

Approved by the Charlotte-  
Mecklenburg Board of Education  
September 8, 2009  
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

August 25, 2009

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on August 25, 2009. The meeting began at 5:18 p.m. and was held in Room 267 of the Government Center.

Present: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5;  
Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;  
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;  
Kimberly Mitchell-Walker (District 2);  
James Ross (District 3);  
Tom Tate (District 4); and  
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large, and  
Larry Gauvreau (District 1)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; André F. Mayes, Acting General Counsel/Deputy General Counsel; LaToya Walker, intern with the Urban Superintendents Program at Harvard Graduate School of Education; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

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

- **To consult with the Board's attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege including legal advice relating to real estate transactions/negotiations and a pending personal injury claim by Otilia Morazan; and**
- **To consider student matters that is privileged, confidential, and not a public record.**

**The motion was made pursuant to Section 143-318.11(a) of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.**

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 5:18 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

Chairperson Griffin reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m. in Room 267 of the Government Center. CMS-TV Channel 3 televised the meeting.

Present: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5;  
Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;  
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;  
Kimberly Mitchell-Walker (District 2);

James Ross (District 3);  
Tom Tate (District 4); and  
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large, and  
Larry Gauvreau (District 1)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; André F. Mayes, Acting General Counsel/Deputy General Counsel; Members of Executive and Senior Staffs; Judy Whittington, Manager of Board Services; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Chairperson Griffin welcomed everyone to the Board's second meeting of the month which would be held in a Work Session format. Chairperson Griffin said Board members Kaye McGarry and Larry Gauvreau would be absent. She apologized for starting the meeting behind schedule and she noted that the Board had been conducting business in Closed Session. She said this is also the first day of school and she thanked staff for making this a great day.

### **A. Adoption of Agenda**

Chairperson Griffin asked the Board to approve changes to the agenda. The changes to the agenda are deleting Action Item III. A. (Recommend approval of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education 2009-2010 Operating Budget) and Report Item IV. A. (Report/Update on Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise). These items will be presented at the next Regular Board meeting.

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt the agenda with agenda items III. A. and IV. A. deleted.

**Mr. White moved that the Board adopt the agenda as amended, seconded Ms. Mitchell-Walker, and the Board vote 7-0 in support of the motion. Ms. McGarry and Mr. Gauvreau were absent.**

### **B. Community Report on H1N1 Virus**

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the report. Dr. Gorman said an area of great importance in the community is the status of the preparedness of CMS as a school district to deal with the H1N1 virus. CMS is very fortunate to have a long history and great partnership with the Mecklenburg County Health Department (MCHD) in addressing issues that are long running challenges related to health as well as periodic issues. CMS is happy to report that again we are in collaboration with the MCHD in addressing the H1N1 issue in the community. Dr. Gorman introduced Dr. Stephen Keener, Health Director with the Mecklenburg County Health Department, who is leading this effort with CMS. Dr. Gorman called upon Barbara Pellin, Assistant Superintendent for Pre-K-12 Support Programs, and Dr. Keener to provide the Board and the community a report on the preparedness of CMS to respond to the H1N1 virus.

Ms. Pellin said this report will review the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) H1N1 Plan. CMS works closely with the Mecklenburg County Health Department (MCHD) on any cases of infectious diseases or viruses. CMS and the Health Department are carefully monitoring the situation and will keep parents and the public informed. Surveillance and monitoring components are coordinated through MCHD and CMS. Many families are concerned about the health and safety of their children as they return to school. CMS and the MCHD are working together on plans to deal with any issues that arise due to the H1N1 virus.

Mr. Pellin highlighted the following information:

- H1N1 Plan Goals:
  - Decrease exposure to regular seasonal flu and H1N1 flu.
  - Limit the disruption of day-to-day activities.
  - Maintain a safe and healthy school environment.
  - Communicate current, up-to-date information to parents, students, and staff.
- Plan Components:
  - Preparedness: CMS is collaborating with the MCHD to carefully monitor the situation and will keep parents and the public informed. CMS will also work closely with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), the North Carolina Department of Public Health (NCDPH), and The Centers for Disease Control (CDC). CMS will monitor those websites and research what other districts are doing (best practices, policies, and procedures) to prevent H1N1 as well as the environment of the state and the country. CMS School nurses and staff will monitor health room visits and track absences to see if they are related to H1N1. It is important parents inform CMS of changes to emergency phone numbers and addresses.
  - Communication: School nurses at each school will review presentations to discuss school-wide prevention and intervention measures emphasizing proper hand-washing with staff and students within the first two weeks of school. Hand-washing posters will be distributed to schools. CMS-TV 3 will work with MCDH to produce a hand-washing video to be shown at schools and on the TV 3 station. The district will also use Connect-Ed messages to notify parents of H1N1 activity in schools and update its Website with any new information. CMS will also share information on H1N1 through Parent University. To learn more information about the CMS plans for dealing with the virus, watch the H1N1 media briefing on CMS-TV 3. The program runs at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. each night through Friday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> with the exception of Tuesday, Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> in which the program will only air at 10:00 p.m. those nights.
  - Prevention: CMS will continue to emphasize practicing proper hygiene and hand-washing. Students and staff are to stay home if they have flu-like symptoms. The CDC recommends staying home until fever free for twenty-four hours without the use of any fever reducing medications. Proper hand-washing techniques will be expected at all schools. Staff will also maintain current practice for cleaning schools and classroom surfaces. If students come to school sick, parents will be called immediately and students will need to be picked up by the parents. Parents must understand that sick students will not be put on CMS buses. Part of the challenge is minimizing the spread of infection and staff will assist parents with the transportation piece if necessary. Students with H1N1 symptoms will be separated from healthy

students while waiting to be picked up. Those will be placed at least three feet from others or in a separate room. Those sites are being identified.

- Response: CMS will initiate a crisis plan if schools are to be closed for H1N1. At this time, the CDC and NCDPI, and NCDPH are encouraging schools districts to not close schools. The decision to close schools will be determined by Dr. Gorman, Dr. Keener, and Dr. Wynn Mabry, Health Director with the Mecklenburg County Health Department, and that will be a joint decision utilizing information from the CDC and NCDPH. CMS will determine the need and methods of vaccine distribution and are working with the School Health Department to review the potential of vaccines on a community basis and an in-school basis. Schools will work with Curriculum and Instruction staff to continue teaching and learning opportunities regardless of the health situation within the school setting or the community setting. CMS will partner with health-care providers to meet medical needs.
- Recovery: CMS will focus on a reopening process for schools as needed and partnering with community agencies to meet counseling and mental health needs as necessary. CMS will communicate pandemic status to parents, students and staff. Staff will continue to work with CMS departments to identify needs and challenges associated with the impact of H1N1.
- Resources:
  - CMS Website: [www.cms.k12.nc.us](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us)
  - Mecklenburg County Health Department: [www.meckhealth.org](http://www.meckhealth.org)
  - North Carolina Public Health: [www.ncpublichealth.org](http://www.ncpublichealth.org)

Dr. Keener said it is a pleasure to be here tonight to provide information. He commended the long history and mutual cooperation efforts between CMS and the Mecklenburg County Health Department. Dr. Keener provided an update on the current situation with H1N1 influenza in the community.

- History: Awareness of H1N1 began late March, early April and appears to have originated in Mexico and spread throughout North America, and from that point all over the world in just a short period of time. On June 11<sup>th</sup> the World Health Organization declared H1N1 to be a pandemic. This means it is a new virus that we have not seen before, it is spread easily among humans beings, and that there are outbreaks that are occurring simultaneous around the world. The word “pandemic” does not speak to the severity of the disease because at the present time H1N1 is a fairly mild illness and we hope it remains mild but it does meet the definition of “pandemic” by the World Health Organization.
- Symptoms:
  - Fairly similar to seasonal influenza that we experience from February to March but may be milder.
  - Tragic situations have occurred that include lost of life. Deaths have been reported in North Carolina, throughout the country, and around the world. Most of the deaths have occurred with children and adults who have underlying illnesses. Most seasonal influenza mainly affects those that are over age sixty-five.
  - Symptoms include fever and one or more respiratory symptoms such as cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath.
  - Most people do not realize they have it because they experience what appears to be a cold that gets better.
- H1N1: First case in Charlotte was reported in May. Based upon surveillance testing in

North Carolina most of the influenza we are experiencing is H1N1 influenza. There were a few cases of seasonal influenza but now is not the time for seasonal influenza and influenza in this area at this time of the year is very unusual. Most cases now will be H1N1. H1N1 is spread through respiratory droplets that come from coughing and sneezing. Those can be taken directly into the body or they can land on surfaces such as school desks, door knobs, phones, and keyboards and be spread from person to person. That is how the majority of this germ is spread. This speaks to the importance of hand-washing and other hygiene measures.

- Testing: Currently only people who are hospitalized are being tested but earlier we were testing everyone who had symptoms. Currently, the CDC is mainly interested in characterizing the genetic make up of the virus that causes severe illness and death, and that is why those being hospitalized are being tested. In most cases, people do not get tremendously ill and many do not even need to see a doctor. It is acceptable for someone to stay at home and do self-care at home.
- Vaccines: This year, we will still have the regular seasonal influenza vaccine (the one-dose vaccine) that usually is given in October. That campaign will begin a little earlier this year and will be directed towards the same populations as in previous years. Primarily focusing on the age sixty-five and above; those with chronic illnesses; and children from six months to age eighteen because they are such effective transmitters of influenza. There will be a different vaccine for H1N1 that will be available in the October to November timeframe. That will not be available at one time but will be available on a rolling period. The CDC has prioritized the populations to be vaccinated based upon the populations that seemed to have the most difficulty with H1N1 influenza in the spring of the year. The priority categories include pregnant women; those who live with or care for infants under six months of age (vaccine is not effective in infants less than six months of age); healthcare workers and emergency service workers; children age six months through age sixteen; persons age nineteen through sixty-four years with high risk medical conditions; and persons age nineteen through twenty-four (college age group who are hard to reach and do a lot of traveling during the holidays back and forth to school). These individuals will receive the first vaccines delivered to the community and the remainder will be delivered as it becomes available.
- Important Prevention messages:
  - Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Wash hands the length of time it takes to sing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. Wash hands frequently, especially after touching other people's hands, desks, door knobs, and other surfaces touched by the public.
  - Avoid hand and mouth (face) behavior. Hands will encounter the environment (contact with germs and virus particles) and the eyes, nose, and mouth are the places in the body where germs and virus can enter. This will minimize virus germs from entering your body.
  - Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. This helps to keep virus particles from spreading out into the environment and on to surfaces. It is better to use the inside of your elbow to catch your cough rather than to cough into your hands.
  - If you are sick or your child is sick, stay at home. This will reduce exposure to others.
  - Get the vaccine when it is available.
  - Stay informed and review the websites. The CDC website is [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu)

and the MCHD website is [www.meckhealth.org](http://www.meckhealth.org).

- Intervention: The intervention that will be made for students that are ill and who are kept home or sent home is that once they have been fever free for twenty-four hours while not using fever reducing medications will be allowed to return to school. During that time, they must stay home until the fever is gone.

Dr. Keener said this information is changing weekly and we will update the Board and the community as the situation develops.

Board members were invited to ask questions and make comments.

- Mr. Ross expressed concern that students with symptoms will not be put on CMS buses. He wants to ensure that CMS provides some assistance to those parents who do not have methods of transportation for their children. Mr. Ross asked should we be concerned that the symptoms could last longer than a couple of days? Dr. Keener said the experience thus far is that the symptoms are lasting the same or less time than the seasonal influenza. Mr. Ross asked what measures are being taken for people or families who are opposed to vaccines? Dr. Keener said the vaccination is recommended but not required. We hope that all the people who are eligible for a vaccination would take it because it would reduce the risk that any given person would be exposed to the virus. The vaccination is not mandatory and if an individual becomes ill with a respiratory illness and fever they would be required to stay home. Ms. Pellin said a part of the plan includes working with Youth and Family Services and the Department of Social Services (DSS) to put in place the availability of transportation because we know it will be a challenge and an issue for some families. We are developing plans with the school nurses to keep those children isolated until we can find transportation.
- Mr. Tate said this is an important and serious issue. Mr. Tate asked where will the vaccines be available and will they be available through the schools? Dr. Keener said over the past two weeks we have undertaken a large survey of all medical providers in the community asking if they want to participate in H1N1 vaccination. We requested information regarding, point of contact, how to get in touch, hours of operation, and an estimate of the numbers of the priority populations. The response from the community was excellent. So far, approximately 350 medical providers enthusiastically responded representing over 200,000 of the populations at risk. Vaccines will also be available at the Health Department and as we move forward vaccination sites could include pharmacies, grocery stores, and chain organizations. Ms. Pellin said CMS is evaluating the possibility of doing in-school vaccinations and that would be influenced by the availability of the vaccine and the timing.
- Chairperson Griffin asked is this an oral vaccine? Dr. Keener said, no, it is an injection.
- Mr. Merchant asked does the plan include distributing educational materials about the vaccine. Ms. Pellin said, yes, and those will be developed as the list comes from the Health Department and that will include a communication piece with the CMS Communications Department and the community's communication. Mr. Merchant asked has staff considered offering on-site vaccinations for teachers and staff? Dr. Gorman said we have discussed that but there are a number of people who would not be eligible in the priority vaccination groups but that does not mean we would not consider that option. CMS currently has that process in place for the seasonal influenza vaccination and we will do whatever makes it easier for students and staff. Mr. Merchant asked is there a Board

policy that allows organizations to use school sites for vaccinations? Ms. Pellin said CMS does not have a policy as such but we work with the Health Department and our school sites are used as distribution sites. Mr. Merchant said the seasonal flu tends to hit older people and those with health risks but H1N1 hits younger people. He wants to ensure there are ways to provide instructional continuity and he would like a process operationalized rather than wait until it happens. Mr. Merchant said with the budget staff took the approach to plan for the worse and hope for the best and he does not believe that would be an effective approach for H1N1. He expressed concern that the CDC and other agencies are taking the posture to hope for the best. He would prefer not to do that with H1N1 because the consequences are serious and include death. He encouraged a process be in place just in case the virus morphs and becomes stronger. CMS has over 136,000 students that sit in classrooms and on buses in close proximity and a public school system is a perfect and efficient environment to spread germs. He encouraged that CMS have a plan that involves individual school websites and teacher websites as delivery methods for instruction as well as the CMS-TV 3 station providing a plan for standard instruction. For example, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., CMS could teach standard instruction for Algebra 1. This would be helpful should we have to close a school as well as regular telephone contact from teachers to homes. Mr. Merchant asked is there a contingency in place for extensive absences that may exceed the maximum number because this could be a double hit with seasonal flu and H1N1? He wants to ensure this is taken seriously and the idea of just washing our hands a lot is irresponsible. CMS needs to have a real operational plan in place and not wait on the CDC to provide direction because they believe this will be okay. He encouraged staff to put a plan in place that is not just for prevention, communication, or what to do when a student gets sick but what to do when school “x” closes or “x” percent of the teachers at school “x, y, and z” are absent. He wants to ensure CMS is prepared for those types of situations. Dr. Gorman said he would allow Dr. Keener to address those concerns first and then he would explain what is actually in place. Dr. Gorman expressed concern that it misleads the public to state that we do not have an operational plan because that is not the case. Dr. Keener said Mr. Merchant’s points are good. Dr. Keener said he did indicate that H1N1 is a mild illness now but that is now. One of the concerns is that the virus could mutate and become more severe because that is what it likes to do. At that point, we will be facing a situation much different from the current situation and it is important to prepare with that possibility in mind. A broad planning effort is underway that includes the City, County, and businesses. The leadership is centered in the city and county government and efforts include reviewing contingencies should 30% or 40% of workforce is out because they are ill or their children are ill; how will operations continue and work gets completed; and developing plans for continuity of operations. Dr. Keener said those efforts are underway and he wants to ensure the community that the process covers more than prevention. This is a delay tactic and that is good because it allows us to diffuse the absenteeism over a longer period of time because it doesn’t happen all at once. A delay tactic also gives us more time to get people vaccinated, make arrangements for what has been discussed, and keeps the number of ill people at a minimum. We will not be able to prevent this from coming into the borders of Mecklenburg County and to keep it out completely. Mr. Merchant encouraged the government agencies to discuss this with major retailers such as Harris Teeter, Belk, Family Dollar because the public will be going to those types of businesses. Dr. Keener said, yes, and there is a lot of interest with the banks and businesses. The CDC website last week posted guidance and recommendations

for businesses. Dr. Keener said Mr. Merchant's comments are on point and that reminds him of an old saying that states, "Some plan to fail and others fail to plan but the results are the same." Dr. Gorman said CMS does have a plan in development. Staff held a meeting over two weeks ago in which every department in CMS was present. Staff discussed all situations including transportation issues and how to get students home; curriculum and how to get homework home; Human Resources and what to do in cases of high absenteeism; Communications Department and how to utilize the different media, phone, computer, and television. All departments are in the process of working with Barbara Pellin who is leading the coordination of this effort and those components will be communicated when they are finalized. CMS has a plan underway but it has not been finalized. Dr. Gorman wants to ensure the public understands that CMS is developing an operational plan. CMS and the MCHD are in collaboration in developing strategies and determining when to put them in place. On the first day of school, we are being careful with what we share and Dr. Keener is taking the charge from a medical standpoint. The first piece for CMS is prevention and the other pieces are being operationalized. Mr. Merchant said he wants to know when it is ready and wants to ensure CMS is ready should the virus hit. Dr. Gorman said staff will keep the Board informed. Ms. Pellin said we have learned great lessons from public health history. CMS has CDC plans that are operational plans and CMS will follow and utilize that framework for implementing the extra pieces.

- Chairperson Griffin asked how effective are hand sanitizers and, if they are effective, what is the availability of them in our schools? Dr. Keener said they are effective but they are not as effective as hand-washing with soap and water. This is a standard of care in hospitals and they are effective. Ms. Pellin said staff is researching the costs of hand sanitizers and they are very expensive. Hand sanitizers were on almost all of the lists sent home with students for items to bring to school. There are some schools that have hand sanitizers but we are looking for the availability for all schools to have them and staff is reviewing the budget implications and availability. Chairperson Griffin said this would be a great way to mobilize our community to donate hand sanitizers because that could be accomplished at a relative low expense.

Dr. Gorman commended Ms. Pellin for her service to CMS. He said CMS is probably the only school district that has a public health nurse as the assistant superintendent who oversees our health related issues. CMS is lucky to have Ms. Pellin whose career, background, and training has been public health through the nursing profession and now in education. Dr. Gorman thanked Dr. Keener, Dr. Mabry, and the staff at MCHD for the partnership with CMS.

## II. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel.

*Appointments:*

- *Paul Williams named principal at Winget Park Elementary School. Mr. Williams previously served as assistant principal at Dilworth Elementary School.*

- B. Construction Items:

1. Recommend approval of construction contract to replace existing chiller at Joseph W. Grier Academy.

*The construction contract was awarded to Carolina Air Solutions. The contract scope of work includes labor, services, equipment, and materials needed to replace the old*



*existing McQuay Chiller with a Trane RTAC350 ton air-cooled chiller. Fiscal implications: \$149,409.73*

2. Recommend approval of design and construction project for the aboveground fuel tanks at NorthPointe Bus Transportation Center.

*The design and construction contract for the aboveground fuel tanks at NorthPointe Bus Transportation Center was publicly bid on July 14, 2009. Staff recommends approval of this construction contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Jones and Frank. The contract scope includes the installation of two twenty-thousand gallon diesel aboveground storage tanks and one five-thousand gallon unleaded gasoline aboveground storage tank. Installation of the three aboveground storage tanks is to accommodate fuel necessary to operate the bus fleet stationed at said location. Fiscal implications: \$404,249.99*

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

**Mr. Tate moved, seconded by Mr. Ross, that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through B., and the Board voted 7-0 in support of the motion. Ms. McGarry and Mr. Gauvreau were absent.**

### III. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education 2009-2010 Operating Budget

Item deleted with the adoption of the agenda. Chairperson Griffin said this item was deleted because we received the final state budget late and staff is still finalizing the proposed budget recommendations. Dr. Gorman said the finance team has been working tirelessly on the budget recommendation and needs additional time to finalize the budget to ensure substantive changes or amendments will not be needed at a later time.

### IV. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Report/Update on Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise

Item deleted with the adoption of the agenda.

- B. Report/Update on Opening of Schools

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the report. Dr. Gorman called upon Hugh Hattabaugh, Chief Operating Officer, to present the report on Opening of Schools. Mr. Hattabaugh said this is a follow-up report to the report presented to the Board at the August 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Board meeting. Today was the first day of school and this will be a real time report as we are still receiving information about the first day because at this point not all students have reached their home destination. Overall, this has been a great opening day and from bus lots to classrooms operations have run smoothly. Unlike last year, when we had to deal with eight inches of rain. The smooth opening is a reflection on the many months of planning, the effective professional people that we have in the various divisions, and the hard work of principals, teachers, and school staff. Mr. Hattabaugh said he, central staff, and area superintendents spent the day visiting schools and we are pleased with the operations. He

commended principals, teachers, and staff for their hard work because he knows many of them were at their schools last night until 9:30 p.m. finishing the last touches to ensure everything was in order so that students would have a great first day of school. He said when visiting many of the schools it was as if they had been in operation for months. Mr. Hattabaugh said not all students are home at this point and last year some students did not get home until 7:30 p.m. Staff is in contact with the Transportation Specialists to ensure everyone gets home safely. All students in the Achievement Zone, Metro School, and Morgan School were home by 6:00 p.m., all students in the North and West Learning Communities were home by 6:20 p.m., and all students in the East Learning Community were home by 6:30 p.m. We will be getting updates throughout the meeting from the Northeast, South, and Central learning communities to let us know that everyone has arrived home safely. Mr. Hattabaugh reviewed the following information:

- General Impression:
  - Smooth and efficient opening.
  - Teacher Vacancies: 213.5 vacancies. As of Friday late afternoon there were 247.5 vacancies and on Monday that dropped to 217 vacancies. Principals are continuing to interview and hire effective teachers, academic facilitators, and deans for their schools.
  - Transportation:
    - Enrollment presents challenges for transportation and just in the last two days enrollment numbers have spiked. Students must be registered and enrolled prior to setting up routing.
    - Implementation of common stops generated questions. Call Center received 3,540 calls by 11:10 a.m. and adjustments will be made.
  - Student Placement: Encountered parents enrolling students today and received 906 phone calls.
  - Textbooks:
    - No major shortages as of today but should projections become actual there may be concerns regarding textbooks and materials for specific classes.
- Student Enrollment:
  - Student enrollment is fluid and is a moving target.
  - As of July 29<sup>th</sup> projections were 1,088 students below the projected 134,446 students but as of August 24<sup>th</sup> student enrollment was above projection by 1,747 students.
  - These are projections and until students actually enter the school and pick up their schedule they are not truly registered in CMS.
  - Final enrollment will be determined as of the 20<sup>th</sup> day of school. Historically, the enrollment as of the 10<sup>th</sup> day of school is a solid count.
  - Projections:

<b>Learning Community</b>	<b>8/24/09 Projection</b>	<b>Projected 2009-2010</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Achievement Zone	9,370	9,143	227
Central	19,313	20,624	-1,311
East	24,436	24,012	424
North	18,309	18,530	-221
Northeast	21,361	21,097	264
South	25,983	23,799	2,184

West	17,421	17,241	180
Total	136,193	134,446	1,747

- Employees/Staffing:
  - Overall 98.2% staffed.
  - 18,425 employees.
  - 9,837 Teachers (8,804)/Instructional staff (1,033).
  - 8,067 Non-instructional staff.
  - Administrative: 406 principals and assistant principals/115 senior managers and above.
  - Rehired 275 reduction in force (rif) employees as of August 24, 2009.
  - Vacancies:
    - 217.5 teachers including ADM, EC, ESL, CTE and Title 1 as of August 24, 2009.
    - Of those, 46.5 vacancies in the critical need areas of math, science, EC, ESL, and some foreign languages.
    - Administrative: 2 principal vacancies (Hawk Ridge Elementary and James Martin Middle schools).
    - Hiring freeze lifted for all positions on August 19, 2009. CMS continued to hire for vacant teacher and principal positions during the interim.
    - Licensed support staff: 21 vacancies (19 counselors and 2 media specialists)
- Transportation:
  - Experienced an excellent day. Credit goes to Carol Stamper, Executive Director of Transportation, and her staff as well as the direction of Guy Chamberlain, Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services. These staff members to an outstanding job and each year they continually improve.
  - 1,157 buses departed transportation lots on time to serve an estimated 112,000 students.
  - 99 buses below last year but serving approximately the same number of students.
  - Implementation of Global Positioning System (GPS) is efficient and provides the exact time students arrive at the school. 89% of the buses arrived at the school before the bell and on average were twenty-one minutes ahead of schedule. 11% of the buses arrived after the bell including one bus that arrived fifty-one minutes late at Morehead Elementary School.
  - Daily reports will continue to be provided for tracking morning bus arrivals and afternoon arrivals at home. Efficiencies should continue to improve as procedures are finalized. Transportation is a cascading effect because many drivers provide service to high school and elementary school followed by middle school which is last. The first few days of schools involves making adjustments to ensure students are on the right bus.
  - Bus scheduling will be ongoing. Since August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Transportation Department has received an estimated 5,000 student record changes; scheduled transportation services for an additional 1,000 students; processed over 2,500 alternate stop and rider intent request changes; and answered over 1,000 customer calls on Monday (August 24<sup>th</sup>) alone. The staff of the Transportation Department has done a great job and will continue to work to resolve any outstanding issues.

Mr. Hugh reported that at 6:58 p.m. all buses in the South Learning Community were checked in and all students had been delivered to their afternoon destination. There are two remaining

learning communities outstanding at this time.

- School Facilities:
  - Opened six new schools (Berewick Elementary, River Gate Elementary, River Oaks Academy, and Whitewater Middle in the West Learning Community. Stoney Creek Elementary and Ridge Road Middle in the Northeast Learning Community) and one replacement school (Long Creek Elementary located directly behind the old school). All schools opened on time and under budget. All furniture, fixtures, and equipment were delivered on time and all openings went smoothly.
  - New Ridge Road Middle School opening had a big impact on Alexander Middle School in the North Learning Community. Last year, Alexander Middle School had 1,400 students and this year it opened with 596 students. This has made a remarkable change in the environment and culture of the school. This was an effort to right size our schools.
  - Staff of facilities management did a great job from custodial staff to the experts with HVAC in preparation for the new school. There were some minor issues and they are being addressed. As part of our energy management, CMS is timing when air conditioning is turned on and when it is shut down. Air conditioning will be turned on ninety minutes before first bell and two hours after last bell to accommodate meetings and classroom work and adjustments will be made as necessary.
  - CMS participated in a summer energy management focus in which facilities operated on a Monday through Thursday schedule from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. which saved the district an estimated \$281,000.
- Concluding Comments/Challenges:
  - Textbooks: no major concerns at this time but depending on final student enrollment could become an issue for certain subjects. Last year, staff audited all schools to locate excess textbooks and those will be reallocated to leverage the textbooks in the warehouse.
  - Overall, the opening district wide was smooth.
  - Site-specific concerns will be addressed.
  - Transfers will continue to be processed.
  - Bus scheduling ongoing.
  - Staffing of vacant positions is continuing. CMS received the final state budget late and that delayed the decision to rehire 229 employees and this is still an issue. Principals are being strategic in working with their area superintendents to ensure hiring the most effective teacher for the classroom.
  - Enrollment numbers will continue to be monitored going forward until the final count on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of school. Staff allocations will be adjusted based upon the 20<sup>th</sup> day data.

Ms. Mitchell-Walker left the Regular Board meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Hattabaugh reported that the last student in the Northeast Learning Community was delivered to their home at 7:10 p.m. The Central Learning Community is still outstanding. Mr. Hattabaugh commended the CMS staff, schools, principals, and teachers for a smooth opening and a great first day of school. Dr. Gorman thanked the custodial staff who worked hard throughout the summer to get the schools ready.

Board members were invited to ask questions and make comments.

- Mr. Gjertsen said he is happy the buses are arriving at the schools twenty minutes before the bell and not arriving at the bus stops twenty minutes early. It has been a concern in his district that buses arrive at the bus stop twenty minutes early and arrive at the schools empty.
- Mr. White commended the entire Transportation Department for a job well done because organizing transportation for over 100,000 students is a gigantic undertaking.

Dr. Gorman said this is an interesting business. Yesterday, we transported no students but today we transported 100,000 students. Yesterday, we fed no one lunch but today we fed 70,000 students. Our business goes from stop to sprint and he commended the great group of staff for a doing a great job.

- Mr. Merchant asked what are the contributing reasons to the substantial difference between the projected enrollment and the August 24<sup>th</sup> enrollment for the Central (-1,311 students) and the South (2,184 students) learning communities understanding that this is not the actual enrollment for the first day of school? Dr. Gorman said the enrollment numbers for the first day of school (August 25<sup>th</sup>) have not been finalized and he would prefer to respond after the enrollment numbers have been finalized. Scott McCully, Executive Director of Student Placement Services, and Mike Raible, Executive Director for Planning and Project Management, will discuss the projection discrepancies in about ten days.
- Chairperson Griffin said we have heard that all the students except for some of those in the Central Learning Community have been delivered home and she hopes they will be home soon. Dr. Gorman said the students in the Central Learning Community are always the last students to be delivered to their homes and a contributing factor is the disproportionate number of Magnet Programs which creates a more complex transportation system.

Chairperson Griffin said, on behalf of the Board, thank you so much Dr. Gorman, senior staff, and all the staff in the schools. This has been a great day and we are looking forward to having a great year. Dr. Gorman said he was pleased to report that this day was used for instruction and he was proud of our teaching staff because teaching and learning was taking place in all the schools.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Merchant moved that the Board adjourn the Regular Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Tate, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.**

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

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Molly B. Griffin, Chairperson

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Nancy Daughtride, Clerk to the Board