

Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
February 12, 2013
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

January 8, 2013

REGULAR MEETING
of the
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on January 8, 2013. The meeting began at 5:30 p.m. and was held in Room CH-14 of the Government Center.

Present: Mary T. McCray, Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Timothy S. Morgan, Vice Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Member At-Large;
Rhonda Lennon, District 1;
Richard Allen McElrath, Sr., District 2;
Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell, District 3;
Tom Tate, District 4;
Eric C. Davis, District 5; and
Reverend Amelia Stinson-Wesley, District 6

Absent: There were no absences.

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Heath Morrison, Superintendent; George E. Battle, III, General Counsel; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

Upon motion by Dr. Waddell, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Stewart, the Board voted unanimously for approval to go into Closed Session for the following purpose:

- 1. To discuss student information that is privileged, confidential and not a public record as set forth in Title 20, Section 1232g of the United States Code and Section 115C-402 of the North Carolina General Statutes;**
- 2. To discuss certain personnel matters; and**
- 3. To consult with the Board's attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.**

The motion was made pursuant to Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(3) and (a)(6) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 5:30 p.m. until 6:01 p.m. in Room CH-14.

Chairperson McCray reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:05 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Government Center. CMS TV televised the meeting.

Present: Mary T. McCray, Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Timothy S. Morgan, Vice Chairperson, Member At-Large;

Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Member At-Large;
Rhonda Lennon, District 1;
Richard Allen McElrath, Sr., District 2;
Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell, District 3;
Tom Tate, District 4;
Eric C. Davis, District 5; and
Reverend Amelia Stinson-Wesley, District 6

Absent: There were no absences.

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Heath Morrison, Superintendent; George E. Battle, III, General Counsel; Members of Executive Staff; Judith Whittington, Manager of Board Services; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson McCray welcomed everyone to the January 8th Regular Board meeting which was held in the Meeting Chamber.

A. Adoption of Agenda

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adopt the proposed agenda.

Dr. Waddell moved that the Board adopt the proposed agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson McCray introduced the student to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak on the January character trait of *justice and fairness*. Reid Miller is a nine year old 3rd grade student at Highland Creek Elementary School. Reid excels in school, art, and extracurricular activities. He enjoys sports where he leads by example of always having a good attitude and good sportsmanship. He plays baseball, basketball, football, and competes on the neighborhood swim team in the summertime. Reid enjoys writing creative and funny stories and is expressive and imaginative in his art work. He has a great mind for math, works hard at everything he does, and strives to do his best regardless of whether or not he likes the task. Reid has an open mind and loves people. He likes new challenges, learning new things, and has a warm, fun-loving, hard-working personality. Attending the meeting with Reid were his parents, Stuart and Jen Miller; sister, Adeline; brother, Luke; his grandmother, Anne Jerands; and principal, Steve Esposito. Reid invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, Reid said justice and fairness means to treat other people equally and to do what is right. At Highland Creek, students experience fairness every day and the school creates an environment that encourages every student to have the same opportunities. Reid said his learning opportunities at Highland will give him an excellent foundation for his education and future. He thanked the staff at the school for helping him to be successful. Chairperson McCray said when she visited Reid's class last year she was impressed with him and his classmates and they asked her several hard questions.

C. Report on Quality of Life Study Dashboard

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Quality of Life Study Dashboard. Dr. Morrison said the Quality of Life Study Dashboard was established in 1993 as a tool that includes variables to evaluate social, crime, fiscal, and economic conditions in all of Charlotte's neighborhoods. The study is used by local government and neighborhood residents to evaluate conditions and make informed decisions. The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have collaborated on the development of the 2012 study which was previously shared with CMS executive staff and they are excited about bringing this information forward to the Board. Over the last year a study team comprised of representatives from the City, County, and University of North Carolina-Charlotte (UNC-C) meet to discuss and make enhancements to the study. The 2012 Quality of Life Study was released to the public yesterday. Dr. Morrison introduced Timmothy Tibbs, Assistant to the Mecklenburg County Manager, and Owen Furuseth, Associate Provost for Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs at UNC-C, to present the report and answer Board member questions.

Mr. Tibbs thanked the Board for allowing them to present the report and Dr. Morrison and his staff for coordinating this effort. Mr. Tibbs provided an overview of the history of the Quality of Life (QoL) study, dashboard features, and the path forward. Dr. Furuseth provided an overview of the 2012 QoL improvements, partnerships, and analytical framework. The purpose of the QoL dashboard is to help assess the health of neighborhoods in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County by calculating density and other per capita data. Data can help the city, county and towns, as well as other service providers know where infrastructure and other services may be needed.

- Quality of Life Study Goals:
 - Build greater collaboration between local governments.
 - Expand the geographic coverage of the QoL.
 - Enhance the analytical power of the QoL analysis.
 - Create a user-friendly Web-based dashboard.
- Partnerships:
 - Study Team: Charlotte Neighborhood Business Services, Mecklenburg County Manager's Office, City, County (GIS), UNC-Charlotte, and Community Cabinet.
 - Focus Groups: Neighborhood Residents and Service Providers.
- 2012 Quality of Life Improvements: Enhanced utility, County-wide coverage, new neighborhood boundaries, expanded variable range, new dimensions, new analytical framework, and robust website resource.
- 2012 Quality of Life Variables/Dimension Framework: Community Character, Community Economics, Community Engagement, Education, Environments, Community Health, Housing, and Community Safety.
- New Analytical Framework: Single cumulative ranking (stable, transitioning, challenged) no longer calculated. Neighborhood Profile Area (NPA) variables can be easily accessed and localized. Cross-boundary comparative analysis. City, county town measures wider array of dimensions. Focus on being the innovator.
- Path Forward: Refine descriptions and enrich links. Connect data outcomes to department goals. Collaborate with other agencies for data collection and research. Staff Training and public education.

- January 2013: Study release January 7. E-mail notification to staff, agencies, and public. Staff and agency presentations and workshops.
- February: Public workshops and training.
- March-December: Service Provider Focus Group meetings continue.
- Quality of Life Link: <http://maps.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/qoldashboard/>
Mr. Tibbs contact information: timothy.tibbs@mecklenburgcountync.gov
or 704-432-2163.

Chairperson McCray thanked Mr. Tibbs and Dr. Furuseth for presenting the report and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments.

- Ms. Ellis-Stewart said previously neighborhood organizations and health and service providers were given incentives to work with the communities and she hopes they will be incorporated in this initiative. Mr. Tibbs said they are striving to include those groups at the meetings and work in a collaborative effort and they are excited about the ability to focus on a specific neighborhood. This will be an opportunity to better focus our efforts and resources.
- Dr. Waddell said this report was helpful and it has been used in several neighborhood organization meetings. Dr. Waddell said in some areas the data is not available and she hopes it will be completed in the near future. Dr. Furuseth said as we work with the municipalities they will see the value of the study and will want to provide that data.
- Mr. Morgan believes this data can be used by CMS, the County, Park and Recreation, and other groups to make capital planning decisions. Mr. Tibbs provided information regarding the use of property value and other data to provide an index to approach capital planning in the future. Mr. Morgan said he hopes the Board can work collaboratively with the County because when this was first developed the County took the CMS capital plan and made changes based upon this model and that did not sit well with the Board of Education. He wants the City, County, and municipality partners to know that the Board of Education is willing to work with them on this initiative. Mr. Tibbs said we are striving to build upon collaboration to ensure we are working together.

Chairperson said this is important information and the Board of Education looks forward to working collaboratively in this initiative.

II. REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairperson McCray said the Public Request section is an opportunity to hear from the public. Each speaker will have three minutes to address the Board on any topic of their choosing but personal and individual matters should not be addressed in this forum. CMS employees and their families should not be addressed in the comments and the use of profanity or inappropriate language should not be used. The Board reserves the right to cut off any speaker who violates these rules. Five people were signed up to speak to the Board.

Amy Krise, Senior Fire and Life Safety Educator with the Charlotte Fire Department, discussed the importance of Fire and Life Safety Education. Fires impact our community on a daily basis and each year since 2008 our community lost a CMS student or sibling to a preventable fire. Over the past few years the fire department has worked to develop a Fire Safety Program to teach fire prevention to students. This year, the fire department worked

with CMS and was able to teach a Fire Safety Program to 100% of the 3rd grade students in CMS. The program included creating a home fire escape plan and how to prevent fires. Ms. Krise commended the CMS staff that helped make this program successful. She encouraged everyone to check their smoke alarms and plan a fire escape plan for your home.

Judge Elizabeth Trosch and LiMia Bowen, incoming Chair of the Domestic Advisory Board, represented the Mecklenburg County Domestic Violence Advisory Board and discussed the importance of Awareness of Teen Dating Violence. This body is charged to review and evaluate Mecklenburg County and Charlotte domestic violence services and make appropriate recommendations to the BOCC and Charlotte City Council on the need for additional services to victims of domestic violence. The board also provides vigorous advocacy and works to increase public awareness of domestic violence within the community. Judge Trosch presented recommendations on Teen Dating Violence which is a serious problem that poses health and safety consequences and significantly impacts learning and attendance. One out of five teens report being in a dating relationship in which violence has occurred. CMS tracks incidents of violence that occurs on school campuses but does not distinguish between dating and non-dating violence. Ms. Bowen provided the Board with five recommendations they would like to collaborate with CMS on and she urged the Board to appoint an individual to serve as a liaison to the Domestic Violence Advisory Board. February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

Josie Sanctis (reigning Mrs. North Carolina) provided the Board with information regarding Trichotillomania Awareness which is an impulse control disorder that causes one to pull hair from their scalp, eye brows, eyelashes, or other parts of their body. Hair pulling varies greatly in its severity, location of the body, and response to treatment. Over 2% of the population is affected by this disorder which equates to two of every fifty people. She encouraged CMS staff to be aware of Trichotillomania in order to help children cope with this disorder. Children can be referred to the Trichotillomania Learning Center which is a non-profit organization with the mission to end the suffering caused by hair pulling and skin picking disorders.

Chairperson McCray called the Requests from the Public closed at 6:48 p.m.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes.
 - December 11, 2012.
 - December 20, 2012.
- B. Recommend approval of Open Session meeting minutes.
 - December 11, 2012 Regular Board Meeting.
 - November 13, 2012 Regular Board Meeting.
- C. Supplementary funding/grant requests:
 - 1. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Nations Ford Elementary School: Team Up for Technology.

The goal of the project is to promote 21st Century learning skills for students and teachers at Nations Ford Elementary School by improving quality and access to technology. Teachers will meet individual student needs utilizing technology devices. If awarded, the project will allow the school to update and expand technology resources and support the curricular needs of students and teachers. Fiscal implications: Funding requested from the Jimmie

Johnson Foundation, \$48,000 technology makeover.

2. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Barringer Academic Center: Team Up for Technology.

The goal of the project is to promote 21st Century learning skills for students and teachers at Barringer Academic Center by improving quality and access to technology. Teachers will meet individual student needs utilizing technology devices. If awarded, the project will allow the school to update and expand technology resources and support the curricular needs of students and teachers. Fiscal implications: Funding requested from the Jimmie Johnson Foundation, \$48,000 technology makeover.

- D. Recommend approval of Licensed/Non-Licensed Hires and Promotions for December 2012.

Monthly hire report includes prior month(s) hires not processed when report was presented to the Board of Education last month.

- *Total Hires July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013: 2,886. (Licensed Hires: 1,673/Non-Licensed Hires: 1,213).*
- *Total Promotions July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013: 231. (Licensed Promotions: 155/Non-licensed Promotions: 89).*

- E. Recommend approval of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Central Piedmont Community College Memorandum of Understanding for the Cooperative Innovative High School Program.

The summary points of the legislative language authorizing the Cooperative Innovative High School Program are provided below.

FLEXIBILITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL INNOVATION [SL2005-276, section 7.33(a)] SECTION 7.33. (a) Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes 115C-238.50.

Purpose:

(a) The purpose of this Part is to authorize local boards of education to jointly establish with one or more boards of trustees cooperative innovative programs in high schools and colleges or universities that will expand students' opportunities for educational success through high quality instructional programming. These cooperative innovative high school programs shall target any of the following groups:

(1) High school students who are at risk of dropping out of school before attaining a high school diploma.

(1a) High school students with parents who did not continue education beyond high school.

(2) High school students who would benefit from accelerated academic instruction. All the cooperative innovative high school programs established under this Part shall:

- *Enable students to concurrently obtain a high school diploma and begin or complete an associate degree program, master a certificate or vocational program, or earn up to two years of college credit within five years.*
- *Prepare students adequately for future learning in the workforce or in an institution of higher education.*
- *Encourage the cooperative or shared use of resources, personnel, and facilities between public schools and colleges or universities, or both.*
- *Emphasize parental involvement and provide consistent counseling, advising, and parent conferencing so that parents and students can make responsible decisions regarding course taking and can track the students' academic progress and success.*
- *Develop methods for early identification of potential participating students in the middle grades and through high school and provide outreach to those students to promote academic preparation and awareness of the cooperative innovative high school programs.*

- *[Allow eligible students] to attend these programs as early as ninth grade.*

Currently Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, in partnership with Central Piedmont Community College, operates three Cooperative Innovative High School sites:

- *Cato Middle College High School.*
- *Hawthorne High School.*
- *Performance Learning Center.*

Memorandum of Understanding, Attachment A

Fiscal implications: Student textbooks, student transportation.

F. Construction:

1. Recommend approval of construction contract for Vance High School.

The general construction contract for Vance High School was publicly bid on December 20, 2012. Staff recommends the approval of the general construction contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Matthews Construction Company. The contract will provide the construction of a multi-story twenty-five classroom building addition including site work, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, cabling for voice, video, data and all other systems related to the construction of new classrooms. Additionally, the contract includes alternates 1 and 2 to furnish and install improvements to the existing track and installation of corridor lockers. The project is scheduled for completion in January 2014. MWSBE participation for this construction contract is 26.88%. Fiscal implications: 2007 Bonds, \$6,720,275.00.

G. Real Estate:

1. Recommend approval to grant Permanent Utility Easement to Duke Energy on Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education property located at 9601 China Grove Church Road, Pineville, NC 28134 also known as Sterling Elementary School.

Duke Energy has requested a permanent utility easement in order to run electricity to a well on Sterling Property (Parcel ID# 2051020). The well will be used to irrigate the fields at Sterling. Where all other playfields can have dirt and mulch added to them to make them safe for play, Sterling's field does not have this option. Without the irrigation, the fields will not survive and be rendered useless and unsafe. Charlotte United Futbol (CUF) has raised money to pay for the well and will take on the maintenance of the field as well. CUF conducts free soccer clinics with the students at Sterling on the fields that the water from the wells provides. The well will be separately metered and CUF will be responsible for the electric expense. Fiscal Implications: Duke Energy will pay \$1.00 for the easement.

H. Recommend approval of administrative personnel appointment.

Appointment:

- *Kimberly Alexander named principal at Oakdale Elementary School. Ms. Alexander previously served as assistant principal at Statesville Road Elementary School.*
- *Dr. Mason Miller named principal at Stoney Creek Elementary School. Dr. Miller has a Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision, University of Virginia; Master of Arts in Secondary English Education, Boston College; and Bachelor of Arts in English, Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Miller previously served as principal at R. Brown McAllister Elementary School, Cabarrus County Public Schools, Concord, North Carolina.*
- *Brian Schultz named Executive Director, Central Secondary Zone. Mr. Schultz previously served as principal at Torrence Creek Elementary School.*
- *Christopher Triolo named Executive Director, Project L.I.F.T. Mr. Triolo has a*

Principal Certification, Wingate University; Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, Winthrop University; and Bachelor of Science in Biology, Bryan College. Mr. Triolo previously served as principal at Riverwood International Charter School, Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, Georgia from 2011 to 2013 and principal at John Motley Morehead STEM Academy from 2009 to 2011.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as written.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt Consent Agenda Items A. through H. as presented, seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley, and a discussion followed.

Dr. Waddell pulled Consent Item E.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through H. excluding E., seconded by Mr. Davis, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Dr. Waddell said the three schools (Cato Middle College, Hawthorne High School, and Performance Learning Center) in Consent Item E. are in District 3 and she wants to ensure constituents who have questions know the information is available on the CMS Website. This initiative will begin July 2013.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt Consent Item E., seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to review the personnel appointments. Dr. Morrison provided an overview of the new school leaders, Kimberly Alexander and Dr. Mason Miller, as noted above and he invited them to stand to be recognized in the audience.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items on the agenda.

V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on Budget Amendments for November 2012

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Operating effectively and efficiently with fiscal accountability.

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to present the report on Budget Amendments. Dr. Morrison reported the Budget Amendments is the monthly report and as presented.

B. Report on Financial Statements for November 30, 2012

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Operating effectively and efficiently with fiscal accountability.

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to present the report on Financial Statements. Dr. Morrison reported the Financial Statements is the monthly report and as presented.

C. Report on Alternative Education Programs

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Providing all students with the opportunity to perform to their fullest potential and ensuring that there is no discernable difference between the achievement levels of students by race, gender, or economic level.

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Alternative Education Programs. Dr. Morrison said as we embark on reviewing the strategic goals as outlined in *The Way Forward* we have the responsibility to ensure our vision of every child, every day, for a better tomorrow goes from being a vision to being an actuality. We will need to review the structure of our Alternative Education Programs. In most school districts there is the concept that alternative education is programs directed towards young individuals who have made less than desirable decisions and helping them make better decisions in the future. Certainly, helping our students make better choices is an important part of any alternative education program. We want to strive to push the envelope around alternative education and review options to structure unique programs that better meet the needs of our students. This may include the utilization of a different kind of instruction, technology, and time as a resource to better meet the needs of our students. Dr. Morrison called upon Millard House, Chief Operating Officer, to present the current CMS programs and information regarding future initiatives.

Mr. House provided a snapshot of the CMS programs, how North Carolina Department of Education and *The Way Forward* for Alternative Education.

- Fiscal Implications: 2013-2014 Operating Budget: Development aligned to *The Way Forward* Goals 1, 2, 5, 7, and 8 regarding accelerate academic achievement, ensure effective teachers and principals, establish a comprehensive performance-management approach, increase technology, and communicate proactively.
- North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's definition of Alternative Learning Programs and Schools: "Alternative Learning Programs and Schools (ALPS) are safe, orderly, caring and inviting learning environments that assist students with overcoming challenges that may place them at-risk of academic failure and disruptive behavior so that they can learn, graduate and become productive community contributors. The goal of each program and school is to promote high quality and rigorous academic and safety programs through the development of individual student strengths, talents and interests. Effective alternative learning programs and schools encompass the following seven principles: clear mission, leadership, culture and climate, professional development, parent/community involvement, curriculum and instruction, and monitoring and assessment."
- CMS Expectations of Alternative Learning Programs and Schools: *Students Rights, Responsibilities, and Character Development Handbook. Code of Student Conduct.*
 - Safe and orderly schools are an important part of academic success. It is the CMS expectation that students will behave responsibly and ethically at school to help create an environment that nurtures learning and achievement.
 - Students will play a large role in school culture and student adherence to the code of conduct is a first step toward the creation of the respectful, collaborative culture that schools must have to succeed.
 - While in the alternative education setting, students must: Exemplify excellent behavior, exemplify excellent attendance, maintain a good academic standing, and

demonstrate positive attitude.

- Turning Point Academy (Right Choices Program): An alternative school designed to redirect students' behavior through therapeutic intervention services, behavior and academic prevention and intervention programs. The Right Choices Program, located on the campus of the former J.T. Williams Middle School, is also an integral part of Turning Point Academy and serves middle and high school students who violate the CMS *Code of Student Conduct*. Students are assigned to the alternative school or program for 35 or 180 days.
- Hawthorne High School: An alternative high school that educates students in 9th through 12th grade. The focus is on academics and providing support to at-risk students or students who prefer a smaller educational setting. Hawthorne offers many core academic courses while providing students and teachers with smaller class sizes. In addition, concurrent courses are provided to juniors and seniors in various traditional high schools across the school district who need additional course credit for graduation. The school's focus is on academics and educating the total student.
- Jail North: Provides a partnership with the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department. The program is designed for 16 and 17-year-old male students found guilty of a criminal offense.
- Jail Central: Provides a joint effort with the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department and is designed for female students ages 16 and 17 who are found guilty of a criminal offense.
- McLeod Program: Offers a comprehensive educational intervention program for students in grades 6th through 12th who have drug addictions. Students in this program receive substance abuse treatment and academic lessons.
- Short-Term Alternative to Suspension: The program provides a safe, structured environment for middle and high school students who receive a suspension from one to ten days. It is located at Right Choices Program on the former J.T. Williams campus.
- Probationary Program: The program supports students who violate the *Code of Student Conduct* and who have been assigned probation in lieu of or in conjunction with an alternative assignment. Students who violate their probation may be considered for further consequences.
- Criminal Watch/Felony Notification Program: A partnership with law enforcement and court services, the program notifies CMS when students are arrested for a felony.
- CMS Data Overview:
 - Alternative Schools' Accountability Model: The accountability model for alternative schools will be based on achievement and the degree of success the school has in meeting certain objectives contained in its School Improvement Plan. The plan must contain elements as outlined by the North Carolina Department of Public Education and the local superintendent and board of education must approve the plan. The plan must be approved before November 15th of the current school year.
 - North Carolina Department of Public Alternative Schools' Accountability Options: Alternative schools have a menu of eight options to choose from and the schools must select three different local options of which one must be option number four or five.
 - Student Achievement Data: It is difficult to track student achievement data in the Turning Point and Right Choices programs from year to year because the student population is so transient. Students are assigned to the programs from 35 days to 180

days and can actual move forward in a shorter time frame.

➤ Hawthorne (2011-2012): Met Expected Growth and met three out of three Local Option Goals. Algebra scores were up by 6% to 38% and English scores remained steady at about 39%. Biology data was down by 3% to about 26%. The ABC performance composite was at 35%. The graduation cohort rate for last year was 73.7%.

- Enrollment Data (as of January 7, 2013): Turning Point Academy: 353 students. Hawthorne High School: 336 students.
- CMS Discipline Data: The schools are on pace to have fewer incidents and suspensions compared to last year.

	Total Incidents		Total Short Term Suspensions	
	2011-2012	2012-2013*	2011-2012	2012-2013*
Turning Point Academy	1,388	600	1,010	403
Hawthorne High School	542	179	306	55

*Denotes year-to-date information as of January 7, 2013.

- CMS Alternative School Committee’s findings and next steps:
 - Design and implement another Performance Learning Center (PLC). Many students need something other than the typical high school setting. Consider a PLC that would serve a different area of the County.
 - North Carolina Cooperative Innovative High Schools. Normally located on college campus and students can earn up to two years of college credits within five years. Hawthorne High School has applied for this initiative. This will allow CMS to have a more robust relationship with higher education.
 - Hawthorne High School – Reconstruction.
 - Apex Learning – Day and Evening Programs. Online opportunities.
 - Choice, Alternative and Magnet School Task Force. Consider more Career Technical Education opportunities (Cosmetology, Automotive, Construction, Horticulture, and Culinary Arts).

Mr. House called upon Charity Bell, Central Secondary Zone Superintendent; Dr. Lisa Barnes, Executive Director of Alternative Education and Safe Schools; and Sheila Ijames, principal at Hawthorne High School, to answer Board member questions.

- Dr. Waddell thanked staff for the report and she noted Hawthorne High School and the Performance Learning Center are in District 3 and they are doing an excellent work. Dr. Waddell asked who was on the Alternative School Committee and did it include community members? Mr. House said the committee that met from October to December included principals, administrators, and representatives of the magnet school office. This committee did not include community members but the Alternative Education Task Force does include community members as well as members from higher education agencies. Dr. Waddell said when considering additional locations for a Performance Learning Center please consider using the CMS school buildings that were closed. Dr. Waddell would like the see the test data separated out for each program at Hawthorne High School. Staff will provide this information at a later time. Dr. Waddell encouraged that CMS expand the Career Technical Education programs.
- Ms. Lennon thanked staff for the report. She addressed concerns that some parents are unable to attend the short-term suspension centers because the locations are not

conducive to parents and their schedules. Mr. House said a regional approach is being reviewed to consider sites that are spread throughout the County moving forward. Ms. Lennon said this was a concern three years ago and she urged staff to move from discussion to implementation because the downtown location is not conducive to many areas. There are limited opportunities for students from the far northeast, west, and south locations to participate and there are no former CMS facilities in these areas because most of the schools have trailers. Ms. Lennon said there are many empty churches, store fronts, and buildings that could accommodate these programs and she urged staff to look for regional partnerships.

- Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked what is the potential cost perspective, what is the role of technology in expanding alternative programs, and when considering additional Career and Technical Education programs are you listening to the voice of students in defining their interests? Mr. House said at this time we are assessing the cost factors of using our own facilities and what is available. We anticipate technology will play a large role in future endeavors because technology is driving learning alternatives for students. Technology is a priority and staff is assessing the technology infrastructure and options for funding. The Career and Technical Education Department is reviewing the expansion of programs and talking to students to understand their needs and what they are getting out of the existing programs. Dr. Morrison said he has an upcoming meeting with the Generation Nation youth group and he will be listening to what they have to say. In addition, students have been invited to participate on the twenty-two task force committees and they will be sharing their ideas around student choice, magnets, and alternative education. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said technology is important because we are preparing young people for jobs that do not exist at this time and it must be factored in the plan for the future.
- Reverend Stinson-Wesley thanked staff for the report. Reverend Stinson-Wesley said she has visited all the alternative sites, had wonderful visits, and was impressed with the programs and staff. She commended the work of Dr. Lisa Barnes for doing a phenomenal job with alternative education. Reverend Stinson-Wesley asked at this time how many additional alternative sites are you considering? Mr. House said currently we are considering one additional site and we are reviewing options for a true regional approach to make the program conducive for all areas of the County. Reverend Stinson-Wesley encouraged staff to strive to have sites located throughout the entire County.
- Mr. Morgan asked are students able to choice into the programs at Hawthorne and PLC? Mr. House said, yes, and currently the national trend is offering more choice to students and that is the direction CMS would like to pursue. Mr. Morgan said he echoes that choice has become part of the public education system in North Carolina and throughout the country and we must be prepared to deal with that new concept in a proactive manner. He hopes the additional alternative sites will become part of the CMS Capital Needs Assessment report because CMS will need to find other properties for those programs in the remote areas of the County.
- Mr. Davis thanked staff for what they doing because this is some of the most challenging work in CMS as our students come to CMS with a variety of needs. One of the purposes of the alternative programs is to impact our students positively with the choices they make. Mr. Davis suggested CMS consider a more robust set of measures to highlight the change that our students are experiencing. This can be measured by the choices students make before, during, and after assignment to an alternative program or the change in the

student before, during, and after the alternative assignment. Creating a more robust set of measures may provide incite for how the student is being impacted. Mr. House said this is a trend currently used to tag social and emotional metrics and staff will give this consideration.

Chairperson McCray thanked staff for the report and the work they are doing for our non-traditional students.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Morrison reported CMS is providing opportunities for the public and CMS employees to provide input via the CMS Website.

- The public can sign up to participate on the twenty-two CMS task forces which were launched this month to target District planning for the eight new strategic goals.
- Survey for how to enhance the CMS Website as a communication vehicle. The CMS Website is an important part of communicating with employees, community, and public. We want to ensure it is a user and customer-friendly communication tool.
- Survey on options for revisions to the 2013-2014 school calendar which was revised to accommodate changes in State law. The calendar survey was launched today and will conclude next Monday, January 14th. Staff will present those recommendations with the survey results to the Board at the January 22, 2013 Regular Board meeting.

In an effort to ensure parents have options for choice, CMS will hold a Magnet Fair this Saturday, January 12th, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., at Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology.

North Carolina was recognized as a distinguished state for improving the quality of educational programs by excelling in testing and CMS was recognized as an improving district. This is based upon a comparison of student test scores by State, national, and international. North Carolina also leads the country in the number of National Board Certified Teachers and CMS is the third highest in the country.

VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Reverend Stinson-Wesley addressed concerns regarding Human Trafficking. To bring awareness to the global issue January has been declared as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Reverend Stinson-Wesley highlighted the following items. She thanked Ann Helms for the inspiring article in the *Charlotte Observer* on Windsor Park Elementary School and she will visit that school soon. She encouraged the public to respond to the surveys as noted by Dr. Morrison. She invited everyone to see the Art Exhibit “Bite of the Apple” on display in the Lobby of the Government Center that features art from CMS schools. She announced as part of her non-profit work she will be traveling with members of Providence United Methodist Church to Haiti next week to provide assistance to people who were devastated three years ago by one of the worst earthquakes in history. Haiti is one of our most impoverished nations in the world and it is incumbent upon us to share with those who do not have as much.
- Dr. Waddell highlighted the good things happening at University Meadows and Reedy Creek elementary schools and she noted students were enthusiastic about Common Core. She commended the staff and students at Northridge Middle School and she noted the

difference Master Teachers are making with the students. We must work to keep excellent teachers who make a difference in the classrooms. She wished everyone a Happy New Year. She reported in January CMS will sponsor a variety of Martin Luther King competitions and Charlotte will host a Martin Luther King Day Parade in which CMS schools will participate.

- Ms. Lennon commended Josie Sanctis on presenting information on the importance of Trichotillomania Awareness. This is a prevalent condition and Ms. Sanctis has left brochures with Judy Whittington, Manager of Board Services, to share with the Board. She hopes teachers and staff become aware of this condition because it may help them better understand some of the student behaviors.

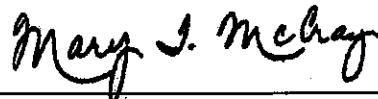
Chairperson McCray recognized students attending the meeting from Generation Nation and she announced the January 22, 2013 Regular Board meeting will be held at Druid Hills Academy at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

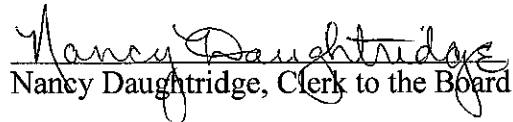
Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Upon motion by Dr. Waddell that the Board adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Tate, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Mary T. McCray, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtride, Clerk to the Board