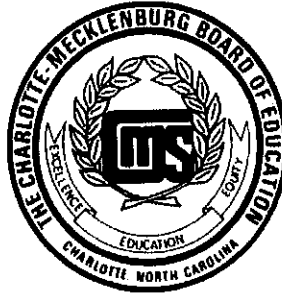


Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
April 13, 2010
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

October 13, 2009

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on October 13, 2009. The meeting began at 5:32 p.m. and was held in Room CH-14 of the Government Center.

Present: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5;
Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;
Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);
Kimberly Mitchell-Walker (District 2);
James Ross (District 3);
Tom Tate (District 4); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: There were no absences.

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; André F. Mayes, Acting General Counsel/Deputy General Counsel; Hugh Hattabaugh, Chief Operating Officer; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

Upon motion by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Mitchell-Walker, 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 pending litigation matters:**
 - *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education v. Earl Chronister (08-CVS-77785) and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education v. Margaret Chronister (08-CVS-7786);*
 - *Sugar Creek Charter School, et al. v. State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, et al. (09-CVS-28289);*
 - *Jerry Alan Reese v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (08-397);* and
- **To consult with the Board's attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege concerning pending workers' compensation claims by Susan Higgins and Pamela Shaw.**

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 5:32 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

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

Present: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5;
Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);
Kimberly Mitchell-Walker (District 2);
James Ross (District 3);
Tom Tate (District 4); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: There were no absences.

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 6:00 p.m. Chairperson Griffin welcomed everyone to the Board's first meeting of the month which is being held in the Meeting Chamber. Chairperson Griffin announced that Ken Gjertsen and Tom Tate were piloting an on-line Board meeting Agenda for the meeting in an effort of the Board moving to a paperless meeting. This process will create efficiency for Board meetings and respect to the environment. In addition, tonight for the first time the Board is piloting the Granicus Program in which the Board meeting will be video taped and posted on the CMS Website for viewing. The public may access this Board meeting tomorrow on the CMS Website.

Mr. Tate welcomed members of the Youth Leadership Council of Mecklenburg Ministries to the meeting. The group represented ten different high schools and five racial groups and meeting with the Board was a part of one of the student's Graduation Project on the Youth Leadership Council.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Griffin called upon Kaye McGarry to introduce Charlie Sain to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak to the October character trait of "responsibility." Ms. McGarry said Charlie Sain has been a Performance Learning Center student since 2008 and will graduate 2010. As a student at J.H. Gunn Elementary School, Northeast Middle School, and Butler High School, Charlie was more interested in the social aspect of school life and as a result he fell behind academically. In his junior year, he realized how important education is and decided to apply to the Performance Learning Center to make up credits. He experienced an immediate turnaround in the smaller school environment and on-line instruction. He became involved with morning motivation presentations and is now a true leader at the school. He assists new students in their involvement with service learning, community projects, job shadowing, internships, and college field trips. Charlie plans to attend a four-year university and aspires to be a sports

analyst. This is a natural choice for Charlie due to his love of football, basketball, and soccer. Ms. McGarry introduced Charlie's father, Scott Sain, and his principal, Sherry Sigmon. Charlie invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and following the pledge to remain standing for a moment of silence. Charlie shared the importance of people being accountable for their responsibilities because it will help them be successful in life. As a young adult, he grew more responsible as he realized his academic career was a necessity in achieving the goals he set for his life. He chose to be responsible and placed education as a top priority in taking the necessary steps to be successful in life.

B. Adoption of Agenda

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Mr. Tate moved, seconded by Ms. McGarry, that the Board adopt the agenda as presented, and the Board voted 9-0 in support of the motion.

II. REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairperson Griffin said this is the opportunity for the Board to hear from the public and each speaker will be given three minutes to discuss the topic of their choice. Tonight, there are fifty-four speakers signed up to speak. She said this is the Board's business meeting and she encouraged everyone to follow proper meeting protocol.

Three people represented the Service Learning Club at South Mecklenburg High School and discussed fund raising activities for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. They encouraged everyone to get involved and stressed the importance of educating all students on Breast Cancer Awareness. A Breast Cancer Fund Raiser week is scheduled at South Mecklenburg High School from October 19-23, 2010 and activities include raising money at the October 23rd football game. Last year's activities raised over \$1,100 and they have encouraged other CMS schools to participate in similar events.

- Dana Hamilton, represented American Cancer Society.
- Ashley Ross, student at South Mecklenburg High School.
- Kelsey Richmond, student at South Mecklenburg High School.

Hans Plotseneder discussed the *Strategic Plan 2014* and he believes the document should include global competitiveness, objectives for parents, reducing the achievement gap, and addressing the dropout rate. The plan should relate to academic achievement and address goals regarding the CMS product which is students.

Rodney Faulkner is the parent of a student at Myers Park Traditional Elementary School and a proud graduate of West Charlotte High School. He encouraged the Board to preserve the Traditional Program and expressed concern that the recommendation shifts overcrowding to Myers Park Traditional and Elizabeth Traditional and that will negatively impact the program. Eastover is overcrowded but this is not an optimum solution because it only shifts the problem to other schools. He encouraged the Board to not support the option.

Three speakers encouraged the Board to make the proposed home school at Dilworth a mirror image of Eastover Elementary School and to support Option B which would make Eastover and Dilworth two strong home schools. They expressed concern that Option C would create an imbalance.

- Chip Ford, resident of Dilworth and Eastover Elementary School parent.
- Jennifer Bennett, resident of Dilworth and Eastover Elementary School parent.
- Carrie Allison, resident of Dilworth and Eastover Elementary School parent.

Mike Malloy encouraged the Board to move the Dilworth Arts Magnet to First Ward and to move the Myers Park Traditional Magnet to the Dilworth facility and to move the new home school to the facility on Radcliff Avenue which could serve that population and solve overcrowding at other CMS schools in the immediate vicinity. This is a systemic problem and not a Dilworth, Myers Park, or Eastover problem. This would be a long term solution that is fair, equitable, works, and garners support from the community. These families are willing to move their children to another school and are asking the Board to give them a good school.

Seventeen speakers discussed concerns regarding the negative impact that changes to East Mecklenburg High School would have on the school (drop in enrollment below 1,500 students, loss of programs, loss of teachers, and loss of teacher and student morale) which contributes to a negative community perception. They shared the successes of East Mecklenburg High School and commended the teachers for being committed to the school and students. They asked the Board to preserve and keep East Mecklenburg strong.

- Larry Bosc, teacher at East Mecklenburg High School for twenty-two years and parent of two East Mecklenburg graduates.
- Alissa Juarez, teacher at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Katie McCullough, 4th year teacher at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Lauren Stokes, graduate of and 2nd year teacher at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Bess Davis, graduate of and 2nd year North Carolina Teaching Fellow at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Jennifer Lehman, 4th year IB teacher at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Mary Beth Hughes, teacher at East Mecklenburg.
- Mark Synder, lives in East Mecklenburg and the parent of two students that will attend East Mecklenburg High School, keep East Mecklenburg strong for the future students.
- Thomas Nguyen, tennis coach at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Cidney Estridge, student at East Mecklenburg High School.
- T.J. Gerald, 9th grade student at East Mecklenburg High School, concerned that a decrease in population may negatively impact his college career.
- Lauren Tyler, 9th grade student at East Mecklenburg High School, and she encouraged the Board to keep Crown Point students at East Mecklenburg.
- Jeri Leach, parent of students in the East Mecklenburg IB Program, encouraged the Board to increase the enrollment at East Mecklenburg and Harding University high schools and Myers Park High School and West Charlotte High School need relief. She encouraged the Board to be fair and to develop a strong balance among the schools.
- Amber Ockerbloom, parent of student at East Mecklenburg, urged the Board to not fail the parents and students at East Mecklenburg.
- Bill Allen, teacher at East Mecklenburg High School, expressed concern regarding the process and encouraged the Board to keep the student population at 2,000 students and to keep Piney Grove and Crown Point in the East Mecklenburg boundary.
- Headon Mitchell, senior at East Mecklenburg High School.
- Deb Smith, CTE teacher at East Mecklenburg High School and parent of two East Mecklenburg graduates who are successful young adults.

Five speakers encouraged the Board to keep the IB Program at Myers Park High School. The school can accommodate the current enrollment; East Mecklenburg lost enrollment due to their reassignment to Butler High School as result of the new Mint Hill High School which was built in the wrong place; Myers Park IB Program will have natural attrition that will reduce the IB population; emulate the program at other schools; and do not dismantle this highly successful and nationally recognized program. They asked the Board to take the Myers Park IB Program option off the table.

- Nichols Rose, parent of two students in CMS (one in the Myers Park IB Program).
- Janet Flakoll, lives in the South Mecklenburg High School area and parent of a sophomore in the Myers Park IB Program.
- Dr. Vikram Kumar, lives in Myers Park and the parent of 9th grade twins in Myers Park IB Program.
- Sonia Scholl, parent of students at Myers Park High School one in the IB Program.
- Doug Swaim, parent of two students in the IB Program at Myers Park High School.

Margaret Marshall, PTA co-president at Myers Park High School and member of the East Mecklenburg Foundation Board, said both East Mecklenburg and Myers Park have strong IB Programs, parental involvement, and diversity. Eliminating one of the programs will result in fewer students taking advantage of the IB Program and that decision will negatively impact both schools. She encouraged the Board to allow East Mecklenburg to keep their Certificate Program and full Diploma Program to prevent losing students. She is supportive of strengthening both schools and the feeder schools to East Mecklenburg because moving the IB Program will be a short term solution.

Six speakers encouraged the Board to keep the two Traditional Magnet Programs as full Magnets and not partial-Magnets and to not disrupt successful programs to relieve overcrowding at Eastover Elementary School. They discussed the successes of the Traditional Program and the schools, the diversity of the school, academic achievement of all students, and the importance of the distinctive learning environments with a strong focus on tradition, structure, etiquette, discipline, character education, and high expectation of parental involvement.

- Todd Rubenson, resident of the Elizabeth neighborhood and parent of two students at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School.
- LeDerrick Bouknight, parent of students at Piedmont Middle and Elizabeth Traditional Elementary schools.
- Tony Scheer, parent of three students at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School.
- Aaron Christensen, resident of Myers Park and parent of students at Myers Park Traditional Elementary School.
- Taryn Mecia, parent of students at Myers Park Traditional Elementary School.
- Adrienne Trent, parent of a student at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School.

Four speakers encouraged the Board to develop solutions that are logical, include proximity, and neighborhood based. They expressed concern regarding the consequences of their neighborhood school being used as a Magnet Program because this would cause them to attend a school outside the boundaries of Myers Park. Eastover is their neighborhood school and they encouraged the Board to return their neighborhood school to them. They do not support any of the options and oppose the option to shift their children to the Dilworth campus.

- Rusty Bryson, parent of a student at Eastover Elementary School and the president of the

Myers Park Homeowners Association.

- Kristy Farr, resident of Myers Park and parent that walks her children to Eastover Elementary School which is her natural neighborhood school.
- Gary Hecimovich, resident of Myers Park and parent of two students at Eastover Elementary School, asked the Board to consider an Option D for a neighborhood school at the Radcliff facility.
- Haynes Paschall, resident of Eastover and parent of students at Eastover Elementary School, discussed overcrowding issues at Eastover Elementary School and encouraged the Board to relieve overcrowding at Eastover and to keep the school strong.

Deborah Albritton, PTA president at First Ward Elementary School, encouraged the Board to keep First Ward a Magnet School. She said the parents at First Ward would welcome the facility swap with the Dilworth Arts Magnet Program.

Beth Moss encouraged the Board to not include Selwyn Elementary School in the mix at this late date. The parents have not been advised of this recommendation and they need a public opportunity to discuss their concerns.

Chairperson Griffin called the Public Request to a close at 8:15 p.m.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Recommend approval of minutes:

- February 24, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.
- May 26, 2009 Joint Meeting.
- September 8, 2009 Closed Session.
- September 8, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.
- September 22, 2009 Closed Session.
- September 24, 2009 Closed Session.

B. Recommend approval of depositories and signature authorizations.

The Board is required to approve the signature or facsimile signature of Sheila W. Shirley, Chief Financial Officer, on the bank accounts of the Board of Education. Also, the Board is requested to approve the officers (principal and school treasurer) and depositories for all school activity funds as listed by school on file in the Chief Financial Officer's office. Board approval of facsimile signatures and bank depositories is addressed in Sections 115C-439 and 115C-448, respectively of the North Carolina School Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

C. Recommend approval of licensed/non-licensed hires and promotions for September 2009.

D. Recommend approval of the adoption of a resolution authorizing the Director of Storage and Distribution to dispose of property by way of on-line bid in auction format.

The on-line auction time span will encompass the October 26 through November 13, 2009 period. GovDeals, (www.govdeals.com) an experienced and proven on-line government surplus sales service provider will facilitate the process.

E. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Rolling Out Investigations in a Large, Diverse School District: Pedagogical Shifts, Challenges, and Effects on Students Numeracy (Research Study).

The goal of the proposed pilot/research study is to explore the implementation of "Investigations in Number, Data, and Space"® (Investigations) curriculum and students' numeracy in our kindergarten through third grade classrooms. The study seeks to investigate how implementation of "Investigations" has changed the ways students learn and how teachers teach. "Investigations" emphasizes problem-solving, thinking through issues, movement and exploration, working through problems with peers, expressing mathematical thinking and computation based on understanding of the number system, and developing individual strategies for solving problems. The proposed plan will include twelve schools, two classes at each grade level, kindergarten through third grade, for a total of eight classes per school (ninety-six classes). The schools to be selected will be representative of the urban and suburban nature of the district. The schools considered for selection will be deemed to be further along in "Investigations" implementation for implementation comparisons. Funding requested from Institute of Education Science/Exploration Projects in the amount of \$1,135,814.00.

F. Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel.

Debra L. Kaclik named Director of Arts Education and PreK-12 Curriculum Support Programs. Ms. Kaclik previously served as Health and Physical Education Curriculum Specialist.

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

Ms. McGarry moved, seconded by Mr. Tate, that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through F., and a discussion followed.

Mr. Gauvreau pulled Consent Item E.

Mr. White moved to approve Consent Items A. through F. excluding Consent Item E., seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 9-0 in support of the motion.

Mr. Gauvreau discussed his opposition to Consent Item E. He encouraged Board members to vote this item down because it is a funding scheme to buy more textbooks for a bad program. Mr. Gauvreau asked the Board to at least defer this item to get meaningful debate. Dr. Gorman said the program and the study are two separate items and he called upon Ann Clark, Chief Academic Officer, to review the Investigations Program. Ms. Clark said the Investigations Program is already in place in the District as a part of the State's K-5 Math Adoption and it is in place at all elementary schools. This is a grant opportunity to track the implementation of a major District initiative and the schools will be recruited once the grant is funded. Mr. Gauvreau discussed his concerns and encouraged the Board to not support this item. Mr. Merchant said this is applying for a grant to determine the effectiveness of the Investigations Program and methods of how to improve it, and this is a responsible step. Chairperson Griffin said Investigations is the current Math curriculum adopted by the State and in place in CMS, and she would support this item.

Chairperson Griffin called for a vote to approve Consent Item E.

The Board voted 8-1 to approve Consent Item E. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry,

Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Ms. Mitchell-Walker, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

The agenda did not include any Action Items.

V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on Budget Amendments for June 2009 (final), July 2009, and August 2009

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the report. Dr. Gorman said this item is the monthly report and it is as presented.

B. Report/First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy JCA: Student Assignment Plan

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the report. Mr. Tate said Policy JCA: Student Assignment Plan, is before the Board for First Reading on proposed amendments to Section 1. The amended policy would require the Board to hold a public hearing on any initial proposal to modify geographical boundaries for home schools and transportation zones, locations for Magnet Programs, and feeder patterns for home schools and Magnet Programs. The proposed amendments come to the Board with the recommendation of the Policy Committee. A Public Hearing and Board vote on the proposed amendments to Policy JCA is scheduled at the November 10th Regular Board meeting. The proposed amendments will be posted on the CMS Website effective October 14th for public review and comment.

Report/First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy BA: Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2: Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the report. Mr. Tate said proposed amendments to Policy BA: Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2: Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment is before the Board for First Reading. At the Sustainability Retreat in March 2009, the Board directed the Policy Committee to review these documents to ensure they adequately communicate the Board's intentions. The Policy Committee has reviewed the Theory of Action and is recommending substantial changes to streamline and clarify the intentions of the Board. The task of the Policy Committee was not to change but to streamline and make it easier to understand. The document is in a different format, uses different verbiage, and condensed from four pages to less than two pages. A Public Hearing and Board vote on the proposed amendments to Policy BA and Exhibit BA-E2 is scheduled at the November 10th Regular Board meeting. The proposed amendments will be posted on the CMS Website effective October 14th for public review and comment.

D. Report/Update on Proposed Overcrowding Relief Options for 2010-2011 School Year

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the report on Proposed Overcrowding Relief Options for the 2010-2011 School Year. Dr. Gorman called upon Scott McCully, Executive Director of Student Placement Services, to provide an overview of the proposed recommendations. Mr. McCully said this recommendation is the result of the

August 11, 2009 Board meeting in which the Board directed staff to expand consideration for the school boundaries for East Mecklenburg High School and Myers Park High School as well as the feeder schools for both schools in an effort to increase the number of students at East Mecklenburg and decrease the number of students at Myers Park, and that a recommendation be presented to the Board for approval in time for the 2010-2011 school year. Staff conducted a Community Meeting at both schools and received input from the community. Mr. McCully provided an overview of the proposed recommendations.

Modification of Myers Park IB Program with three subcomponents:

Option A:

- For 2010-2011 school year, assign all Myers Park IB students in the home-school feeder of Ardrey Kell and South Mecklenburg to East Mecklenburg IB while assigning IB students from E. E. Waddell and Olympic to Harding University IB. Rising 11th and 12th grade students currently enrolled in the program may remain without transportation and sibling guarantee.
- Students living in the Myers Park attendance area remain at Myers Park IB Program.
- Transportation provided to the new IB school.
- No option for current students to stay at Myers Park IB if outside the Myers Park attendance area and no sibling guarantee.

Option B:

- For 2010-2011 school year, assign all students in the Blue transportation feeder, other than Myers Park, to East Mecklenburg IB. Rising 11th and 12th grade students currently enrolled in the program may remain without transportation and sibling guarantee.
- Transportation provided to the new IB school assignment.
- No option for current students to stay at Myers Park IB if outside the Myers Park attendance area and no sibling guarantee.

Option C:

- For 2010-2011 school year, assign all IB students including those who live in the attendance area from Myers Park to East Mecklenburg IB. Rising 11th and 12th graders currently enrolled in the program may remain without transportation and sibling guarantee. This option essentially closes the IB Program at Myers Park High School.
- Transportation provided to the new IB school assignment.
- No option for current students to stay at Myers Park IB or Myers Park attendance if outside the attendance area and no sibling guarantee.
- Financial implication: The elimination of the IB program at Myers Park would result in the authorization status of Randolph IB being removed necessitating them to undergo a reauthorization process. The financial implications of authorization fees and training required of staff would be approximately \$25,000 to achieve re-authorization as a stand-alone program.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Magnet Program option:

Mr. McCully said the options were presented to the community and staff received excellent feedback. As a result of the two Community Meetings, staff is proposing one additional option: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Magnet Program at East Mecklenburg High School as well as programs at McClintock Middle School and Rama Road

Elementary School. This initiative is driven by the need for students to develop mastery of science and math skills and will be effective for the 2010-2011 school year. The East Mecklenburg High School STEM Program would be a key element as a part of a new Math and Science Magnet Program serving the South Transportation zones (Green and Blue) of the county. Currently, Harding University High School is the only Math and Science Magnet Program that serves the entire county. Harding University High School would serve the North Transportation zones and East Mecklenburg would serve the South Transportation zones. The STEM Program would be an opportunity for East Mecklenburg High School to attract additional students to the school. Details of the STEM Magnet Program option include the following:

- Students currently attending the Harding University Math Science Program that live in the South Transportation zones could continue without CMS provided transportation (includes seniors).
- Students desiring a seat in the East Mecklenburg Program from Harding University would be guaranteed placement for the 2010-2011 school year only and transportation would be contingent upon residence in the South Transportation zones.
- Effective for the 2011-2012 school year, students feeding from Morehead K-8 Math and Environment Science Magnet will have a guaranteed seat in either Harding University or East Mecklenburg STEM Program based upon residence in the appropriate transportation zone.
- Current entrance and continuation requirements for high school Math and Science Magnet Program apply.
- A STEM Program will be developed at Rama Road Elementary and McClintock Middle School to feed to East Mecklenburg High School. At this time, the option does not include the STEM Program at these two schools as a Magnet Program and the programs would be served with the local attendance area enrollment.

Board members were invited to ask questions and make comments.

- Mr. White said assuming that the majority of the students in Option B would move to East Mecklenburg High School, would equate to approximately 335 students and adding the STEM Program would equate to approximately 384 students. Adding this number of students to the enrollment at East Mecklenburg High School would put that school back to its previous enrollment.
- Mr. Ross asked what is the impact of the STEM Program on Harding University High School? Mr. McCully said the option proposes that the South area would feed to the East Mecklenburg High School STEM Program and currently there are 147 students who are attending Harding University from the South Transportation zone. Harding University gets most of its students from the North Transportation zone. Mr. Ross expressed concern that this may cause Harding University to become too small. Dr. Gorman said that could happen but Harding University could increase its IB student enrollment. Mr. Ross said East Mecklenburg High School has a great Culinary Program and Automotive Program and he encouraged staff to consider allowing students from outside the East Mecklenburg attendance area to apply to the those programs. This would be a great opportunity for CMS students throughout the county to take alternative courses. Mr. McCully said those programs are not designed as Magnet Programs but designed to serve the population in the East Mecklenburg High School attendance area. Those programs are located in other

schools as well but not all schools and staff could review alternatives as well as the transportation implications. Mr. Ross believes a partial Magnet Program for those two programs would be a good idea. Dr. Gorman said staff could review that option but those same programs are located at schools throughout the County and Myers Park High School has a thriving Culinary Program so this would be a similar situation. There are some schools that do not have a Culinary or Automotive program and staff could consider a transfer process for those programs but staff would also have to ensure the facility would have adequate space to accommodate those programs. Dr. Gorman said staff will review the options for this suggestion.

- Mr. Merchant asked does staff have a sense of the number of students who would remain in the IB Program now that it is a full-IB Program versus the number of students who would bail? Ms. Clark said the current 9th graders are the first group of students under the new guidelines for the full Diploma Program and it is hard to predict actual numbers until the next June enrollments. There could be an early indication in January or February during registration but it would not be wise to base decisions upon those early numbers. Mr. Merchant believes the STEM Program may work best with Option A because it reduces the number of STEM students at Harding University while potentially increasing the number of IB students.
- Ms. McGarry asked is the Certification IB Program at Myers Park High School being phased out? Mr. McCully said, yes, this is the first year that standard was implemented in which all students must be enrolled in a full complement of IB classes.
- Mr. Tate said he previously sent two pages of questions to staff regarding these options and he looks forward to receiving the responses to those questions. Mr. Tate asked regarding the reassignment of students from East Mecklenburg High School to Butler High School, are we still considering the option to begin that with 9th graders next year and allowing the sophomores, juniors, and seniors to remain at East Mecklenburg? Dr. Gorman said staff did not recommend that option to the Board and that is an option that staff has encouraged the Board, over the past several years, to not consider because of the costs associated with grandfathering programs over time. The costs would largely involve transportation but it could also involve costs at the school site. Mr. Tate said he would like more information regarding this option as a possibility for the Board's consideration. Dr. Gorman encouraged the Board to also consider the outline of future boundaries and the impact of grandfathering on future boundaries. He said the Board has a set of Guiding Principles in place and he expressed concern that if there is an exception to the format that exception could become the rule. Mr. Tate asked clarifying questions regarding the reauthorization of the Randolph IB Program; school feeder patterns to East Mecklenburg and Myers Park high schools; Math and Science entrance and continuation requirements; and the STEM Program implementation at Rama Road Elementary and McClintock Middle School. Staff provided clarification. Mr. Tate asked clarifying questions regarding greater flexibility at East Mecklenburg High School for A/B day instead of Block scheduling for a later start time? Ms. Clark said at this point that is not a part of the recommendations coming forward. The results of the late start pilot at Garinger High School and E. E. Waddell High School did yield good results in student achievement and attendance and the late dismissal was out of sink with the other high schools in the district. This is not a recommendation but the Board could have this discussion independent with the upcoming program and boundary discussions. Dr. Gorman said staff will provide Mr. Tate the answers to his questions in the near future.

- Ms. McGarry said the IB Program proposals for Myers Park High School do not justify eliminating that successful program. She is interested in the STEM Magnet Program option and she would like additional information regarding that option. She does not believe the real problem is the high schools but the feeder patterns into the high schools. The STEM Program at Rama Road Elementary School and McClintock Middle School is a holistic approach that has merit. She said knowledge of Math, Science, and Technology is what the workforce needs and this program would provide students skill sets that they can use in the future. She encouraged the staff and the parents to consider making McClintock Middle School a uniform school.
- Chairperson Griffin said regarding considerations to the Culinary and Automotive programs, did staff review which schools on a Learning Community basis would be best suited to have a Culinary, Automotive, Healthcare, or other program? Dr. Gorman said Mr. Gjertsen has mentioned this for the past three years and staff has reviewed some options on a limited basis. Chairperson Griffin asked what are the other schools that have a Culinary Program? Ms. Clark said Independence, South Mecklenburg, Olympic, Harding University, North Mecklenburg, Myers Park, and East Mecklenburg high schools. Chairperson Griffin asked what are the schools with an Automotive Program? Ms. Clark said Automotive is offered on a more limited basis and is located at Independence, East Mecklenburg, and North Mecklenburg high schools. Chairperson Griffin said the current enrollment projections for East Mecklenburg High School under the current plan is approximately 1,602 students for the 2010-2011 school year and she asked Dr. Gorman if he felt that was a manageable number? Dr. Gorman said, yes, very much so. Chairperson Griffin said she is interested in the STEM Program and because there is a need for it in CMS and it will increase the enrollment at East Mecklenburg High School to approximately 1,800 which is the number that staff at that school has requested. She believes the STEM Program has the potential to provide growth at East Mecklenburg and the ability to develop a strong cohort of students in the future from the K-8 Program at Morehead. She especially likes the fact that the STEM Program has the potential of providing a significant increase of students at East Mecklenburg High School in the immediate future and will increase the likelihood of maintaining AP Science and Math courses at the school because they would be an integral part of the program.
- Ms. McGarry said there are plans for a new McClintock Middle School and she encouraged staff to ensure that it is designed to accommodate a new Science Program. Dr. Gorman said, currently, that is an unfunded project but it is on the list of Stimulus Bond projects.
- Mr. Tate asked clarifying questions regarding staff getting community input regarding the recommendations and conducting a Public Hearing in accordance to Board Policy. Mr. McCully reviewed the scheduled timeline. Staff will present a formal staff recommendation at the October 22, 2009 Regular Board meeting and there will be a two week period prior to the Board's vote for a boundary adoption of staff's recommendation which is scheduled at the November 10, 2009 Regular Board meeting. Mr. McCully said staff would move very quickly to coordinate Community meetings to get feedback from the public. Mr. Tate encouraged the Board to think about the comments made by the public speakers at tonight's meeting from the parents, teachers, and students at East Mecklenburg High School who voiced their concerns regarding the potential size of the high school. He asked the Board to keep those comments in mind as the Board makes their upcoming decisions.

- Mr. Ross said the STEM Program is an exciting idea. He encouraged staff to review more options for students who are not going to college and may become potential dropouts because CMS does not offer them programs they can relate to or meets their needs. He encouraged staff to pursue options to provide students skills in a trade or business so that CMS students not going to college can also be successful in life.

Dr. Gorman said he understands that there was not a Board vote taken and there were no options taken off the table but the majority of the Board would support staff pursuing the STEM option and to continue its work on reviewing it as a viable option for CMS. Chairperson Griffin said that is a fair assessment.

Mr. McCully provided the Board with an overview of Eastover Elementary School student assignment options for overcrowding relief. Mr. McCully said Eastover Elementary School has experienced enrollment resurgence over the past few years. The school is very overcrowded and growth is expected to continue. The school has twenty-six classrooms, twenty-eight teachers, and a capacity of 573. As of the 20th day of school the school had an enrollment of 589 students.

- 20th Day 2009 Enrollment:
 - All students in home school area = 848.
 - Total non-magnet assigned in = 81.
 - Total non-magnet assigned out = 40.
 - Total magnet students assigned out = 297.
 - EC self-contained assigned in = 2.
 - EC self-contained assigned out = 5.
 - Total attending = 589 (including EC self-contained).
- Enrollment History:
 - 2003-2004 = 392.
 - 2004-2005 = 411.
 - 2005-2006 = 395.
 - 2006-2007 = 448.
 - 2007-2008 = 521.
 - 2008-2009 = 563.
 - 2009-2010* = 589.

*20th day data.
- Community Meetings: Two productive public engagement meetings were held at Myers Park High School and as a result three revised options were developed to address overcrowding issues at Eastover Elementary School.
- Option A: Small attendance boundaries with Myers Park Traditional Elementary and Elizabeth Traditional change from a full Magnet Program to a partial Magnet Program.
- Option B: Boundary change and facility move between Dilworth Visual and Performing Arts and First Ward Elementary School. Dilworth becomes the school that serves the attendance area, and First Ward serves as the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet. This option supports maintaining a strong Magnet presence at the school and in the immediate community. This option moves the location of the Magnet Program from Dilworth to First Ward. As a result of the Comprehensive Magnet review and Board approved plan, the Accelerated Learning Program will be eliminated from First Ward for the 2010-2011

school year. The Board previously directed staff to develop a Magnet Program for First Ward and staff has been working with the community to meet this directive. With the move of the Magnet Program, the additional Magnet Program will not be necessary.

- Option C: Boundary change and facility move between Dilworth Visual and Performing Arts and First Ward Elementary School with boundary expanded into Selwyn Elementary School attendance area. This option is the same as Option B, the Visual Performing Arts Magnet at Dilworth will move to First Ward and Dilworth becomes the attendance area school. This new boundary leaves an area boundary by Providence Road, Chilton Place, and Queens Road in Eastover while moving an area in the Selwyn attendance zone to the new Dilworth attendance zone. This is the first presentation of this option and it will be presented to the community for public input.
- The other options as previously presented to the Board are eliminated.

Mr. McCully said staff will coordinate Community Meetings beginning the first of next week to review the revised options with the community and receive feedback. This information will be posted on the CMS Website.

Board members were invited to ask questions and make comments:

- Mr. White said he is still open and listening to all options. He expressed concern that the Board thoroughly discussed reducing the number of partial Magnets but this recommendation creates two additional partial Magnets. He commended the speakers for their desire to seek promises and their willingness to compromise. He expressed concern that Selwyn Elementary School has now been added to the options and he hopes no other schools will be added to the mix because he is ready to move forward with a good compromise decision that best serves the children in these communities.
- Mr. Merchant asked clarifying questions regarding Option C, building utilization without mobiles, and demographic information. Mr. McCully provided clarification. Mr. Merchant said he would not support Option A. for a number of reasons and he does not believe staff developed this option. Mr. McCully said the purpose of the public meetings is to gather feedback and utilizing common themes develop community options. This was an option presented by the community. Mr. Merchant said he is happy that the options as previously presented have been eliminated. He said the Board decided during the Comprehensive Magnet review to eliminate the Accelerated Learning Magnet at First Ward and Option A. leaves the school hanging, does not provide enough relief to Eastover Elementary, and does not help the Traditional schools. Mr. Merchant said Myers Park Traditional has been in place since 1974 and it has been an incredibly successful program, and he encouraged the Board to not disrupt the Traditional Programs. Mr. Merchant shared his concerns regarding the feedback from the public and a recommendation to have a home school located on Radcliff because that is in close proximity to an existing home school. He likes Options B and C because they incorporate good recommendations (eliminates a Magnet site while keeping strong Magnet sites, creates a new home school option, and creates good demographics). Mr. Merchant discussed the proposed options and urged the Board to support an option that creates a new home school. Mr. Merchant asked staff to include achievement data with the information provided and to consider allowing the public to tour the Dilworth facility on a Saturday in order for the community to get familiar with the school.
- Ms. McGarry said the piece that is most worthy of consideration is some form of the

Dilworth piece. She said two years ago there was a concern about overcrowding issues at Eastover Elementary School and at that time some parents were willing to attend Dilworth if it were a neighborhood school. She likes Option B which includes moving the Magnet Program and making Dilworth a neighborhood school because that may alleviate the overcrowding at Eastover Elementary School without involving the two Traditional schools (Myers Park Traditional and Elizabeth Traditional). She is opposed to including Selwyn Elementary School in the mix. She has received input from the community and is open to the options. Ms. McGarry asked clarifying questions regarding moving the Arts Magnet Program to First Ward and the status of the development of a new Magnet Program at First Ward. Dr. Gorman responded noting that the Board made a decision to keep the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet a year ago because it was a viable program and made a commitment to the community that the program would not be eliminated. The development of a Magnet Program at First Ward is in the early phases and has not been presented to staff for review. Dr. Gorman said staff would be glad to consider options to enhance or modify the program but we want to ensure the fidelity of the Magnet Programs. Ms. McGarry discussed the Arts and Cultural Complex located downtown and she encouraged CMS to move quickly so that the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet can be a part of those activities.

- Mr. Tate expressed concern that he has not heard input from the parents at First Ward Elementary School and he wants to ensure the efforts put forth by the First Ward staff to develop a new Magnet Program for the school is taken into consideration. Mr. Tate would like more information regarding the development of the First Ward Magnet before he can make a decision on the relocation of the Dilworth Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program. Dr. Gorman responded to Mr. Tate's comments noting that there are not enough students at the First Ward School to accommodate a new Magnet Program and the option to relocate Dilworth to First Ward was a new option for the community. Dr. Gorman said he believes moving the Dilworth Program to First Ward is the best use of the facility. This immediate area includes three full Magnet Programs and staff must review capacity issues and how to solve overcrowding. Mr. Tate said this would not be an issue if all CMS schools were perceived as being a good school. This is an issue because First Ward, for wrong reasons, is not perceived to be a great school. Mr. Tate said the Board has a responsibility to the students at First Ward and we must ensure they get the best education possible. Mr. Tate wants to ensure the Board has heard from the staff and students at First Ward regarding this recommendation and the impact on the Magnet Program being developed at First Ward. Mr. Tate asked clarifying questions regarding data for the attendance zones and number of students attending the various schools in relation to the different options. Mr. McCully provided clarification. Mr. Tate wants to ensure staff is clear about who will attend which school. He said parents want to know that their school is viable and the Board should ensure that every school is viable. He wants to ensure the old Elizabeth community neighborhood boundary stays together and he believes that is included Options B and C.
- Mr. Gauvreau said this process has turned into a nightmare and the Board created this issue. He was supportive of Mr. Tate's motion months ago to simply review the student capacities at Myers Park and East Mecklenburg high schools but this has gotten out of hand and now involves too many schools. He has proposed for years that CMS bring in an outside consultant to review the CMS boundaries because this is in the hands of the Board and the Policy Committee and they cannot get it right. This is the result of

mismanagement and having a few hundred students in an elementary area that may need to be reassigned. A simple solution would be to put those students at Billingsville Elementary School because it is in close proximity of the existing school and is half empty. Mr. Gauvreau encouraged the Board to drop this and leave it to the next Board.

- Mr. Merchant said this process does have flaws but at least it allows for public discussion. Mr. Merchant asked does staff believe utilization issues need to be addressed at Selwyn Elementary School even though that school has a number of mobiles? Mr. McCully said Selwyn Elementary is overcrowded and this is an opportunity to not fix the problem but provide some relief to Selwyn Elementary School. Dr. Gorman said we have heard public input regarding overcrowding at Selwyn Elementary School. Mr. Merchant said it can be messier to make boundary changes at the point that it is necessary because they can become more involved. He believes the Board incorporating these schools at this time to relieve overcrowding will result in the Board not having to address overcrowding in this area again in the near future. He encouraged the Board to determine a sustainable solution that will last for a number of years. He said there is some confusion on the new program being developed by First Ward and how that is similar to the Dilworth program but the main focus should be on the utilization issues and that should outweigh a new program for a small group of students. There are many home schools that are successful and quite often they are located in neighborhoods. There is a neighborhood at First Ward but it is also an uptown area in which there are not a lot of people living in close proximity. Mr. Merchant said he was more focused on what is a better location to support a particular school.
- Mr. White said if the Board followed their Guiding Principles for student assignment this would not be an issue because they include reviewing attendance lines that need to be changed to deal with the opening of new schools. This has gone far beyond that guideline. Mr. White agreed to review this at the request of Tom Tate to address concerns regarding enrollment at East Mecklenburg High School. Mr. White expressed concern that adding Selwyn Elementary School could create a domino effect that could lead to the need to add another school or schools and that could lead to a comprehensive review of student assignment. He does not believe there is a set of guiding principles that can be adopted that will make pupil assignment easy. Proximity and stability are important only if you like the school that you attend. This is not easy and student assignment is emotional. Mr. White said he strives to do the right thing in representing all 138,000 students that attend CMS schools and he thanked the speakers for addressing the Board at this meeting. Mr. White said this is about all the schools in CMS and not pitting one school against another school, and he believes the Board will find a good solution.
- Chairperson Griffin said she is open to all the possibilities and she is continuing to review the options. She likes some variation of Option A and the idea of making Myers Park Tradition and Elizabeth Traditional partial Magnets. This plan appeals to her because it is the least disruptive and provides the most stability, and First Ward could continue with its plan for a Magnet Program. Chairperson Griffin believes an extended-day program uptown would be great for the people that work uptown.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gorman said there has been some interest in canceling the November 24th Regular Board meeting because the next day (Wednesday) is included in the Thanksgiving holiday for staff and students. The recommendation to cancel the November 24th Regular Board meeting will

be on the agenda for the October 27th Regular Board meeting.

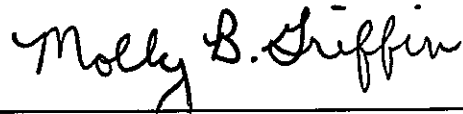
VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Kaye McGarry reported that in September she attended School Board Alumni Training at the Center for Reform of School Systems as part of the CMS partnership with the Broad Foundation. The seminar included case studies, theory of action, best practices of school systems, and she enjoyed participating in the challenging conversations regarding effective governance. She commended Ken Gjertsen, who also attended the conference, on his presentation of the CMS Data Dashboard. She was proud to say she served on the Board of Education in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County. She encouraged staff to review best practices regarding free and reduced lunch status and poverty levels because the recent winner of the Broad Foundation Prize for Urban Education broke the predictive power of poverty. Ms. McGarry invited everyone to join her at "Kaye About Town" at the Starbucks on West Boulevard on October 28th from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. to discuss school related issues.

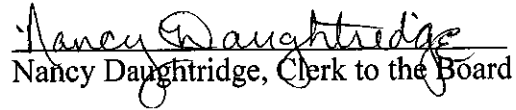
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. White moved that the Board adjourn the Regular Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Ross, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.



Molly B. Griffin, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtride, Clerk to the Board