

Approved by the Charlotte-  
Mecklenburg Board of Education  
February 11, 2014  
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

November 12, 2013

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on November 13, 2013. The meeting began at 4:25 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, and George E. Battle, III, General Counsel. Tim Morgan served as 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:**

- **To consider certain personnel matters.**

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

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 4:25 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in Room CH-14.

Chairperson McCray reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:10 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 November 12, 2013 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, and a discussion followed.**

**Ms. Ellis-Stewart moved to amend the motion to add Agenda Item V. D., Board follow up discussion regarding the November 11, 2013 Board Work Session on 2012-2013 State Testing Data. The amendment to the motion was seconded by Tom Tate. The amendment to the motion passed upon an 8-0 voice vote of the Board. Reverend Stinson-Wesley was out of the room at the time of the vote.**

### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson McCray called upon Reverend Stinson-Wesley to introduce the student to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak to the November character trait of *honesty*. Reverend Stinson-Wesley introduced Kammy Kasher who is a fifth grade student in Ms. Joni Strama's class at Providence Spring Elementary School. Kammy is a well-rounded and talented scholar, excelling in all academic areas. She is an avid reader but her true passion is writing short stories and poetry. Recently, Kammy wrote and recited her poem, "*Save Mother Nature*" at the *International Poetry Reading* event at NODA. Kammy displays impeccable character and exemplifies respect, responsibility, honesty, kindness, perseverance and all the character traits that we want our children to embrace both in and out of the classroom. Kammy's strong character is how she lives her life even when nobody's looking. Kammy was joined by her mother, Lisa Kasher; brother, Kyler; and principal, Diane Adams. Kammy talked about the importance of honesty and the need to be truthful and not tell lies. Honesty is the key to a locked door waiting to be opened and it will bring you an amazing future as long as you use it wisely. Following the comments, Kammy invited everyone to stand and join her in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments to Policy JCA, Student Assignment and Exhibit JCA-E, Student Assignment Plan Priorities - Magnet Programs and Title I Choice Lottery

Chairperson McCray reviewed the protocol for public speakers which included each speaker would be given three minutes to speak before the Board. Chairperson McCray called upon the one speaker signed up to speak before the Board.

- Timika Shafeek-Horton, chairperson of E.E. Waddell Language Academy's School Leadership Team, addressed concerns regarding Exhibit JCA-E and Footnote 9, the younger sibling guarantee. They believe the proposed change regarding E. E. Waddell will have a harmful affect on both ongoing Immersion programs and students entering the program after kindergarten. Ms. Shafeek-Horton provided information to support their request that the Board delete the language regarding E. E. Waddell Language Academy in Footnote 9.

Chairperson McCray thanked the speaker for her comments and called the Public Hearing closed at 6:22 p.m.

B. Report on Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Comprehensive Annual Financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. Dr. Morrison called upon Sheila Shirley to introduce the report. Ms. Shirley reported she is pleased to present to the Board the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and the Compliance Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 and the Compliance Report for the same period of which the Board members have received a copy. Ms. Shirley acknowledged the hard work of the Accounting staff led by Lu Ellen Richard, Executive Director of Financial Services, and Betty Mattos, Director of Accounting and Audit, in the Finance Division. This is a team effort and it is through their efficiencies in conjunction with all colleagues within CMS that we are able to receive an unqualified opinion, the desired outcome as a result of the audit.

Ms. Shirley introduced Aprille Bell, partner with Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP, to present the results of the financial audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

Aprille Bell provided the Board with an overview of the financial and compliance results of the CMS audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. Highlights of the report included the following:

- Ms. Bell met with the Board of Education Audit Committee on November 4, 2013 to review the Financial and Compliance results in detail.
- CMS engaged Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP to perform both the Financial Audit and Compliance Audit. Results of the Financial Audit can be found in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The Compliance Audit includes the Single Audit Report and audits on Federal and State programs.
- CMS revenue sources, expenditures excluding capital outlay, and general fund were consistent and comparative to previous years.
- Child Nutrition Program experienced a small loss this year. Dixon Hughes Goodman works with nine school districts throughout North Carolina and the results of the CMS Child Nutrition Program were consistent with the other school districts in North Carolina. This year, there was a slight increase in the Federal revenues for the free-and-reduced meals served. In addition, CMS experienced a small decrease in the food sales as well as an increase in food costs which may be attributed to the State healthy meal requirements

implemented this year. The program was also offset by the increase in salaries, retirement rates, and benefits. Overall, the Child Nutrition Program is a healthy fund and the audit resulted in very favorable results.

- Federal programs audited included School Improvement Cluster, Special Education Cluster, ARRA – *Race to the Top*, and Education Jobs Fund. There were no findings to be reported.
- State programs audited included State Public School Fund and School Technology Fund. There were no findings to be reported.
- Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP issued Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education an unqualified opinion which indicates CMS met all financial compliance requirements and Compliance Report resulted in no findings to be reported.

Ms. Bell stated the overall results of the audit are a great accomplishment for the entire CMS school system.

Chairperson McCray thanked staff and Ms. Bell for doing a great job and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments. Chairperson McCray thanked Dr. Waddell, Chair of the Audit Committee, and the Board members on the Audit Committee for their financial oversight.

Dr. Waddell thanked staff and Ms. Bell for their excellent work and good report. Dr. Waddell commended the members of the Audit Committee (Tim Morgan, Amelia Stinson-Wesley, and Ericka Ellis-Stewart) for their good work and financial oversight.

## II. REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairperson McCray reported the Public Requests section is an opportunity to hear from the public and she provided an overview of the protocol for public speakers. 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. Twenty-two speakers were signed up to speak before the Board.

Ken McIver, parent of a junior at Providence High School, addressed concerns regarding the athletic eligibility policy and student parking. The athletic eligibility policy is not in compliance with Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* regarding access and athletic opportunities for students with disabilities. Mr. McIver requested CMS amend the policy.

Four doctoral students at UNC-Charlotte provided the Board with information regarding research they conducted on specific topics. Each student will provide the Board a brief outlining their research and recommendations.

- Shantria Cuthbertson discussed the negative impact of administrative and teacher turnover on academics and the importance of administrative stability in a child's education specifically in high needs schools.
- Brian Williams represented the southwest portion of the County and discussed tracking issues within CMS as it relates to grouping students based upon academic ability. Minority students are substantially underrepresented in advanced courses. CMS must provide all students access to a quality education and teachers must be trained to

- differentiate instruction and assessment to support diverse learners.
- Loren Trull, attorney, discussed concerns regarding real world preparation focused on personal finance literacy. She urged CMS to add a curriculum to teach students how to manage money and make sound financial decisions.
- Sheika Matthews discussed concerns regarding the CMS Code of Conduct and Discipline policies and the impact of suspensions on African-American and Hispanic male students.

Jeremy Stephenson represented the neighborhoods in Crown Colony and discussed concerns regarding the Crown Colony school boundaries. He urged the Board to follow Policy JCA and rezone them to geographically closer schools. They presented a formal application on this request previously and would like an update on their recommendation. There are two elementary schools and three middle schools closer to their neighborhood and they are within walking distance to Providence High School. He asked the Board to approve this request at the December 2013 meeting.

Six parents discussed concerns regarding the boundaries for Southwest Middle School. They urged the Board to rezone them to a middle school closer to their homes. This request would ease the overcrowding at Southwest Middle School, currently at 136% capacity. Based upon the expected growth in the area, the population of Southwest Middle School will increase exponentially because a new school is not scheduled for the area in the near future. They presented a viable solution for the Board's consideration. Sections of the school boundary could be rezoned to Sedgfield Middle currently at 88% capacity and Kennedy Middle at 82% capacity. This would reduce travel time and keep neighborhoods assigned to the same school. The current boundary is nonsensical and this would be a commonsense boundary based upon population growth. They urged the Board to consider this recommendation as soon as possible.

- Patrick Strubbe, attorney and CMS parent.
- Giovy Buyers.
- Erika Strubbe.
- Mike Ferenack, CMS parent.
- Gonzoles Frias.
- Jessica Turton.

Sarah Vavra, mother of two CMS students, represented the Chantilly Montessori community. She thanked the Board for their support of the Montessori Program and urged CMS to ensure the new Montessori schools remain authentic to the Montessori philosophy and meet the requirements inherent in a public school system. They want to ensure the new Montessori schools do not weaken the existing schools and programs. She asked the Board to delay the opening of the Long Creek Elementary Montessori Program in order to hire and develop a strong opening staff and PTA.

Scott Novak, represented the Winterbrook Subdivision, and asked the Board to rezone them to Providence High School. They were previously zoned to Providence and are the only neighborhood in the area currently zoned to Butler High School. This proposal would lessen traffic congestion in the area and keep all the neighborhoods in the area assigned to the same school. They began this request two years ago and would like the Board to consider this proposal at the December 2013 meeting.

Two parents urged the Board to review Policy JCA to consider changing the part of the

policy that states a student cannot attend an IB High School outside of their transportation zone.

- Chris Parrish, parent of students in the IB Program at J. M. Alexander Middle, wants his sons to attend North Mecklenburg High School which is five miles from his home. He lives in the Gray Zone and must travel twelve miles to attend his IB high school.
- Michael Matthews, CMS parent of a student at Piedmont IB Middle, also lives closer to North Mecklenburg High School. Based upon his transportation zone, the assignment for his son would be West Mecklenburg High School which is much further away.

Three parents urged the Board to accept the recommendation to make Mountain Island a K-8 school. They love Mountain Island Elementary and 80% of the parents want it to be a K-8 school. Middle school is hard and this recommendation would lessen the transition from elementary to middle school. Mountain Island has great administrator, teacher, and parent support and this will keep that momentum going. This is a culturally diverse, socio-economic neighborhood school loved by teachers, parents, and students. This recommendation will keep this community together for three more years.

- Carrie Raeford, parent of students who attend Mountain Island Elementary
- Janelle Goff, PTA President at Mountain Island Elementary.
- Robert Gibson, parent of two sons at Mountain Island Elementary.

Dorian Albritton, CMS parent, addressed concerns regarding the CMS sports eligibility investigation process and provided the Board with process improvement management recommendations to make the process better.

Michelle Estrada Abels represented Charlotte Neighbors for Strong Community Schools which is a group dedicated to sustaining and creating community schools in a natural diverse area. They strive to help schools build a multicultural, academically vigorous environment to make every school a school of choice. This will help to reduce the number of high poverty schools and encourage the full range of families living in these areas to choose their assigned schools. They want to work with CMS and will share community insight in the process of thinking through intended and unintended consequences of policy choices that affect schools and the community.

Chairperson McCray thanked the speakers for their comments and called the Requests from the Public closed at 7:27 p.m.

### **III. CONSENT ITEMS**

#### **A. Approval of Minutes:**

1. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes.
  - September 26, 2013.
  - October 8, 2013.
  - October 17, 2013.
  - October 22, 2013.
  - October 24, 2013.
2. Recommend approval of Open Session Minutes.
  - August 13, 2013 Regular Board Meeting.
  - August 27, 2013 Regular Board Meeting.

#### **B. Construction Items:**

1. Recommend approval to grant Permanent Utility and Temporary Construction

Easement to the City of Charlotte on property currently owned by Mecklenburg County and operated by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (CMBE) located at Mallard Creek High School, 3825 Johnston-Oehler Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28269.

*The City of Charlotte is requesting .157 acre of temporary construction easements, .08 acre of a permanent storm drainage easement and .043 acre of utility easements in order to make roadway improvements along Johnston-Oehler Road. Fiscal Implications: In exchange for the grant of easements, CMBE will benefit from storm drainage improvements to the site as well as the planting of eleven decorative trees along Johnston-Oehler Road.*

2. Recommend approval to grant Permanent Storm Drainage Easement to the City of Charlotte for Storm Drainage Improvements to Allenbrook Elementary School located at 1430 Allenbrook Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208.

*The City of Charlotte is requesting a temporary construction easement and .07 acre of permanent storm drainage easement in order to make storm improvements at Allenbrook Elementary School. Fiscal Implications: In exchange for the grant easement, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (CMBE) will benefit from storm drainage improvements to the site.*

- C. Recommend approval for supplementary funding request for Harding University High School: Muscle Milk Recovery Grant.

*The goal of the project is to revitalize Harding University high School Athletic Program and foster a greater appreciation of pride and school spirit for students by purchasing new uniforms, new sound systems, and John Deere Gator to transport equipment. Fiscal Implications: Funding requested from Muscle Milk is \$25,000.*

- D. Recommend approval of Licensed/Non-Licensed Hires, Promotions, and selected position Separations for October 2013.

*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, 2013 - June 30, 2014: 2,110. (Licensed Hires: 1,360/Non-Licensed Hires: 750).*
- *Total Promotions July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014: 211. (Licensed Promotions: 112/Non-licensed Promotions: 99).*
- *Total Selected Positions Separations: July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014: 5.*

- E. Recommend approval of administrative personnel appointment.

*Appointment:*

- *Randy Haigler named Chief of Police. Mr. Haigler previously served as Deputy Chief of Police and Police Sergeant with CMS.*

- F. Recommend adoption of resolution authorizing the director of storage and distribution to dispose of surplus school property by way of Online bid in auction format.

*The Online auction time span will encompass the November 14-29, 2013 period. GovDeals, ([www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com)), an experienced and proven Online government surplus sales service provider will facilitate the process. Recommend approval authorizing the director of storage and distribution to dispose of electronic/AV surplus school property through "secured disposal" by way of private negotiation and sale using HVE Inc., a certified recycle vendor. This process will occur during the time period of November 14 -29, 2013. Action necessary, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-266-270, in order to dispose of surplus school property. Fiscal Implications: The auctions usually generate \$6,000 to \$15,000 in revenue*

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

**Ms. Ellis-Stewart moved that the Board adopt Consent Agenda Items A. through F. as presented, seconded by Mr. Morgan, and a discussion followed.**

Dr. Waddell pulled Consent Item F.

**Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote to adopt Consent Items A. through F. excluding F., and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.**

Dr. Waddell asked regarding Consent Item F., does the bidding process have restrictions and are certain groups prohibited from the bidding process? Guy Chamberlain, Associate Superintendent for Auxiliary Services, reported there are no restrictions on the bidding process. The bidding process is through Govdeals and the only restrictions they enforce are excluding those who have failed to pay their bill. In those incidents, bidders are blocked from future participation. Dr. Waddell asked do we give CMS schools first priority for bidding on items? For example, do we allow schools that need computers to bid on the available computers? Mr. Chamberlain said, yes, CMS schools can bid on the items but typically the items being sold are no longer serviceable for CMS schools or the school district. Some companies purchase the equipment for parts or secondary purposes.

**Dr. Waddell moved that the Board adopt Consent Item F., seconded by Mr. Tate, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.**

Chairperson called upon Dr. Morrison to present the personnel appointment. Dr. Morrison reported he is pleased to announce the appointment of Randy Haigler as the new CMS Chief of Police. Mr. Haigler has served as the Interim Chief of Police and done an outstanding job. CMS conducted three national searches and we found some extraordinary candidates but did not find anyone as qualified as Mr. Haigler. Mr. Haigler is well respected as a leader in CMS and throughout the community and State. Chairperson McCray congratulated Randy Haigler on his appointment as CMS Chief of Police and presented him a new badge.

#### IV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar for CMS Middle College Schools located on Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) Campuses: Cato Middle College High, Middle College High at Levine Campus, and Middle College High at Harper Campus, pending approval by the State Board of Education

*Correlation to Board of Education Theory of Action for Change: Support innovation through the sharing of best practices and effective allocation of resources.*

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the recommendation for approval of 2014-2015 Academic Calendar for CMS Middle College schools located on Central Piedmont Community College campuses. Dr. Morrison called upon Dr. Valerie Truesdale, Chief Learning Services Officer, to present the recommendation. Dr. Truesdale recognized Joey Burch, principal at Cato Middle College. Dr. Truesdale reported the adoption of the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar will allow CMS to continue the good work at Cato Middle School High and expand the programs next year to the Levine and Harper campuses.



Components of the recommendation include the following:

- CMS Middle College students would now attend high school on a Central Piedmont Community College campus at Cato, Levine, and Harper sites.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education approved Middle College at Levine Campus and Middle College at Harper Campus application for Cooperative Innovative High School status on September 25, 2013.
- Approved Cooperative Innovative High Schools receive a calendar waiver from the State Board of Education to start their academic year prior to the August 25, 2014 regular academic year start date.
- Cato Middle College is an existing Cooperative Innovative High School site and has a previously approved State Board of Education calendar waiver.
- CPCC's academic year begins on August 15, 2014, prior to CMS' academic year on August 25, 2014.
- Middle College students must begin their CPCC classes on August 15, in order to receive community college credit for courses.
- The proposed calendar meets all the personnel requirements of the regular CMS academic calendar.
- Annual school calendar approval is a function of the local school board of education.

Fiscal Implications: Central Piedmont Community College Fees: \$200,000. Student Transportation: \$150,000.

**Dr. Waddell moved that the Board adopt the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar for CMS Middle College High Schools located on Central Piedmont Community College Campuses: Cato Middle College High, Middle College High at Levine Campus, and Middle College High at Harper Campus, pending approval by the State Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ellis-Stewart, and passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.**

B. Recommend approval of the Board granting itself an exception to Policy JCA, *Time Requirements*

*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 recommendation on the Board granting itself an exception to Policy JCA, *Time Requirements*. Dr. Morrison reported the Board is requesting an exception to the policy as a result of the recent 2013 Bond elections which included several CMS projects. It was important to delay student assignment recommendations pending the outcome of the elections on November 5, 2013. Now, that the 2013 Bond Referendum was approved by the voters, CMS is now prepared to make student assignment recommendations and seek feedback from the public. The purpose of the delay in the timeline is to have the opportunity to share the recommendations with the Board and the public and gather feedback.

Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, reported in the current Board Policy JCA, all student assignment changes must be approved by the Board of Education by November 15<sup>th</sup> affecting the school year beginning in the following calendar year. To support adequate

time for thorough public engagement, ensure administrative recommendations align with recent Board strategic plan adoption, and determine passage of Bond referendum that supports many new programs, it is requested that the Board delay changes to the student assignment plan until the December 11, 2013 Board meeting.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to approve the recommendation.

**Tim Morgan moved to recommend approval of the Board granting itself an exception to the part of Policy JCA, *Time Requirements*, requiring the Board to act by November 15 to make changes to the student assignment plan, such that the Board will have until December 15, 2013 to make any such decisions. The motion was seconded by Tom Tate.**

Chairperson McCray invited Board members to ask questions and make comments.  
questions

- Dr. Waddell wants to ensure CMS staff develops a communication method to get the information out to parents and the community. Scott McCully, Executive Director of Student Placement, reported there is a lot of work remaining. Following the approval of this item and the presentation regarding student assignment, staff will begin the process of public engagement. A big piece of that information will be next steps and timelines. Staff will present recommendations to the Board at the December 11, 2013 Board meeting. CMS has publicized the information for parents to participate in the first lottery and that information will not change moving forward. The lottery application period begins January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Lennon expressed concern about the students enrolling for kindergarten by the December 10<sup>th</sup> deadline because the potential Montessori programs will not be approved by that date. Mr. McCully encouraged parents to go through the new student enrollment process and CMS has publicized the December 10<sup>th</sup> deadline. CMS has the latitude to adjust the deadline should that be necessary. Ms. Lennon reported she would not support the motion because CMS should have gotten this completed on time. The Bond vote took place last week and CMS could have notified parents tonight.

**Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote on the motion and the motion passed upon an 8-1 Board vote.**

**Ayes: Board members McCray, Morgan, Ellis-Stewart, McElrath, Waddell, Tate, Davis, and Reverend Stinson-Wesley.**

**Nays: Rhonda Lennon**

## **V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. Report on Budget Amendments for September 2013**

*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 for September 2013. Dr. Morrison reported this is the monthly report and as presented.

Fiscal Year 2013-14 State Operating Revenue increased by \$517,255

Fiscal Year 2013-14 Federal Operating Revenue increased by \$29,686  
Fiscal Year 2013-14 Other Local Operating Revenue increased by \$140,477

Fiscal Year 2013-14 State Operating Expenditures increased by \$517,255  
Fiscal Year 2013-14 Federal Operating Expenditures increased by \$29,686  
Fiscal Year 2013-14 Other Local Operating Expenditures increased by \$140,477

**B. Report on Financial Statements for September 2013**

*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 for September 2013. Dr. Morrison reported this is the monthly report and as presented.

**C. Report on Boundaries, Student Assignment, and New Options and School Programs**

*Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission & 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 Boundaries, Student Assignment, and New Options and School Programs. Dr. Morrison reported we are pleased to provide additional information to the Board regarding student assignment and new programs. At the October 22, 2013 Board meeting, staff presented new options and schools for the Board's consideration. The proposed recommendations will be voted upon by the Board at the December 11, 2013 Board meeting and will be effective the 2014-2015 school year. The recommendations are researched-based and include a rich diversity of program and new school options throughout the District. The recommendations will give our community confidence in CMS. The recommendations based on supply and demand and high interest programs that are nationally recognized such as the Montessori Program. Staff is confident CMS can expand the Magnet program opportunities throughout the District, meet the requests of the community, and lessen the travel time for students. CMS staff has worked in collaboration with the institutions of higher education and around the needs of workforce development which is a huge aspect of our evolving strategic plan. CMS wants to prepare students for both college and highly skilled careers as well as what students in kindergarten today will need when they graduate. The programs focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM), Advanced Manufacturing and Entrepreneur (AME) High at Olympic, and Middle and Early College. The programs were developed thoughtfully with a focus on the CMS budget. Staff has had preliminary conversations with the schools impacted by the recommendations and they have been well received. The report also includes a recommendation for a new boundary process and rubric for CMS to consider when reviewing requests from the public. Dr. Morrison called upon Scott McCully, Executive Director Planning and Student Placement and Akesia Craven-Howell, Executive Director Transformation and Learning, to present the recommendations.

Mr. McCully reported the report is a part of the annual student assignment report to the Board and highlights a series of Magnet programs and new options for the 2014-2015 school year. The recommendations offer programmatic diversity across elementary, middle and high school levels; new and expanded K-8 schools; and Early and Middle College programs that can serve a wide variety of the interests and needs of our current and future student

body.

Mr. McCully and Ms. Craven-Howell provided the Board with an overview of the recommendations, the process for reviewing student assignment requests from the community, and next steps.

- Program Recommendations for the 2014-2015 School Year:
  - Cochrane/Garinger/iMeck Academy:
    - Recommended Change: Offer innovative iMeck Academy High School (9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>) Program as a Magnet theme at Cochrane. Assign Cochrane Collegiate Academy High School attendance boundary to Garinger High School.
    - Rationale: Provide a comprehensive high school experience for current Cochrane 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
    - Description: Students enter iMeck Academy via the lottery (rising seniors and existing iMeck students may remain at Cochrane). iMeck Academy grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> remain, growing a grade a year. Seats will be filled from the Green Transportation Zone. Cochrane will remain an attendance area middle school with grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Bolster Grainger offerings; potential focus on agriculture, horticulture, and environmental studies/sustainability.
    - Considerations: Students that reside outside Cochrane attendance area in Green Transportation zone will be served by shuttle stops. Changes to Cochrane facility in progress; may require elevator upgrade.
  - Winget Park Elementary School Relief (Engineering Elementary):
    - Recommended Change: Establish a school-wide focus on the engineering process. Winget Park Relief (in the Palisades area) adds partial magnet with transportation provided from the Blue Transportation Zone.
    - Rationale: Increase the CMS supply of STEM seats (Morehead STEM has approximately 1,000 in total wait pool, 766 in wait pool grades K-5). Increase enrollment at Winget Park Relief School.
    - Description: Establish Winget Park Relief as a partial magnet with school-wide focus on engineering at grades K-5. Morehead transition with current students may remain with transportation through terminal grade. Expected hire date for principal, January 2014.
  - McClintock Partial Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) Magnet Program:
    - Recommended Change: Establish McClintock as a 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Magnet STEAM Program.
    - Rationale: Increase the CMS supply of STEM seats (Morehead STEM has approximately 1,000 in total wait pool, 270 in wait pool for grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>). Increase access to STEAM Program in the southeastern part of the County/Green Transportation Zone.
    - Description: Open in fall 2014 with 6<sup>th</sup> grade and grow a grade each year. Students assigned from Green Transportation Zone. Morehead transition with current students may remain with transportation through terminal grade.
    - Considerations: Potential elementary STEAM Magnet feeder is Oakhurst opening in 2015-2016. High School feed to East Mecklenburg Engineering or Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology. McClintock Magnet students living outside attendance boundary served by shuttle stop in Green Transportation Zone.

- Advanced Manufacturing and Entrepreneur (AME) High at Olympic:
  - Recommended Change: Open Advanced Manufacturing Entrepreneurship High School at Olympic. Combine International Business and Communication Studies and International Studies and Global Economics School into Finance and Business Leadership. Recommendation maintains the five small school environment at Olympic.
  - Rationale: Provide innovative high tech program aligned to a career track of high economic value in a growing field of advanced manufacturing. Leverage industry partners at Olympic who are poised to support (e.g., equipment, apprenticeships, etc.) such a program.
  - Description: Start with 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades and grow a grade each year. Consider IT Academy in Finance and Business Leadership School. For students served in Olympic attendance zone. Advanced Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship High School. This consideration will redefine/organize the portfolio of options at Olympic High School.
- Hawthorne Medical Science Academy/Hawthorne School Program:
  - Recommended Change: One-year use of Derita facility to allow for facility renovation at Hawthorne (renovation funded by 2007 Bonds). Permanently relocate the Dolly Tate Teen-age Parents Services (T.A.P.S.) Program to Project L.I.F.T. Academy campus.
  - Rationale: Using Derita as available facility that can accommodate student enrollment.
  - Description: All programs at current Hawthorne, excluding TAPS, will relocate for one year to the Derita facility and then move back to renovated Hawthorne facility. Total estimated 2014-2015 student enrollment is approximately 250 (28 classrooms). Hawthorne Medical Science Magnet students will be provided transportation via Shuttle Stops.
- Levine Middle College:
  - Recommended Change: Provide up to 200 additional Middle College seats, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.
  - Rationale: Cato Middle College Program is full. Expand access to Middle College Program.
  - Description: Starting January 2014 with students from Cato fall enrollment (36 students). Grades 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> for 2014-2015. Allows an extra year to complete high school and Associates Degree (Grade 13).
  - Considerations: Transportation served by public transportation (CATS). County-wide program. Students apply through the student assignment portal. Project is part of the Central Piedmont Community College Bond. Principal appointment for 2014-2015.
- Harper Middle College:
  - Recommended Change: Provide up to 200 additional Middle College seats, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.
  - Rationale: Cato Middle College Program is full. Expand access to Middle College Program.
  - Description: Start with 100 students in 11<sup>th</sup> grade for 2014-2015. Will allow an extra year to complete high school and Associates Degree (Grade 13).
  - Considerations: Transportation served by public transportation (CATS). County-wide program. Students apply through the student assignment portal. Project is

- part of the Central Piedmont Community College Bond. Principal appointment for 2014-2015.
- UNC-Charlotte Energy Production and Infrastructure Center (EPIC) Early College:
    - Recommended Change: Provide up to 325 additional Early College seats in 9<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> grades.
    - Rationale: Expand access to Middle College Program.
    - Description: Students earn a high school diploma and two years of transferable college credits. County-wide Magnet program. Site determined for modular on UNC-C campus. For 2014-2015, school will start with 9<sup>th</sup> grade (65 students).
    - Considerations: Transportation served by Shuttle Stops. Students will apply through student assignment portal. Modular needs to be purchased for UNC-Charlotte campus. Principal appointment for 2014-2015.
  - Long Creek Montessori Magnet at old Long Creek facility:
    - Recommended Change: Open Pre-K-6 Montessori at old Long Creek facility.
    - Rationale: Expand access to Pre-K-6 Montessori in Violet Transportation Zone by replicating successful Highland Mill Montessori.
    - Description: Open with grades Pre-K-3 for fall 2014. Highland Mill Montessori will serve 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades in Violet Transportation Zone until grade levels are complete. Pre-K-6 estimated enrollment is 320. Students prioritized from Violet Transportation Zone. Highland Mill Montessori students in Violet Transportation Zone may remain without transportation or will be assigned to Long Creek Montessori with transportation. Grades not served will continue to receive transportation to current eligible site. Utilizes old Long Creek facility.
    - Considerations: Furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) at old Long Creek campus. Principal appointment for 2014-2015.
  - Program locations are represented in all transportation zones and all segments of the County.
  - Recommendations for Requests from the Community:
    - Mountain Island K-8 School Effective 2014-2015 School Year:
      - Recommended Change: Expand existing K-5 to K-8, one grade each year.
      - Rationale: School initiated request, building level STEM focus, expanding to K-8 to model Morehead STEM Academy. Provides continuity and eliminates transition through middle grades.
      - Description: Students currently assigned will remain for 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2014-2015 and grow a grade each year. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students remain at home schools. Approximately 250, 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be added. Reduces enrollments at Coulwood and Bradley middle schools (approximately 200 and 50, respectfully). No changes to high school attendance boundaries.
      - Considerations: Using existing portable classrooms for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Athletics will start at 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Elective offerings at middle school grades and need for science labs.
    - Coulwood Middle School Magnet:
      - Recommended Change: Establish a school-wide STEM focus. Coulwood becomes a partial Magnet with transportation provided from the western Grey transportation Zone and southwest Violet Transportation Zone. Target audience is wait list for Morehead STEM Magnet.
      - Rationale: Increase the CMS supply of STEM seats (Morehead STEM has approximately 1,000 in total wait pool with 270 in wait pool grades 6<sup>th</sup> through

8<sup>th</sup>). Increase enrollment at an under-enrolled school.

- Description: Begin with 6<sup>th</sup> grade for fall 2014; target approximately 150 students per grade, grow a grade a year. Removes Mountain Island from the Coulwood feeder pattern for 6<sup>th</sup> grade 2014-2015; all other grades remain. Shuttle Stop for students living outside Coulwood attendance boundary. Other considerations: facilities investment required at Coulwood in 2015-2016. Morehead transition will allow current students to remain with transportation through ending grade as long as they remain at same address. High school continuation to Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology.
- Recommended Community Boundary Requests: This is a new process and we appreciate the collaboration of the community and leadership of the Task Force groups. This is an evolving and learning process based upon best practices. Information will be sent to the requestors and the Board will be copied on the requests. Many of the community requests were located in the southern portion of the County.

Area	From School	To School
Woodlawn Watch Lane/Ardrey Woods Drive Ballamoore	Hawkrige ES	Elon Park ES
Crown Colony Subdivision	Lansdowne IB ES McClintock MS East Mecklenburg HS	Elizabeth Lane ES South Charlotte MS Providence HS
Village of Bishop Ridge	Lansdowne IB ES McClintock MS East Mecklenburg HS	Elizabeth Lane ES South Charlotte MS Providence HS
Essex Fells and Brittany Oaks	South Mecklenburg HS	Ardrey Kell HS
Poindexter Drive/Ideal Way	Sedgefield ES Sedgefield MS	Dilworth ES Alexander Graham MS
Reid Hall (under construction)	Greenway Park ES	Matthews ES
Winterbrooke Subdivision	Matthews ES Butler HS	Providence Springs ES Providence HS
Winget Park ES/Southwest MS	Delay until 2015	Delay 2015
Legacy Matthews	Greenway Park ES McClintock MS East Mecklenburg HS	Matthews ES Crestdale MS Butler HS

- Next Steps:
  - November 12<sup>th</sup>: Board meeting presentation.
  - December 6<sup>th</sup>: New student enrollment deadline for first lottery.
  - December 11<sup>th</sup>: Board Vote.
  - January 2014 (first week): Families informed of 2014 school assignments.
  - January 11, 2014: School Options Fair (formerly Magnet Fair) held at Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology.
  - January/February: School options application period.

Chairperson McCray thanked staff for the report and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments. A Board discussion followed and Board members Tate, Waddell, McElrath, Morgan, Davis, Ellis-Stewart, and McCray asked questions and provided comments.

- Mr. Tate asked questions regarding the budget implications for 2014-2015 and urged staff to ensure the quality of the Montessori Program so the program will not be watered

downed as expressed by the public speakers. Mr. Tate is happy about the program at McClintock and the STEAM Program at Oakhurst but he would prefer Oakhurst have an attendance area with a partial Magnet. Mr. Tate looks forward to CMS engaging the community. Mr. McCully said staff is assessing the budget implications for the current year and the 2014-2015 school year. Staff will continue to refine the numbers, programs, and mobile options and will share more budget details in the future. Dr. Morrison said staff believes we will be able to cover most of the costs in the existing budget for this year. Budget implications may include an elevator at Cochrane which may be a hefty cost but it will make the facility ADA compatible to access the upper floors. CMS will work with UNC-Charlotte regarding the placement of the modular unit. CMS will honor its commitment to have conversations with the community and will return with specific recommendations around Magnets following that process. Dr. Morrison reported CMS is pleased to expand the Montessori Program to meet the high interest of that program and we will be able to attract quality teachers to CMS. The program will not be dimensioned and CMS will focus on recruiting, retaining, and training to ensure the quality of the Montessori Program.

- Dr. Waddell expressed concern that several of the community requests reflect people who want to leave McClintock Middle School. A school is a building and there is great education happening in all CMS schools. Dr. Waddell urged CMS to develop a communications/public relations message to help promote the good work at McClintock. Mr. McCully said there are great things happening at McClintock and the school has a great principal who is enthusiastic about the school and the community. Dr. Morrison noted that through the 2007 Bonds, McClintock is housed in a beautiful new facility and the new Teach-to-One Program is making great headway. We are seeing many successes at the school including increased enrollment. We will continue to work with the school to ensure people see the positives about McClintock. Dr. Waddell said she is happy the Oakhurst and Starmount facilities will be utilized by CMS students again and she hopes staff will look at the other CMS closed schools when addressing growth and overcrowded conditions in the District.
- Mr. McElrath asked questions regarding athletics at the K-8 schools. Mr. McCully provided clarification regarding the location of the sports and transportation. Mr. McElrath supports a Partial Magnet at Oakhurst.
- Mr. Morgan asked questions regarding the process for reviewing individual as well as multiple requests for a community. Mr. McCully provided clarification noting all public the requests were taken seriously, each request was reviewed individually, and we are confident we did a thorough job. Mr. Morgan wants to ensure staff balances the overall impact on the school when addressing the singular need of the neighborhood.
- Mr. Davis said as a member of the Policy Committee, he would be happy to review the IB issues around Alexander and North Mecklenburg at the upcoming Policy Committee meeting on November 14, 2013. Mr. Davis said CMS is putting heavy support on the STEAM Program and he asked Dr. Morrison to explain why STEAM is the right program for CMS? Dr. Morrison noted the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math on the current workforce needs and in the future a focus on Arts will be added. These components are high demand areas and will position our students and community well for college and career opportunities now and in the future. Mr. Davis would like a map showing where the 1,000 wait list students at Morehead STEM reside. Mr. McCully will provide that information at a later time. Mr. Davis asked staff to reconsider the transportation options for the Winget Park and McClintock



recommendations. He urged CMS to allow the students that live near those schools to have the option to attend those schools as opposed to continuing to Morehead with transportation. Mr. Davis agreed with Mr. Tate's comments regarding the importance of maintaining the quality of the Montessori Program and he asked do the new students to the program need prior Montessori experience? Ms. Craven-Howell said at this time we recommend students who enter the program in 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade have some Montessori experience and we hope to define this better over the next few months. Mr. Davis said regarding the community requests, he would like to know the current number of students (elementary, middle, and high) impacted by each request and an anticipated number (higher, lower, or flat) for the future. Mr. McCully reported this information is built into the spreadsheet and he will share it with the Board at a later time. Mr. Davis said the parent request for Crown Colony relates to the parent request for Bishop Ridge and they make a compelling argument around proximity but based on staff's data the proposal is light around the issues of diversity and effective use of capital resources. Mr. McCully provided clarification noting that staff reviews the impact of the request on the facility (over or under utilization); the need for additional mobile units; operational funding; transportation both positive and negative; and issues related to health and safety of students and staff.

- Ms. Ellis-Stewart addressed concerns regarding the potential issues surrounding the Coulwood Middle School program. She wants to ensure CMS does not create a situation where the school is no longer a viable business entity resulting in CMS having to close the school based upon reduced enrollment. She also wants to ensure the quality of the new Montessori schools and that CMS avoids poaching Montessori teachers from surrounding/existing schools because that will negatively impact the staff at the existing school. Ms. Ellis-Stewart requested the specifics of the community request for the Coulwood recommendation and the number of students impacted.
- Mr. Tate said for the additional information regarding the community requests, he would like a spreadsheet with the number of students per grade level, the rationale for the recommendation, the date the school will open, and how the rubric was applied. Having the information in one spreadsheet will be helpful for making decisions. Mr. Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, said the Policy Committee has a full agenda for the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting but IB could be added pending time availability. This was briefly discussed by the Policy Committee previously and because it would be a major Magnet change, it was felt it was time to initiate a full Magnet review because the last Magnet review occurred in 2008.

Rhonda Lennon left the Regular Board meeting at 8:42 p.m.

- Chairperson McCray said the Montessori Program is as important as the STEAM Program. She addressed concerns that some students in a Magnet program will be provided transportation but the students who want to remain at Highland Mills will not be provided transportation. She urged staff to review this stipulation, the number of students impacted, and the rationale for the recommendation. Providing transportation must be fair for all students.

D. Continuation of November 12, 2013 Board Work Session Discussion/Feedback 2012-2013 Assessment Results

Chairperson McCray reported earlier today the Board held a Work Session on the 2012-2013

CMS State Assessment results. This agenda item was added to continue the Board discussion on the 2012-2013 Assessment results. Chairperson McCray invited Board members to ask questions and make comments. The Board discussion continued from approximately 8:48 p.m. until 9:35 p.m. Board members Tate, McElrath, Reverend Stinson-Wesley, Morgan, Ellis-Stewart, and McCray asked questions and made comments. Dr. Morrison and Mr. Barnes provided responses to questions.

- Tom Tate said the new Common Core focus on advanced skills (critical thinking and problem solving) is essential to education. Changing to the new concept will be tough but those components will be beneficial because it will help students learn differently for their future jobs. Mr. Tate addressed the importance of vertical articulation and urged staff to ensure the high school curriculum aligns with college to lessen the need for remediation in college. Dr. Morrison provided comments regarding the importance of teaching 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and that CMS is working with institutions of higher learning to develop a common definition for college and career readiness from higher education as well as an assessment. CMS will work collaborative with the universities, colleges, and community colleges. Mr. Tate highlighted that this year and next year CMS will administer the state of North Carolina tests and after that it will be the Smarter Balance tests which will make North Carolina comparable with other states. Dr. Morrison said, yes, at this time forty-four states have adopted the Common Core/Smarter Balance.
- Mr. McElrath said although CMS is not promoting the use of make-up tests, some parents believe make-up tests are beneficial.
- Reverend Stinson-Wesley will have more questions following a review of the subgroup data.
- Mr. Morgan asked how will the student reports be distributed? Mr. Barnes said they will be distributed through Parent Assist as well as a printed format due to the State complications with PowerSchool. Mr. Morgan expressed concern that students are now adjusting to the Common Core tests but in two years they will need to adjust to the Smarter Balance tests and that may generate another decline in student achievement. Dr. Morrison noted the Smarter Balance tests may be more rigorous and will only be administered Online which could promote some challenges for students. Mr. Morgan said we have the ability to compare CMS to the State and other school districts and he believes it would be beneficial if CMS could compare its results to the surrounding Charter schools. Mr. Barnes noted that most Charter schools do not meet the State criteria of the subgroups and private schools do not need to take the State assessment tests. Mr. Morgan noted that the CMS scores declined as did the State scores. Public education in North Carolina is a partnership between the State and the local communities. The largest CMS funding partner is the State and we must address these issues with our funding partners who make the decisions in Raleigh. Dr. Morrison said he has reached out to the leaders in Raleigh to seek their support. They are understanding and realize we are in an adjustment periods. We all want higher standards and the ability to prepare students for college.
- Ms. Ellis-Stewart supports the idea of not retesting students and she urged all students to use their time constructively. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said her questions would be relative to specific schools and she addressed concerns regarding the high schools with extremely low proficiency scores. She urged staff to develop a plan with the staff, students, and community to reassure them that we are serious about impacting the education of the students at those schools. Dr. Morrison reported CMS has only had the data for a week

and staff is completing a robust analysis of the information. The schools are also in the process of striving to understand the data. Staff is assessing the data on a school-by-school basis and we will have a laser focus on the schools with low proficiency rates and no growth. Following the assessment of the data and a root cause analysis, staff will report back to the Board.

- Chairperson McCray reported last year the North Carolina Department of Instruction said the tests would be piloted at selected schools on a regionally basis and it is disappointing that now the State is mandating that all schools in North Carolina take the tests. Chairperson McCray addressed concerns regarding the State mandates enforced on CMS and other school districts regarding PowerSchool and Common Core. Chairperson McCray thanked staff for their hard work and she commended the administrators and teachers for doing what they could with what they had. Dr. Morrison provided comments noting that we must trust the State assessment tests were valid and reliable. The states that have already administered the Common Core assessments had similar academic declines. This was anticipated and communicated well in advance. When compared to the State, CMS outperformed. CMS hit the vast majority of the State and federal targets and 81% of the CMS schools experienced expected or higher than expected growth. This is a good foundation for CMS to build upon but we must make improvements in proficiency rates and achievement gaps. Dr. Morrison said there is work to be done and we must do it quickly. This is a state of urgency but not a state of emergency.

## **VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Morrison reported on the following items:

- State PowerSchool Concerns, Report Cards Update: CMS has strived to be good partners with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI). Among the school districts in North Carolina, CMS outperformed in its adoption of PowerSchool and many school districts asked CMS for advice on their implementation process. We are dismayed that many school districts in the State are experiencing technical difficulties with PowerSchool which is impacting our ability to distribute our report cards. Pearson, the vendor for the PowerSchool product has acknowledged the technical problems. As a result of the PowerSchool technical issues, report cards currently scheduled for distribution on November 15<sup>th</sup> will now be issued on November 22<sup>nd</sup> for all grades excluding K-2. CMS K-2 report cards will be distributed as scheduled on November 15, 2013. Information will be distributed to parents and the community. CMS has addressed their concerns regarding PowerSchool to NCDPI.
- American Education Week November 18-22, 2013. CMS will plan activities throughout the week to thank our 18,000 committed employees who work tirelessly to support the academic achievement of our students.
- 2013 Bonds Passed: On November 5<sup>th</sup>, the CMS \$290 million Bond request was approved by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg voters. This clears the way for CMS to begin projects to improve our schools. This is great news for CMS as well as for our students, schools, and community. This happened through the strong support of our citizens. Dr. Morrison thanked the voters for their support for the CMS and Central Piedmont Community College projects that will enhance education for our students.

## VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Reverend Stinson-Wesley shared parting comments as she leaves her position as District 6 Board member. She thanked each member of the Board for welcoming her to the journey of governing public education. As she departs from the Board, she considers the Board members as her colleagues and friends. She is proud she was a part of the hiring the superintendent, adopting the Domestic Violence Policy, and her work as a member of the Policy Committee. She will miss visiting the CMS schools and she thanked the teachers and principals for welcoming her, allowing her to read to children, and answering her questions. CMS is a large school district which enhances the challenges that CMS must face each day in educating students. She addressed the importance of informed staff, parental involvement, and good communication to help in the process of serving students. She is appreciative and proud of District 6 which is an amazing district.
- Dr. Joyce Waddell thanked the public for supporting the CMS Bonds and allowing her to serve four more years. She congratulated all the winners in the November election. She enjoyed visiting several schools in the Project L.I.F.T. Zone, the new construction site at Newell Elementary School, and the dedication for the new Playground at University Park Elementary School. She also enjoyed attending the Retired Teachers Luncheon.
- Chairperson McCray thanked the Class of 2018 at Ranson Middle School for meeting with her to discuss opportunities they can do as students to be advocates for their own education. The students had great ideas and were caring and informed about what is happening in education at the State level. Chairperson McCray commended the CMS staff who presented at the recent Council of the Great City Schools' Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. CMS is doing great things and other school districts want to emulate what CMS is doing.

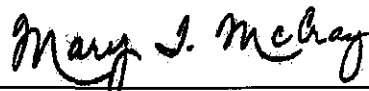
Ann Clark, Deputy Superintendent, reported that CMS was recognized at the Council of the Great City Schools' Conference for its outstanding partnership with UNC-Charlotte and Davidson College on its Charlotte Teacher Initiative. The program is run by our teachers and a wonderful example of teacher empowerment. CMS hopes to expand this teacher training program to other universities and colleges in the area.

### ADJOURNMENT

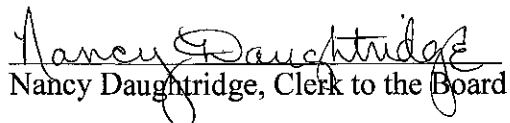
Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Upon motion by Mr. Morgan that the Board adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Stewart, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.**

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.



Mary T. McCray, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board