilma Leake for their service to CMS.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Griffin moved that the Board adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. McGarry, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the Regular Board meeting.**

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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Joe I. White, Jr., Chairperson

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Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board