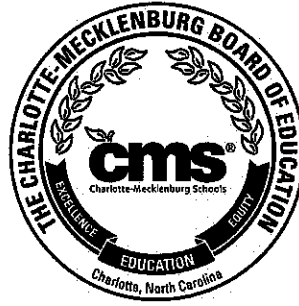


Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
February 10, 2015
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

November 19, 2014

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on November 19, 2014. The meeting began at 5:17 p.m. and was held in 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
Thelma Byers-Bailey, District 2
Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell, District 3
Tom Tate, District 4
Eric C. Davis, District 5
Paul Bailey, District 6

Absent: There were no absences.

Also present at the request of the Board were Ann Clark, Deputy Superintendent; George E. Battle, III, General Counsel; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

Upon motion by Dr. Joyce Waddell, seconded by Tom Tate, the Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session for the following purpose:

- 1. To formulate plans by a local board of education relating to emergency response to incidents of school violence or to formulate and adopt the school safety components of school improvement plans by a local board of education or a school improvement team; and**
- 2. To consult with our attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.**

The motion was made pursuant to Sections 143-318.11 (a)(3) and (a)(8) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 5:17 p.m. until 5:53 p.m. in Room CH-14.

Chairperson McCray reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:01 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
Thelma Byers-Bailey, District 2
Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell, District 3
Tom Tate, District 4
Eric C. Davis, District 5
Paul Bailey, District 6

Absent: There were no absences.

Also present at the request of the Board were Ann Clark, Deputy 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 19, 2014 Regular Board meeting which was held in the Meeting Chamber.

Chairperson McCray stated, "Before we move forward with the adoption of the agenda, I would like to take advantage of my role as Board Chairperson to briefly address the citizens of Mecklenburg County concerning the resignation of our former Superintendent. There has been a lot of chatter and speculation over the past two weeks surrounding the resignation of the former Superintendent. I have followed the stories along with the rest of the citizens in the community and looked with dismay at the misinformation and supposition that led to confusion among many in the community. Tonight, I want to present you with the facts. It is important for the voice of the Board to be heard at this time.

In early October, our general counsel was alerted to serious issues with the potential to pose legal problems for CMS. Prior to commencing, he sat down individually with the Vice Chairperson and myself of this Board and alerted us to the allegations. Our general counsel continued to gather information even as he sat down with each Board member individually and alerted them to the issues in the immediate days following his meetings with Mr. Morgan and myself. Throughout the course of his fact finding, both Mr. Morgan and I spoke with our general counsel multiple times each day. Eight board members believed that this is exactly the way our general counsel should have handled this concern. It is our expectation that our general counsel do everything within his ability to assist the Board in our duty to protect Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. After the fact finding was completed, the Board discussed the information in closed session on Tuesday night October 28th. On Wednesday, October 29th, less than twenty-four hours later, Mr. Morgan and I met with Dr. Morrison and shared the issues that have been brought to our attention. At no time, and I'll stress, at no time during the meeting was any ultimatum given directly or indirectly to the Superintendent. The Board was already scheduled to meet the morning of Friday, October 31st. Prior to the October 31st meeting, Dr. Morrison's attorney contacted our general counsel with an offer of resignation. After working through the details, the Board voted 6-3 on Thursday, November 6th, to accept the Separation Agreement. Although there was a 6-3 vote to accept the separation agreement, eight of the Board members, and I'll stress again, eight of the Board members, agreed that it was in the best interest of the District to separate. Eight of the nine

members of this Board agreed. In this age of around-the-clock news there is a constant demand for information. In retrospect, maybe the Board could have been faster with our comments, but most of our Board simply wanted to follow the process outlined in the employment contract between this Board and the Superintendent. We concluded it is better to be certain than to be fast with our public comments.

This brings us to tonight's meeting. Allow me to draw your attention to our Board agenda for tonight. We are considering choice options and boundary changes, a Legislative Agenda, and hearing about our student successes and opportunities. So, I want you to know that our focus right now and from hence forward is on the children and families we serve in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and this entire District. We do not want to talk about what we perceive to be as some people say 'next steps.' Our steps are already laid out for us in the *CMS 2018 Strategic Plan*. So, we are looking at this as moving forward and doing the work we have been elected to do and our employees are charged to do, and that is teaching and learning every day in our District for our children and the families we serve. And, I thank you."

A. Adoption of Agenda

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

Upon motion by Ericka Ellis-Stewart that the Board adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Joyce Waddell, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson McCray called upon Eric Davis to introduce students to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and Thelma Byers-Bailey to introduce students to speak to the November character trait of *honesty*. Eric Davis introduced three 5th grade students from Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance: Wyatt Elder, Andrea Martinez, and Mauro Ponce. Wyatt Elder lives with his parents and two younger sisters. Wyatt's favorite school subjects are math, science, and reading and favorite activities outside of school are baseball and football. Wyatt wants to be in the Major League Baseball, National Football League, and either an archeologist or a police officer. Accompanying Wyatt were Stacey and Mac Elder. Andrea Martinez lives with her mother and relatives. Andrea likes to play outside, play soccer, and her favorite school subjects are math, reading, and science. Andrea wants to be a teacher or a veterinarian. Accompanying Andrea were Betty Lopez Rodriguez and Danelia Lopez. Mauro Ponce lives with his parents and brother. Mauro likes to play soccer, his favorite school subject is math, and he wants to be a mathematician or a physicist. Accompanying Mauro were Raul Ponce, Sofia Romero, and Andres Ponce. Also attending the meeting were staff from Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School: Kaitlyn Rubino, 5th grade teacher, and Carolyn Rodd, principal. Wyatt, Andrea, and Mauro invited everyone to stand and join them in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the pledge, Thelma Byers-Bailey introduced two 7th grade students in the Chinese Immersion Program at E. E. Waddell Language Academy to speak to the November character trait of *honesty*. Amina Shafeek-Horton has been learning Chinese since Kindergarten. Interesting facts about Amina include she swims competitively for Swim

MAC, plays in the Waddell Jazz Band, and plans to continue learning Chinese in the Study Abroad Program at Stanford University. Accompanying Amina at the meeting were her parents, Arthur Horton and Timika Shafeek-Horton. Milan Carter began learning Chinese at age four and added French to her world languages in middle school. She also studies dance, plans to attend FSU, and after a professional dance career, plans to write musical scores for movies. Accompanying Milan was her mother, Victoria Taylor. Also attending the meeting was Ynez Olshausen, principal at E.E. Waddell Language Academy. Amina and Milan greeted the Board in Chinese and highlighted the importance of honesty. They ended by saying, "Honesty, seems simple, just tell the truth." As future global citizens, it is important to have good character, be true to yourself, and understand the world-view of others. Honesty is at the heart of the quality of life in any culture.

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. Eight speakers were signed up to speak before the Board.

Four speakers urged the Board to support the reopening of Oakhurst as a STEAM magnet and to include the surrounding neighborhoods in the attendance boundary. Allowing the neighborhood families to attend Oakhurst will strengthen the school and the neighborhood, strengthen the east side schools, and create continuity.

- Lori Polite, CMS parent who lives two miles from the school, was pleased the proposed Oakhurst boundary included Echo Hills.
- Brian Green, resident in the Commonwealth neighborhood, expressed concern that they did not get what they wanted as their neighborhood is still split.
- Allen Nelson, resident in the Commonwealth neighborhood, is pleased the recommendation includes some of the neighborhoods. They would like to attend neighborhood schools and would like to be included in the McClintock and East Mecklenburg High School feeder pattern.
- Michelle Abels said the Oakhurst STEAM creates great opportunity for the east side neighborhoods and urged the Board to strengthen Billingsville Leadership Academy by adding a partial magnet at the school which was promised eleven years ago.

Susan Harden, parent of two CMS students and Professor of Education at UNC-Charlotte, urged the Board and community to think positively about change and transition and to come together on how to strengthen CMS. People in higher education are sending support to CMS. She has a proposal/strategic plan that she will share with CMS in the near future.

Heidi Holder, resident in the Bishop Ridge neighborhood (close to Crown Colony), asked the Board to consider her boundary change request. Her daughter currently attends Randolph Middle School and is assigned to East Mecklenburg High School which is eight miles from their home while Providence High School is only one mile away. Please send them to the school closer to their home which will save bus time and allow time for more activities.

Margaret Putnam, represented the Chantilly neighborhood, urged the Board to assign their

neighborhood to Oakhurst because it would strengthen the school and the neighborhood while keeping the children together. Chantilly is currently assigned to Billingsville Leadership Academy but most families do not attend that school. They want to support CMS and want good school options for their children.

Charlie Smith said CMS has had a culture of fear for many years. He addressed concerns about employees being bullied and threatened the loss of their job. He has been with CMS for 28.5 years and it was a great place to work. He urged the Board to make CMS a great and employee friendly system again.

Chairperson McCray thanked the public speakers for their comments and called the Requests From The Public closed at 6:40 p.m.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes.
 - October 14, 2014
 - October 16, 2014
 - October 23, 2014
2. Recommend approval of Open Session Minutes.
 - September 9, 2014 Regular Board Meeting
 - November 6, 2014 Special Meeting

B. Recommend approval of School Improvement Plans.

Per State Board of Education policy, all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to approve School Improvement Plans. The process for approving School Improvement Plans (SIPs) follows statutory amendments approved by North Carolina Legislature in June and July 2013. The law requires the superintendent to review the school safety components of the SIPs and make written recommendations to the Board. The Board then, in closed session, reviews the superintendent's recommendations and makes findings. Neither the school safety components nor the Board's findings are to be included in the minutes of Board meetings. As in the past, the SIPs will be approved in open session. The SIPs will include the school safety components, but the school safety components will not be made public. The Board used the aforementioned process in approving the SIPs for the 2013-2014 school year. The timeline for the SIP approval process calls for the superintendent to make written recommendations on the school safety components of the plans to the Board at the closed session meeting on Nov. 19, 2014. The superintendent will then ask the Board to adopt the findings. At that same meeting, the Board will be asked to adopt the SIPs in open session. The school safety components of the SIPs are mandated by State statute to remain confidential. Fiscal Implications: None.

C. Recommend approval of the 2014-2015 Cooperative Innovative High Schools Renewal Applications for Cato Middle School, Hawthorne High School, and Performance Learning Center (PLC).

Main Points: Recommend approval of the proposed 2014-2015 Cooperative Innovative High Schools Renewal applications for Cato Middle College to amend its grade configuration to grades 11-13, Hawthorne High School to amend its program to an Academy of Health Sciences, and Performance Learning Center to amend its grade configuration to grades 9-10.

- *Previously approved Cooperative Innovative High School Programs are on a five-year renewal cycle.*
- *Cato Middle College's 2014-15 Cooperative Innovative High School Renewal Application is requesting to amend its current grade configuration from grades 11-12 to grades 11-13 in*

order to align its grade configuration with the two other CMS/Central Piedmont Community College's Middle College sites with grades 11-13.

- *Hawthorne High School's 2014-2015 Cooperative Innovative High School Renewal Application is requesting to operate its program as an Academy of Health Sciences, grades 9-12, rather than as an alternative high school.*
- *Performance Learning Center's (PLC) 2014-2015 Cooperative Innovative High School Renewal Application is requesting to amend its current grade configuration from grades 10-12 to grades 9-12 in order to align its grade configuration with the other CMS comprehensive high school sites.*
- *Central Piedmont Community College's Board of Trustees has approved the Cooperative Innovative High Schools 2014-15 Renewal Applications for Cato Middle College, Hawthorne High School and Performance Learning Center (PLC).*

Fiscal Implications

- *Cato Middle College - Additional student transportation, textbooks and Central Piedmont College fees*
- *Hawthorne High School - Standard high school operations*
- *Performance Learning Center - CMS pupil transportation service for 9th grade students*

D. Recommend approval of Licensed/Non-Licensed Hires, Promotions, and Selected Position Separations for October 2014.

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, 2014 - June 30, 2015: 2,281. (Licensed Hires: 1,448/Non-Licensed Hires: 833).*
- *Total Promotions July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015: 503. (Licensed Promotions: 293/Non-licensed Promotions: 210).*
- *Total Selected Positions Separations: July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015: 17.*

E. Recommend approval of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (Board) and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC-Charlotte) regarding the Charlotte Engineering Early College High School on the campus of UNC Charlotte.

- *The Charlotte Engineering Early College High School on the campus of UNC Charlotte was established by Board vote on December 11, 2013, and the school welcomed its first freshman class with the opening of the 2014-15 school year.*
- *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) and UNC Charlotte partnered to identify and prepare for the use of space on the campus of UNC Charlotte on which to place a 10-classroom modular unit to house the school.*
- *The MOU governs the working relationship between the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education and UNC Charlotte as it relates to the operation of the Charlotte Engineering Early College High School on the UNC Charlotte campus.*
- *The MOU covers the period from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2024, and details the agreements between CMS and UNC Charlotte in key areas including staffing, student recruitment and enrollment, funding and finances, operations, student code of conduct, and facilities.*
- *The Land Lease Agreement covers the period from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2024, and provides CMS the right to use a portion of the UNC Charlotte campus to house a modular classroom unit for the exclusive use of the STEM Early College High School.*

Fiscal Implications:

- *CMS is responsible for the following during the 2014-2015 school year: Personnel (actual projected) for the Charlotte Engineering College, \$724,099; Parking for faculty, staff and visitors of the Charlotte Engineering Early College, \$11,950; UNC-Charlotte student fees for*

all students enrolled at Charlotte Engineering Early College, \$7,825; Maintenance and upkeep of the modular unit and grounds, \$35,000.

- *The total cost of site preparation, construction and installation of the modular unit on UNC-Charlotte's campus is \$3,358,379.*
- *CMS will lease land from UNC-Charlotte at a cost of \$1.00.*
- *Tuition paid to UNC-Charlotte is funded by North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Cooperative Innovative High Schools Program for college courses taken by Charlotte Engineering STEM Early College high school students.*

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

Upon motion by Ericka Ellis-Stewart that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through E., seconded by Paul Bailey, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Chairperson McCray acknowledged and gave sincere gratitude to Chancellor Philip Dubois of UNC-Charlotte and William Leach and Michele Howard of the CMS Early College Program at UNC-Charlotte, who were attending the meeting, for their hard work on behalf of CMS and the students in the Early College Program at UNC-Charlotte.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommend approval of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education's Draft 2015 Legislative Agenda

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission and Core Beliefs: Public Education is central to our democracy.

Chairperson McCray called upon Tim Morgan, Chairperson of the Board's Intergovernmental Relationships Committee, to introduce the recommendation on the proposed Board of Education's 2015 Legislative Agenda. Mr. Morgan reported the proposed 2015 Legislative Agenda was presented to the Legislative Delegation and based upon those conversations the recommendation will be amended to include a 10th item under State items. Mr. Morgan commended Jonathan Sink, Associate General Counsel, who was instrumental in drafting the proposed Legislative Agenda and he called upon Mr. Sink to present the recommendation to the Board. Jonathan Sink reported the Board and the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee put forth a lot of work in developing the draft 2015 Legislative Agenda. In moving forward, more work will be required to accomplish the proposed items on the Legislative Agenda. Mr. Sink provided the Board with an overview of the proposed 2015 Legislative Agenda and noted that there are no fiscal impact for State items 1, 3, 6, 7, and 9 and no fiscal impact for Local items 2 and 3.

THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION DRAFT 2015 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (the "Board") hereby adopts as its priorities and requests that the North Carolina General Assembly, Mecklenburg County, and all municipalities in Mecklenburg County take action on the items listed below. The Board emphasizes that these priorities are specific to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. As such, the Board does not speak on behalf of other school districts, but does encourage other districts and their governing boards to join with this Board for the purpose of collaborating and advocating for shared priorities:

State Items:

1. **Provide school boards with authority over their local calendars for the benefit of their students and staff.**
 - In the alternative, allow school boards to open at least three weeks earlier than the current school calendar law allows so that students can take their exams prior to winter break.
2. **Raise North Carolina's average teacher pay to the national average.**
 - The 2014 teacher pay increases were a positive first step and we need to keep moving towards the national average to stay as competitive as possible.
 - Assess how N.C.'s new six-step teacher pay plan compares to other states' pay plans and their impacts on teacher recruitment and retention.
3. **Ensure that local boards of education are vested with local control over local dollars for optimal fiscal accountability.**
 - Provide local boards of education with complete control over local funds.
 - Provide local boards of education with the authority to generate revenue in their local communities.
4. **Restore a state-funded growth formula for LEAs that reflects actual student population increases and declines, including changes in ESL and special education students.**
5. **Provide funding to LEAs to conduct Driver's Education programs so that LEAs are not faced with unfunded mandates.**
 - In the alternative, release public schools from mandated Driver's Ed programs.
 - If required Driver's Ed programs continue, allow LEAs to charge participants the full cost of the program.
6. **Provide traditional public schools with charter-like flexibilities.**
 - Allow LEAs to start their own charter schools.
 - Allow LEAs to serve as the initial chartering authority for charter candidates, with a right of appeal to the state for candidates who are denied.
 - Establish an April 1 enrollment date by which families must enroll their children in charter schools.
7. **Oppose mandated inter-county and intra-county student transfer legislation.**
8. **Fully fund North Carolina's Pre-K Program so that all eligible students may participate.**
9. **Re-examine the school performance grades to give parents the most accurate picture of how their children's public schools are performing.**

Local Items:

1. **Restore City of Charlotte funding for school resource officers in CMS.**
2. **Establish a collaborative inter-governmental committee that meets regularly to identify, prioritize, plan, and fund operating and capital budgets.**
3. **Establish a collaborative intergovernmental committee of city and county area experts to examine development patterns relating to municipal and county planning priorities and regulations and analyze developmental impacts on CMS.**

Mr. Sink reported the recommendation also includes a proposed amendment to add a 10th item to the State items. This addition was at the request of our Board leadership following conversations with members of our local delegation who expressed an interest in moving this item forward.

10. **Restore funding for the NC Teaching Fellows Program to strengthen the teacher**

pipeline across the State.

- Teaching Fellows is still a strong professional pipeline for future teachers from our state.
- Teaching Fellows saves \$14,000 per fellow compared with the NC Teachers Corps.

Chairperson McCray called upon Tim Morgan to present the recommendation for adoption. Mr. Morgan reported the Board would need to adopt two motions. The first motion would add the proposed amendment to the Draft 2015 Legislative Agenda and the second amendment would be to adopt the 2015 Legislative Agenda as amended. Mr. Morgan presented the following motions for adoption.

Tim Morgan moved that the Board approve adding Bullet Number 10. (Restore funding for the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program to strengthen the teacher pipeline across the State) under State Items to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education Draft 2015 Legislative Agenda, seconded by Paul Bailey, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Tim Morgan moved that the Board adopt the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education draft 2015 Legislative Agenda as amended to include State Item 10. (Restore funding for the NC Teaching Fellows program to strengthen the teacher pipeline across the State). The recommendation was presented through the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee and did not require a second. A Board discussion followed.

Chairperson McCray invited Board members to asked questions and make comments. Board members Ellis-Stewart, Tate, Morgan, and McCray asked questions or provided comments.

- Ericka Ellis-Stewart asked please explain the idea for CMS in allowing LEAs to start their own charter-like school? Jonathan Sink said this is a huge ask and it would allow LEAs to participate in some of the State flexibilities granted to charter schools within the LEA structure. This has not been done in North Carolina and it would be a significant change to current North Carolina law. This has been done in Georgia and would need to be discussed in more detail. Chairperson Mary McCray said this is being considered as a step to be innovative with freedom and flexibility. We are reviewing a similar concept being piloted in Guilford County which gave one of their schools charter-like flexibilities for serving male students only in grades 5th through 8th. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said CMS has some schools that are doing very well and we must have a sense of urgency to ensure a continued focus on academics for all schools. Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked Mr. Sink to explain fully funding eligible students in Pre-K. Mr. Sink said CMS has 1,670 students eligible for Pre-K who are on a waiting list. If CMS could get \$13.5 million from the State or other funding sources, CMS could serve those students.
- Tom Tate asked Ann Clark, Deputy Superintendent, to share comments regarding seeking charter-like flexibilities for LEAs. Ann Clark said CMS is taking its first steps in this request and staff is scheduled to meet with Dr. Cindy Lowe, former superintendent of Fulton County Schools, to discuss academic and programmatic opportunities that may come with charter-like authority. Those opportunities align with the CMS accountability framework and provide ideas to consider in moving forward with a charter-like concept. Following those meetings, staff will report back to the Board and will be able to add substance to the Legislative Agenda recommendation. Mr. Tate thanked the members of the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee and Mr. Sink for their important work on

developing the Legislative Agenda. Mr. Tate said he is happy the Legislative Agenda recommends the restoration of the Teacher Fellows Program because that was a valued program and its elimination was a real loss. Mr. Tate said Pre-K is a critical program for students and he hopes this request will move forward.

- Tim Morgan thanked the members of the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee and he reported the development of the Legislative Agenda has been a four to five month long process that began after the Short Session of the General Assembly. Mr. Morgan commended the good work of Jonathan Sink for establishing great contacts in Raleigh and keeping the Board members updated on pertinent matters. The North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) recently adopted its State Legislative Agenda and the Board's proposed Legislative Agenda aligns with the NCSBA's Legislative Agenda.

Tim Morgan moved that the Board adopt the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education's 2015 Legislative Agenda as amended. The recommendation was presented through the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee and did not require a second. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

B. Recommend approval of 2015 Student Assignment and School Options Proposal

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 discernible difference between achievement levels of students by race, gender or economic level.

Chairperson McCray reported this item is the approval of 2015 Student Assignment and School Options Proposal and she called upon Ann Clark, Deputy Superintendent, to introduce the recommendation. Ann Clark reported Scott McCully, Executive Director Student Placement, Akeshia Craven-Howell, Assistant Superintendent of the Office of School Options, and staff members began this journey approximately ten months ago. The process incorporated recommendations and discussions with the CMS executive team and numerous community meetings were held throughout the District to get input from the community. Ms. Clark commended Board members, Mr. McCully, and Ms. Craven-Howell for their extraordinary efforts to engage and reengage the community to gather feedback. Ms. Clark thanked the community for engaging in the process. It is important to understand that we did hear and understand the input from the community and the information was taken into consideration for the final recommendations being presented tonight. The final recommendations are slightly different than those presented October 28, 2014. Ms. Clark urged the public to continue to participate in the process. Ms. Clark called upon Mr. McCully and Ms. Craven-Howell to present the final recommendations on 2015 Student Assignment and School Options for adoption by the Board. Scott McCully reported this is the third of three meetings before the Board to discuss 2015 Student Assignment options. Tonight, the process includes Board action on recommendations for 2015 Student Assignment School Options. The meeting format will follow: a brief overview of each recommendation including proposed changes since the Public Hearing on October 28th at Garinger High school, a Board member will present a motion on each item, and followed by the Board vote. Recommendations for Board action include the following items:

1. Kennedy Middle School Partial STEM Magnet.
2. Expansion of Performance Learning Center and e-Learning Academy.
3. Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Pre-K-5 Relief School.
4. Highland Creek Relief School.

5. Oakhurst STEAM Partial Magnet School.
6. Starmount Pre-K-5 Elementary School.
7. Boundary Changes for Ardrey Kell and South Mecklenburg High Schools.

1. Kennedy Middle School Partial STEM Magnet

- Cost Implications: \$144,000 (included in 2014-2015 Budget) for Career and Technical Professional Development and classroom materials/equipment and upfit of two additional computer labs. Permanent staffing and transportation costs not included.
- Recommendation: Establish a STEM partial magnet at Kennedy Middle School to serve the Blue Transportation Zone. This will establish one middle school STEM program in each of the four transportation zones.
- Description:
 - Offer 75 magnet seats per grade level, beginning with 6th grade in fall 2015 and growing one grade level per year.
 - Priority will be provided for students in elementary STEM magnet programs in the Blue Transportation Zone; remaining magnet seats are open to students via the lottery with transportation provided for students in the Blue Transportation Zone.
 - Current middle grade students residing in the Blue Transportation Zone and attending Morehead STEM may remain through the terminal grade (8th) with transportation provided through the 2016-2017 school year.

Thelma Byers-Bailey moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to: Establish a partial magnet program at Kennedy Middle School with a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) theme. The details of the recommendation include the following:

Details of proposed changes:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2015- 2016 school year.
2. Magnet Program:
 - a. The STEM magnet program will open in August 2015 with students in grade 6 and will add one grade every school year until it serves grades 6 – 8.
 - b. Palisades Park magnet students receive automatic continuation to the Kennedy STEM magnet program.
 - c. Remaining magnet seats are open to students via the lottery with transportation provided for students residing in the Blue Transportation Zone.
 - d. Students living in the Blue Transportation Zone will have priority for admission in the lottery.
 - e. 8th grade students in the STEM magnet at Kennedy will have a continuation feed to Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology.
3. Transportation: Transportation for the magnet program will be provided for students living in the Blue Transportation Zone.
4. Effect on students at Morehead STEM Academy living in the Blue Transportation Zone.
 - a. Middle grade students (grades 6-8) residing in the Blue Zone and attending Morehead STEM during the 2014-2015 school year may remain through the terminal grade (grade 8) with transportation provided through the 2016-2017 school year.

The motion was seconded by Tim Morgan, and a Board discussion followed.

- Thelma Byers-Bailey said this recommendation involved a lot of community discussion and we have heard from the community. Some parents were upset because students continuing to Southwest Middle may not have access to STEM programs but the intention of CMS is to have access to engineering and technology programs at Southwest Middle. Ms. Byers-Bailey expressed concern that students got a great start in the STEM Magnet at Palisades Park Elementary but only half of them can continue in the STEM Magnet at Kennedy Middle School.
- Tom Tate said the motions are detailed and they are posted on the CMS Website for the public to review.
- Tim Morgan said Board approval of this STEM program will establish a middle school STEM in each of the four CMS transportation zones. The students in the STEM program at Palisades will now have two choices for middle school. If they want to continue in STEM they can continue to Kennedy Middle or if they want to remain with the children in their neighborhood they can continue to Southwest Middle.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart asked what are the other STEM program locations? Ms. Craven-Howell reported CMS has a partial STEM at Coulwood, partial STEAM at McClintock, and a full Magnet at Morehead STEM Academy which is a K-8 school.
- Dr. Joyce Waddell expressed concern that Morehead STEM has a lengthy wait list and it will no longer be a countywide Magnet. Ms. Craven-Howell said it is anticipated the wait list at Morehead will decrease now that CMS has more access to STEM Magnets throughout the District.

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

***Ayes: Board members McCray, Morgan, Lennon, Byers-Bailey, Waddell, Tate, Davis, Bailey.
Nays: Ericka Ellis-Stewart.***

2. Expand Performance Learning Center (PLC) and e-Learning Academy

- Cost Implications: \$52,316 (included in 2014-2015 budget), \$482,800 (2015-2016 budget request) for relocation, technology, staff/teachers, professional development, virtual course licenses.
- Recommendation: Expand the current grade levels served at PLC and e-Learning Academy to include 9th grade. Relocate the PLC and e-Learning Academy from its current location to the Derita facility. The Derita site is within four miles of and three times the size of the current site and adds opportunity for a gym and cafeteria. Surrounding families feel positive about this move.
- Description:
 - Offer the PLC and e-Learning Academy as a 9-12 high school program.
 - PLC remains a non-magnet program and Cooperative Innovative High School with the addition of 9th grade.
 - e-Learning Academy retains status as a countywide program of the PLC with the addition of 9th and 10th grades.

Dr. Joyce Waddell moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to: Extend the reach of the Performance Learning Center (PLC) and e-Learning Academy programs by expanding the programs to grades 9th and 10th and opening admission to these programs through the lottery.

Details of proposed changes:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.
2. Magnet Program:
 - a. Students will be able to choose among blended learning, virtual onsite, or virtual offsite learning environments.
 - b. The blended learning program at PLC will expand to Grade 9 (currently students enter at grade 10).
 - c. The e-Learning Academy will expand to Grades 9 and 10 (currently students enter at Grade 11).
 - d. Both PLC and e-Learning Academy will be available in the lottery at grades 9 and 10 (entry at grades 11 and 12 is only available through the Request for Reassignment/Transfer process).
 - e. Current PLC and e-Learning Academy students will remain.
3. Transportation for the PLC will be provided countywide (common stops). Transportation for the e-Learning Academy will be provided countywide (shuttle stops).
4. Location:
 - a. The current PLC and e-Learning Academy will move to the Derita school facility and co-locate with the TAPS Program.

The motion was seconded by Tom Tate, and a Board discussion followed.

- Tom Tate asked how many students will be served in the new program? The current program serves 120 students and the new facility will serve up to 400 students.
- Mary McCray thanked staff for including the cost implications and details.
- Dr. Joyce Waddell has visited the PLC facility and she is happy the students will have a nice facility, cafeteria, gym, and excellent programs.

The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Update on relocation of Harper Middle College to Central Piedmont Community College's (CPCC) Harper Campus. This item was for informational purposes only and did not require a Board vote.

- Cost Implications: \$750,000 (included in 2014-2015 budget), \$250,000 (included in 2014-2015 mobile units budget) for mobile unit preparation and installation.
- Recommendation: This was approved by the Board as part of the December 2013 vote for fall 2014-2015 Options. Establish a middle college program serving grades 11-13 to be located at the Levine Campus of CPCC for the 2014-2015 school year and relocated to the Harper Campus in August 2015 for all subsequent school years.
- Description:
 - Six mobile classrooms and one mobile restroom will accommodate Harper Middle College students on the Harper campus until construction of permanent building is complete.

Ms. Craven-Howell reported CMS is moving forward with the relocation and the cost implications are outlined above. A Board discussion followed.

- Mary McCray asked how many students will be served the first year? The Cooperative Innovative High School will be capped at 100 students per co-hort. Currently, there are approximately twenty students taking courses at Levine who intend to move to Harper.

CMS is moving forward to recruit a full 11th grade class for next year with the relocation to the Harper campus.

2015-2016 Student Assignment Boundary Proposals includes:

- **Two 2007 Bond Projects:**
 - **Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Elementary School Relief School.**
 - **Highland Creek Relief School (K-5).**
- **Two 2013 Bond Projects:**
 - **Oakhurst STEAM.**
 - **Starmount.**
- **One Community Request.**

3. Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Pre-K-5 Relief School

- 2007 Bond project for new Pre-K-5 relief school to open fall 2015. The school is located in close proximity of the existing Hickory Grove Elementary School which has been overcrowded for years. It is great CMS is finally able to build new schools from the 2007 Bond projects.
- Boundary approved by Board in 2009 (anticipated opening was the 2011-2012 school year but the County experienced a shrinkage of funds with the declining economy).
- There have been changes in student enrollment since 2009 and the recommendation tonight includes changes from that approved in 2009.
- Boundary change needed to include relief at Albemarle Road Elementary School.
- Recommendation: Move a small area of Albemarle Road Elementary attendance zone to the new relief school.

Tom Tate moved approval of the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to: Modify the previously approved boundaries for the school known as Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Elementary Relief School to:

- 1. Remove from the attendance area for the new school a portion of the Hickory Grove attendance area originally designated for the new school, and**
- 2. Add a portion of the Albemarle Road Elementary School attendance area.**

Details of proposed changes:

- **Background:** On June 9, 2009, the Board adopted a motion establishing the boundaries for a new school anticipated to open for the 2011-2012 school year. The boundaries of the proposed new school impacted the attendance areas for Hickory Grove and Windsor Park elementary schools, including the part of the Hickory Grove attendance area west of W.T. Harris Boulevard and the southeastern section of the Windsor Park attendance area (northeast of Venedale Road). At that time, the new school was referred to as "New Robinson Church Road Elementary School."
- Because of delays in the completion of the new school, it is now scheduled to open in August 2015. Since 2009, the population of Albemarle Road Elementary School has greatly increased, causing that school to be operating at approximately 186% of its capacity.
- Therefore, it is the Superintendent's recommendation that the boundaries for the new school established in 2009 be changed to include a portion of the Albemarle Road Elementary School attendance area and to remove from the attendance area approved in

2009 a small portion of the Hickory Grove home school area.

1. Grade Levels: K-5.
2. Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, or upon completion of the facility.
3. Home School Boundary:
 - a. The part of the Hickory Grove attendance area west of W.T. Harris Boulevard to the intersection of Kimmerly Glen Lane, south of Kimmerly Glen Lane, west of the branch of Campbell Creek flowing between Endolwood Drive and Kimmerly Creek Drive, and south of the railroad tracks extending west to Sharon Amity Road.
 - b. The southeastern section of the Windsor Park attendance area (northeast of Venedale Road), with the addition of:
 - c. The part of Albemarle Road Elementary north of a line beginning at East W.T. Harris Blvd. and Harris Park Drive, extending west between Wallace Glen Drive and Winding Cedar Trail to a point just east of English Hills Drive; running south between English Hills Drive and Winding Cedar Trail to Regal Oaks Drive, then extending west between Bonnybrook Lane and Four Winds Drive to Farm Pond Lane; running south along the center line of Farm Pond; and running west between Forest Glen Road and Four Seasons Lane, along the back lot lines of Four Seasons Lane, to the existing boundary line for Albemarle Road Elementary.
4. Default Assignments for rising K-5 students living in the attendance area for the new school: New Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Elementary Relief School.
5. Assignment Options for rising K-4 students living in the attendance area for the new school: New Hickory Grove/Windsor Park/Albemarle Road Elementary Relief School. There is no option for these students to remain at Hickory Grove, Windsor Park, or Albemarle Road elementary schools.
6. Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students currently attending Hickory Grove, Windsor Park, or Albemarle Road: May choose to remain at their current schools; must indicate this intent through the school options portal. Transportation is not provided.
7. Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to remain at current schools for younger siblings of rising 5th grade students who choose to remain at Hickory Grove, Windsor Park, or Albemarle Road elementary schools for the 2015-2016 school year.

The motion was seconded by Paul Bailey, and Board discussion followed.

- Tom Tate expressed concern that the Pre-K classes would remain at the old facility because he understood they would move the new school. Mr. Tate asked what is the status of the Title I designation because these schools are designated Title I but they do not have 75% economically disadvantaged students? Ms. Clark said Title I designation in the United States is in transition and CMS staff is discussing this with the Department of Public Instruction as well as other school districts throughout the country. Staff will work to most accurately reflect the poverty level to the Board and the community. These three schools are Title I schools and as we work through the CMS budget process and review weighted-student staffing, staff will bring forward recommendations to the Board in moving forward with Title I designations and the impact on the budget.

The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

4. **Highland Creek Relief School**

Recommendation:

- Open Highland Creek Relief K-5 School in fall 2015 with an attendance boundary that provides relief to both Highland Creek Elementary and Mallard Creek Elementary.
- In its first year, the school will serve grades K-5.
- Rising 5th graders at Highland Creek Elementary School may remain for the 2015-2016 school year without transportation provided.
- Highland Creek Elementary School continues to serve grades K-5 with boundary changes that include the Highland Creek community.

Rhonda Lennon moved approval of the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to:

- 1. Open Highland Creek Relief School in August 2015 with grade levels K-5.**
- 2. The attendance boundaries will include portions of the attendance areas of Highland Creek and Mallard Creek elementary schools.**

Details of proposed changes:

1. Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year or upon completion of the facility.
2. Home School Boundary:
 - a. The part of the Highland Creek Elementary attendance west of a line beginning at Arbor Creek Drive and Eastfield Road; running south along the back lot lines between Arbor Creek Drive and Heron Glen Drive and along the back lot lines between Beaver Creek Drive and Fairvista Drive; continuing south along the back lot lines between Rocky Ford Club Road and Fairvista Drive and between the back lot lines of Rock Stream Drive and Waverly Lynn Lane and Glen Manor to Ridge Road; and the area to the south of a line continuing east along the center line of Ridge Road to a point just east of Harburn Forest Drive; continuing northeast along a line between the back lot lines of Harburn Forest and Elderslie Drive and Highland Park Drive and Apple Glen Lane to the county line; and
 - b. The part of the Mallard Creek Elementary attendance area northwest of the centerline of Mallard Creek Road and north of The Tradition Golf Club.
3. Default Assignments for rising K-5 students living in the attendance area for the new school: Highland Creek Relief School.
4. Assignment Options for rising K-4 students living in the attendance area for the new school: Highland Creek Relief. There is no option for these students to remain at Highland Creek Elementary or Mallard Creek Elementary.
5. Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students currently attending Highland Creek Elementary and Mallard Creek Elementary: May choose to remain at their current schools; must indicate this intent through the school options portal. Transportation is not provided.
6. Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to remain at current schools for younger siblings of rising 5th grade students who choose to remain at Highland Creek or Mallard Creek elementary schools for the 2015-2016 school year.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Joyce Waddell, and a Board discussion followed.

- Rhonda Lennon said she is excited about this recommendation and commended Mr.

McCully for holding numerous community meetings over the past ten years to discuss the overcrowding issues in District 1. This is long overdue and was delayed as a result of the slow economy. She commended the community and CMS for working in a collaborative effort to address the needs of the entire community.

- Tim Morgan thanked staff for their efforts in seeking community input and truly listening to the community to determine if this should be a K-5 or K-8 school.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart said she is pleased the school will be K-5 because it will add continued stability to Ridge Road Middle School.

The motion passed upon 9-0 voice vote of the Board.

5. **Oakhurst STEAM Partial Magnet School**

Cost Implications (not including permanent staffing and transportation):

- \$134,000 (included in 2014-2015 Budget).
- \$36,000 (2015-2016 Budget request) for professional development, summer hours, STEAM materials.

Recommendation:

- Open Oakhurst in fall 2015 with a schoolwide focus on STEAM.
- Identify a medium attendance boundary (up to 300 seats) and allow for approximately 350 seats in the magnet program.
- The attendance boundary will provide relief to Winterfield and Billingsville elementary schools.
- No proposed changes to middle and high school boundaries for the attendance area.
- Students in the Green Transportation Zone will receive priority for the partial magnet program and will continue to McClintock STEAM Middle School.

Mr. McCully reported the recommendation includes a change from the recommendation presented at the October 28th Regular Board meeting and he provided an overview of the recommendation. The recommendation has been expanded to include Echo Hills and Chantilly neighborhoods as well as a small area that comprises the old Charlotte Merchandise Mart or current Park Ministry. This area will be reassigned from Billingsville Leadership Academy to the new Oakhurst facility. In addition, we are excited about the opportunity to return some Pre-K classrooms to the school to serve students in that area. CMS is committed to Billingsville and staff is exploring programmatic options to enhance Billingsville Leadership Academy.

Tom Tate moved approval of the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to:

- 1. Reopen Oakhurst Elementary School in August 2015 with grade levels K-5; and**
- 2. Establish a partial STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Magnet program with a schoolwide STEAM focus.**

Details of recommendation:

1. Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year or upon completion of the facility.
2. Home School Boundary:
 - a. The part of the Billingsville Elementary attendance area north of the CSX railroad

tracks; and

- b. The part of the Winterfield Elementary attendance area generally northwest of a line beginning at the intersection of the centerline of Pierson Drive and Sharon Amity Road; running northwest along the centerline of Briarfield Drive; running northeast along Briarfield Drive to the intersection of Tarrington Avenue; continuing on Tarrington Avenue (centerline to the curve, then both sides of street) to Sheffield Drive and along Sheffield Drive (both sides of the street) to the intersection of Woodland Drive; running northwest along Woodland Drive (both sides of the street) to the intersection of Roanoke Avenue; running northwest along Roanoke (both sides of the street) to Norland Road; running southwest along the centerline of Norland Road to Woodland Drive; and running west along the centerline of Woodland Drive to Eastway Drive.
3. Default Assignments for rising K-5 students living in the attendance area for the new school: Oakhurst.
4. Assignment Options for rising K-4 students living in the Billingsville and Winterfield attendance areas: Oakhurst. There is no option for these students to remain at Billingsville or Winterfield.
5. Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students currently attending Billingsville and Winterfield elementary schools: May choose to remain at their current schools; must indicate this intent through the school options portal. Transportation is not provided.
6. Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to remain at current schools for younger siblings of rising 5th grade students who choose to remain at Billingsville or Winterfield elementary schools for the 2015-2016 school year.
7. Magnet Priority and Transportation: Students in the Green Transportation Zone will receive priority for the partial magnet program. Transportation for the magnet program will be provided for students living in the Green Transportation Zone.
8. Magnet Continuation: McClintock STEAM Middle School.

Tim Morgan seconded the motion, and a Board discussion followed.

- Tom Tate is pleased Oakhurst will reopen and he thanked the community for providing input and staff for listening to the community recommendations. This recommendation was the best of the options. Mr. Tate commended the staff at Billingsville Leadership Academy and said it is a great school but we must do more to make it even better. He urged the Board to consider a partial Magnet at Billingsville.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart is pleased the revised proposal for Oakhurst includes Echo Hills, Commonwealth, and Chantilly. The recommendation shows that CMS listened to the concerns of the community but the Board must also focus on giving children what they need. Ms. Ellis-Stewart will support this recommendation but expressed concern that the recommendations do not provide additional support to Billingsville. Billingsville has a great staff but we are not providing those students a good, sound public education. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said this issue must be addressed with a sense of urgency and she believes a partial Magnet at Billingsville will enhance the academic strength at the school.
- Tim Morgan thanked the families from Echo Hills and Chantilly for being involved in the process and being excited about the reopening of Oakhurst. Mr. Morgan is pleased Oakhurst will include a STEAM Magnet program. Mr. Morgan said CMS is aware of the great potential for Billingsville and options include its close proximity to downtown Charlotte and available seats. He is in support of staff making recommendations to

continue to lift up Billingsville Leadership Academy.

- Dr. Joyce Waddell will support the recommendation to reopen Oakhurst. Dr. Waddell said she was not in favor of closing Oakhurst or any of the other CMS schools because CMS has too many overcrowded conditions. Dr. Waddell said she is happy Oakhurst is reopening and hopes the other closed CMS schools will reopen soon. Dr. Waddell said CMS has several schools that need additional support and we must ensure all CMS schools are successful and schools that parents want their children to attend.
- Chairperson McCray said she attended some of the community meetings and she said, "This Board is listening to the input from the community. The recommendations show CMS staff and the Board listened to the community. We were not able to provide everyone what they wanted but we were able to progress in meeting the needs of the community. Billingsville is a viable school in a beautiful facility. This Board is committed to Billingsville as well as every child in this community. We are listening to the needs of the CMS families."

The motion passed upon 9-0 voice vote of the Board.

6. Starmount Pre-K-5 Elementary School

Recommendation:

- Open Starmount in fall 2015, serving grades Pre-K-5.
- The attendance boundary will provide relief for Huntingtowne Farms and Montclair elementary schools.
- Rising 5th grade students at Huntingtowne Farms and Montclair may remain at their current school without transportation provided.
- Relief at Huntingtowne Farms will allow for additional magnet seats.

Mr. McCully reported the recommendation includes changes from the recommendations presented at the October 28th Regular Board meeting to allow a small portion of students to remain in the boundary of Montclair moving forward.

Eric Davis moved approval of the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to:

- 1. Reopen Starmount Elementary School in August 2015 with grade levels Pre-K-5; and**
- 2. Move a portion of the home school area of Montclair Elementary to Huntingtowne Farms Elementary.**

Details of recommendation:

1. Projected Opening Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year or upon completion of the facility
2. Home School Boundary for Starmount Elementary: The part of the Huntingtowne Farms Elementary attendance area west of line beginning at Little Sugar Creek (just southwest of Watercrest Road) and running north along the creek to a point just east of Edgewater Drive; and south of a line continuing west along both sides of Edgewater Drive to Montpelier Road; and thereafter along the centerline of Edgewater Drive to South Boulevard; continuing west across South Boulevard and Old Pineville Road along a line running just north of the Victory Christian Center to the Kings Branch Creek, ending at the current boundary line between Huntingtowne Farms and Nations Ford Elementary

schools.

3. Home School Boundary for Huntingtowne Farms Elementary (area moving from Montclair Elementary School): The part of the 2014-2015 Montclair Elementary attendance area west of the centerline of South Boulevard and south of the centerline of Archdale Road along a line running west from South Boulevard to the intersection of Fernhill Drive; and east of a line running south along the centerline of Fernhill Drive to Green Ivy Lane; running behind the lot lines of the parcels on Green Ivy Lane and back to Fernhill Drive; continuing south along the east side Fernhill Drive to Rabbit's Foot Lane and running behind the lot lines of all the parcels fronting on Rabbit's Foot Lane and Quaking Grass Court southwest to King Branch's Creek (the boundary line between Huntingtowne Farms and Nations Ford Elementary School).
4. Default Assignments for rising K-5 students living in the new attendance area for Starmount: Starmount.
5. Default Assignments for rising K-5 students living in the affected portion of the Montclair attendance area: Huntingtowne Farms.
6. Assignment Options for rising K-4 students living in the affected portions of the Huntingtowne Farms and Montclair attendance areas: Starmount or Huntingtowne Farms. There is no option for these students to remain at Huntingtowne Farms or Montclair.
7. Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students currently attending Huntingtowne Farms and Montclair elementary schools: May choose to remain at their current schools; must indicate this intent through the school options portal. Transportation is not provided.
8. Sibling Guarantee: None. No sibling guarantee to remain at current schools for younger siblings of rising 5th grade students who choose to remain at Huntingtowne Farms or Montclair elementary schools for the 2015-2016 school year.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Joyce Waddell, and a Board discussion followed.

- Eric Davis thanked the citizens of Huntingtowne Farms, Montclair, and Starmount who worked with CMS to develop the proposal. Mr. Davis also thanked Mr. McCully and Ms. Craven-Howell for their efforts in including the input from the community in the recommendations. This plan accomplishes three key objectives: honors the CMS commitment to the 2013 Bond voters (provides relief to Huntingtowne Farms and Montclair); establishes as the core of each school's assignment plan the neighborhoods that bear the same name as the three schools; and the combination of relief and core neighborhood support creates an opportunity for the three schools to win the confidence of parents and the attendance of more neighborhood students. Mr. Davis said he continues to be committed to the citizens of these neighborhoods to accomplish this goal.
- Chairperson McCray agreed with Mr. Davis comments and she commended the families who advocated for wanting to be involved in their schools. She looks forward to working with the communities in the future to develop recommendations to strengthen CMS.

The motion passed upon 9-0 voice vote of the Board.

7. Boundary Changes for Ardrey Kell and South Mecklenburg High Schools

Mr. McCully reported CMS is reviewing five Community Requests. After reviewing the particulars of Board action that took place many years ago, we are able to support the Community Request for the Glenfinnan and Strathmoor neighborhoods.

Community Request:

1. Glenfinnan: From South Mecklenburg High School to Ardrey Kell High School.
2. Strathmoor: From South Mecklenburg High School to Ardrey Kell High School.

Paul Bailey moved approval of the Superintendent's proposal effective with the 2015-2016 school year to: Change the boundary of Ardrey Kell High School to include the Glenfinnan and Strathmoor neighborhoods, which are currently in the South Mecklenburg High School attendance area.

Details of proposed changes:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.
2. Default Assignments:
The default assignment of students living in the affected areas will be Ardrey Kell. All students in the affected attendance areas currently at South Mecklenburg may choose to remain there through completion of high school; must indicate this intent through the school options portal. Transportation for these students will be provided by the District.
3. Sibling Guarantee: There is no sibling guarantee to attend South Mecklenburg for rising 9th grade siblings of students who choose to remain there.

The motion was seconded Tim Morgan, and a Board discussion followed.

- Paul Bailey said this is a good recommendation because it will only impact a small area and will provide a more appropriate alignment for their feeder pattern and keep them with the students from elementary and middle school which will enhance continuity for those students.
- Rhonda Lennon said there are some parents in the South Mecklenburg High School area that are against this recommendation. She is a South Mecklenburg graduate and supports that school but this will give those students continuity with their peer group. This recommendation will not hurt either school and will allow those students to matriculate to high school with their peers from elementary and middle school.
- Tim Morgan thanked Mr. McCully for the recommendation and he noted he has advocated for this boundary change for five years. His family was involved in the original zoning and he believes a better recommendation would be to make the line at Interstate 485 which is the dividing line between the neighborhoods. This is a good first step and he hopes some other neighborhoods may be addressed in the near future.
- Eric Davis said with respect to his colleagues and understanding the desire to continue to attend school with those from elementary and middle school, he is opposed to this recommendation for two reasons. This request is similar to the request from the Providence Commons area and the Board is not inclined to approve that request, and it would be inconsistent to approve this one. In addition, this change is the type of change the Board tried to limit by adopting in 2010 the stability clause in the Board's Guiding Principles which seeks to limit these types of localized changes. Mr. Davis urged the Board to follow Board policy and its 2010 Guiding Principles and to consider a comprehensive review in the 2015-2016 school year for implementation in the 2016-2017 school year.
- Chairperson McCray asked what makes this request different from the Providence Commons request? Mr. McCully said the fundamental difference in this recommendation is an attempt to make whole a feeder pattern which is a part of the decision matrix for the

- Board's Guiding Principles. For the Providence Commons request we recognize the school is closer but it does create a split at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart addressed concern regarding the splits and asked are there other areas in which a feeder pattern is not whole? Mr. McCully reported, yes, there are feeder splits throughout the County and at the appropriate time that we are conducting a review, splits will be reviewed. This is a part of the community boundary process. This recommendation was unique with only a small group of students that fed to an elementary and then to a middle school but separated at the high school feeder.
 - Rhonda Lennon said she would support a request for Crown Colony and the surrounding neighborhoods to attend Providence High School because the assignment to East Mecklenburg High School is an illogical boundary. She does not like the idea that families can listen to the band at Providence High School from their backyards but are assigned to East Mecklenburg High School.
 - Tim Morgan thanked Heidi Holder for her comments regarding the Crown Colony area and their desire to attend Providence High School. Mr. Morgan said he understands the enrollment at Providence High School has decreased while enrollment at East Mecklenburg has increased. It is also important to note a new development is opening across the street from East Mecklenburg High School and the growth in Matthews that feeds to Providence High School is stable. Mr. Morgan said he would support the reassignment of the Crown Colony area to Providence High School if CMS could determine the appropriate middle school. At this point it goes against CMS policies but he will work with CMS staff and the families in the area to further discuss options to make a middle school feeder pattern work for assignment to Providence High School.
 - Paul Bailey said for the comprehensive review the Board would need to review boundaries, feeder patterns, and any associated stigmas for wanting to attend a particular school.
 - Dr. Joyce Waddell thanked the community for being involved and sharing their recommendations for school boundaries. There are many families that live in close proximity to one school but are assigned to a school much further away from their home. Dr. Waddell said it is time the Board conducted a comprehensive review of the feeder patterns, boundaries, transportation zones, and the Board's Guiding Principles to ensure they are providing the right guidance.
 - Tom Tate said he would support a comprehensive review as well as a comprehensive Magnet review because the last one was conducted in 2008.

The motion passed upon 7-2 voice vote of the Board.

Ayes: Board members McCray, Morgan, Lennon, Byers-Bailey, Waddell, Tate, Bailey.

Nays: Board members Ellis-Stewart and Davis.

George Battle, General Counsel, thanked Sarah Crowder, Senior Associate General Counsel and Policy Administrator, for her excellent work in drafting the complex motions.

V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on Budget Amendments for September 2014

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

As required by the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget Resolution, Section IV, adopted September

23, 2014, a report of budget amendments shall be made to the Board of Education on a monthly basis. Budget amendments for September 2014 are as follows:

Fiscal Year 2014-15 State Operating Revenue increased by \$9,000

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Federal Operating Revenue increased by \$21,451

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Other Operating Revenue increased by \$210,283

Fiscal Year 2014-15 State Operating Expenditures increased by \$9,000

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Federal Operating Expenditures increased by \$21,451

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Other Operating Expenditures increased by \$210,283

Chairperson McCray called upon Ann Clark to present the report on Budget Amendments for September 2014. Ann Clark reported this is the monthly report and as presented.

B. Report on Financial Statements for September 30, 2014

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

Section 115 C-436 of the North Carolina School Budget and Fiscal Control Act requires the Finance Officer to present statements of the financial conditions of the local school administrative unit to the Board and the Superintendent.

Chairperson McCray called upon Ann Clark to introduce the report on Financial Statements for September 30, 2014. Ann Clark reported this is the monthly report and as presented.

C. Report on 2013-2014 End of Year Results and School Performance Framework Overview

Chairperson McCray called upon Ann Clark to present the report on 2013-2014 End of Year Results and School Performance Framework Overview. Ann Clark said this report was initially planned to be presented to the Board in two parts. The first part was to be presented to the Board at the October 31, 2014 Board Work Session which was cancelled. The two reports have now been merged into one report. CMS began to receive some of the student performance information (graduation rates and student achievement reports) in August 2014 as that information was released from the State and that data has previously been shared with the Board. Ms. Clark reported this report will be highlighted again in December when staff presents the Management Oversight Report on Academic Programming to the Board in December 2014. Ms. Clark said it is important to note that CMS has schools and students across all schools that are not proficient in Reading, Math, Science, and End of Course areas. CMS has much work to do but we have made progress. Ms. Clark said there is a sense of urgency and the CMS leadership team at Central Office and school level are committed to moving forward with each and every CMS school. Ms. Clark said it is important to get critical feedback from the Board as it relates to our School Accountability Framework. Staff is seeking guidance from the Board in order to have Board approval on an Accountability Framework by the end of January. The Accountability Framework will support the Board's Theory of Action and provide a framework for grading our schools ahead of the process to be rolled out by the State for grading schools. The Accountability Framework will provide our community a comprehensive snapshot of our schools that places an emphasis on CMS priority metrics that create opportunities for intentional support to schools that need it as well

as freedom and flexibility for those schools that are demonstrating success with their students. Ms. Clark said following the important input from the Board, staff will develop next steps. Over the next three Board meetings, staff will bring back portions of this report before the Board in order to develop a final proposal for Board approval at the end of January 2015.

Ann Clark called upon Frank Barnes, Chief Accountability Officer, to highlight the student achievement data and provide an overview of the Accountability Framework.

Chairperson McCray reported Mr. Barnes would be glad to work with Board members in small group workshops in order to take a deeper dive into the information.

Frank Barnes provided the Board with an overview of the CMS 2013-2014 District performance; introduced work underway that will guide how CMS approaches school improvement and the provisions of freedoms and flexibility to schools; and explained a set of school performance areas that will serve as criteria for the release of freedom and flexibility. Mr. Barnes said staff is seeking input from the Board to develop next steps.

- 2014 Cohort Graduation Rate (4-Year):
 - The 85.1 CMS graduation rate average exceeded the State average of 83.9 despite CMS requiring more credits to graduate than the State. In 2010 the CMS graduation rate was 69.9 and it has increased 15.2 points.
 - CMS outperformed other large districts in North Carolina (Durham at 81.5; Forsyth at 83.5; and Wake at 82.9 compared to Guilford at 88.5).
 - Graduation Rates increased in all subgroups and graduation gaps narrowed dramatically since 2010. In 2010 the Black-White gap was 23.3 points compared to 10.4 in 2014. The Hispanic-white gap in 2010 was 30.3 points compared to 18.7 points.
- CMS Proficiency Rates:
 - A Brief Look Back: In 2010, North Carolina joined 43 other states in adopting the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which define what students need to know and be able to do at each grade level to graduate ready for college and careers. North Carolina public school students are required to meet a higher standard of proficiency on their End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) tests. The demands of the assessments and the scores required to reach proficiency are now at a higher level. Frequently, when State tests change, scores drop dramatically. In 2012-13, North Carolina experienced decreases in scores.
 - Initial Performance in North Carolina: In 2013, North Carolina administered CCSS-aligned tests and increased expectations for students' performance. Results on first-round tests show the percent of students scoring "proficient" or better dropped by 20 percentage points or more.
 - Looking Forward: The State redefined performance as Grade Level Proficiency (GLP) and College and Career Readiness (CCR). In 2013-2014, the North Carolina Board of Education adopted a new methodology for determining achievement levels of students. North Carolina went from four performing levels to five performing levels. Students making Levels I and II are performing below grade level proficiency. Students making Levels III, IV, and V (added this year) are deemed making grade level proficiency. Levels IV and V are deemed College and Career Readiness. The

North Carolina Legislature is reviewing the future of Common Core, but the commitment to the rigor that Common Core State Standards (CCSS) were intended to provide remains. CMS scores increased across all tested areas. CMS experienced gains in College and Career Readiness in all tested subjects except Reading and gains in all End of Course tested subjects. CMS will continue to focus on improving student results in literacy.

- 2013-2014 School Year Student Achievement Data:
 - CMS experienced gains in Math, Science and End of Course tests over the 2012-2013 school year results.
 - CMS outperformed the State in Math, Science, Reading, and in all End of Course scores.
 - CMS outperformed other large North Carolina districts (Durham, Forsyth, and Guilford) in overall performance composite (percent College and Career Ready). Wake County outperformed CMS.
- Schools Meeting or Exceeding Expected Growth 2012-2013 and 2013-2014:
 - More CMS schools met or exceeded growth in 2013-2014.

Year	District/State	Total Number of Schools	Number Meeting or Exceeding Growth	Percentage Meeting or Exceeding Growth
2012-2013	CMS	156 *	127	81.4%
2013-2104	CMS	157 *	130	82.8%
2013-2014	NC	2,422 **	1,807	74.6%

*3 schools did not have data in this category as provided by EVAAS/NC (Metro, Lincoln Heights, and Cato Middle College).

**143 schools across the State did not have growth data and not included in count.

- School growth is an indication of the average rate at which students in a school learned over the past year. The standard is roughly equivalent to a year's worth of expected growth for a year of instruction. The growth measure is defined in one of three ways: did not meet expected growth; met expected growth; or exceeded expected growth.
- 2013-2014 ACT, SAT, and Advanced Placement Performance:
 - ACT: CMS improved over the previous year but lagged behind the State average.
 - SAT: CMS experienced improvements in Critical Reading, Math, and Writing, outperformed the State, and almost beat the national average. This is an area to acknowledge success and recognize the need for improvements.
 - Advanced Placement: CMS experienced gains in the number of students with access to Advanced Placement courses, the numbers of tests taken, and the number of students receiving scores of III, IV, or V with a 22% increase. Although, the percentage of students with a passing rate of III, IV, or V decreased. CMS will continue to create more access to Advanced Placement tests and better prepare students to succeed.
- In Summary: CMS improved performance on nearly every End of Grade and End of Course subject tested, although Reading is still a concern in several grades. CMS outperformed the State average in virtually every End of Grade and End of Course subject tested for the second consecutive year. All subgroups of students made progress from 2012-2013 to 2013-2014. Nearly 83% of all CMS schools met or exceeded growth expectations. ACT and SAT scores improved from 2013 to 2014. More CMS students are getting access to rigor through Advanced Placement courses.

- State School Performance Grading System, School Achievement Score - House Bill 230: The grading process will review a set of measures and access a score of 'A' through 'F' for schools throughout North Carolina.
 - Scores: 85 to 100 = A; 70 to 84 = B; 55 to 69 = C; 40 to 54 = D; and below 40 = F. Scores will be determined based upon an 80% weight on proficiency and 20% on growth.
 - State score calculated by totaling the sum of points earned by a school on the following indicators measured by that school (1 point for each):
 - Percent of students at or above proficient in Math.
 - Percent of students at or above proficient in English Language Arts.
 - Percent of students at or above proficient in Science.
 - Percent of students who complete Math III with a passing grade (Math Course Rigor).
 - Percent of students who achieve the minimum score required for admission into a North Carolina university on a nationally normed test of college readiness (ACT; minimum score-17).
 - Percent of students Career Technical Education concentrators who achieve a Silver certificate or higher on ACT WorkKeys.
 - Percent of students who graduate within 4 years of entering high school (Graduation Rate).
- Moving forward – CMS questions to consideration: How are CMS schools doing; what does the community want CMS schools to be accountable for; how does that compare to the State Legislature's view; how can CMS accelerate school improvement; and how will improvement efforts align with the Board's Theory of Action?

Frank Barnes reported the objective of this information is to introduce work underway that will guide how CMS approaches the provision of freedoms and flexibilities to schools; explain a set of 'school performance areas' that will serve as criteria for the release of freedom and flexibility; outline next steps, answer Board member questions, and seek Board member input. Mr. Frank provided the Board with an overview a proposed School Performance Framework based upon the Board's Theory of Action for Change..

- Board Theory of Action: CMS operates under the Board's Theory of Action which utilizes a Managed Performance Empowerment framework. This concept includes centralized direction and support, earned freedom and flexibilities at the school level, and culture of accountability. The Theory of Action includes guidelines or beliefs for continuous improvement. The focus areas include clear performance expectations, tangible supports to schools, and improved student achievement.
 - **IF** central services allows creativity and innovation to flourish as schools demonstrate results, and allow certain freedoms and flexibilities to be earned by schools as they achieve predetermined levels of performance, **THEN** school and district performance will increase and teaching that fosters learning for every student will spread.
- School Performance Framework: Schools receive different freedoms and flexibilities, supports, and interventions depending on their overall performance and needs.
 - A districtwide school support and performance framework:
 1. Defines school performance expectations and what high quality performance looks like.
 2. Differentiates supports, guidance, flexibilities, freedoms, interventions, and

consequences for all schools in the district based on how they perform against expectations.

3. States which school functions are decentralized (loose – items the school controls regardless of their performance), centralized (tight - items that are mandated regardless of school performance, such as imposed expectations, laws, Board policy, and best practices that move a district forward), and released for school decision making based on performance (earned freedom and flexibility based upon performance).
- What a School Performance Framework Does:
 - Gives high performing schools the freedom and flexibility to develop innovative school designs that best meet the needs of their students.
 - Gives lower-performing schools the targeted support and guidance they need to build capacity and improve student performance.
 - Gives central services a mechanism that informs the strategic allocation of support and resources we provide to schools.
 - Performance is defined based on a set of performance areas.
 - Creation of a CMS System: CMS staff convened an Accountability Framework Task Force; reviewed efforts of other school districts (Los Angeles Unified School District, New York City Department of Education, School District of Philadelphia, Chicago Public Schools, Denver Public Schools, and Oklahoma Department of Education); and worked with a national expert.
 - Guiding Principles for Selecting Performance Areas:
 - Understandable: It is important that school staff and our community clearly understand each measure.
 - Actionable: It must be possible for a school to take action that can improve each area.
 - Aligned: Each measure should be aligned with district priorities, State indicators, and best practice.
 - Measurable: Each area should be measurable, and to the extent possible, be relatively each to capture and aggregate.
 - School Performance Areas: Selection of performance areas were comprised utilizing priority indicators as outlined by the State School Performance Grades, Accountability Framework Task Force, and the CMS *Strategic Plan 2018*.
 1. Proficiency.
 2. Growth.
 3. Performance of Not-Yet-Proficient students.*
 4. Closing Achievement Gaps.*
 5. Rigor (middle and high schools only).*
 6. Graduation Rate (high school only).
 7. College and Career Ready.
 8. School Culture.*

*Indicators to be monitored by State.
 - School Performance Framework Metrics - Calculation Method:
 - The Partial Credit Method evaluates schools on two criteria: 1. Absolute Goals (districtwide). 2. Progress Goals (school-specific). Assign schools points depending on how close they come to attaining these goals.
 - Board Member Input:
 - Performance Area Weights.

- Questions and Concerns.
- Alignment with the Board's Theory of Action.
- Next Steps:
 - Seek input from principals, teachers, and families on a weighting method – what percentage of the total should each performance area be worth?
 - Principal level meetings – input on weighting.
 - Principal working group - Specify what will be '*loose, tight, and earned.*'
 - Create absolute and progress goals and complete calculations for each performance area.
 - Create a mock-up of the report.
 - Bring to CMS Board for review.
 - Create final reports for each school.
 - Compare to State performance grades.
 - Launch in late January/early February 2015.

Mr. Barnes thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the information and for meeting with him in small group meetings to discuss the School Accountability Framework. Chairperson McCray thanked staff for the report and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments. Board members asked questions and provided feedback. Ann Clark and Mr. Barnes provided responses to Board members' questions.

- Paul Bailey expressed concern that CMS gave more students access to Advanced Placement courses but a higher percentage of students did not succeed in passing the exam. Mr. Bailey urged staff to implement measures to ensure a better pass rate in the future.
- Tom Tate noted that in 2006 the Board developed a policy on a School Accountability System and Data Dashboard System. In addition, the Board has Policy ADA, *Equitable Distribution of Resources*. Mr. Tate hopes those policies were considered in the development of the School Accountability Framework and he asked staff to inform the Board should those policies need to be updated. Mr. Tate thanked staff for reaching out to the community for gathering input.
- Tim Morgan commended staff for seeking indicators that go above the State requirements and for making the report easy to read. Mr. Morgan thanked staff for reaching out to the CMS stakeholders for input and expressed concern that the State did not reach out to school districts to get feedback on the State mandated School Grading System.
- Dr. Joyce Waddell thanked staff for the thorough report and she noted school culture, suspension rates, and absenteeism are focus areas for school districts throughout North Carolina. Dr. Waddell expressed concern about the achievement gap indicator and noted she believes on a national level that indicator should be changed because it does more harm than good.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart addressed concern about the number of students that did not pass the Advanced Placement exams and urged staff to take a deeper dive to better understand the pass-fail results as well as the percentage of students who failed the Advanced Placement courses. Ms. Ellis-Stewart is happy the performance areas include Not-Yet-Proficient Students because it is important to ensure CSM is focusing on those students. She urged staff to develop measures that consistently track rigor in elementary school because it is important to ensure elementary children are on grade level in order to be successful in middle and high school. Ann Clark said developing a process for accounting for rigor at

the elementary level is part of the next steps. Staff will work with our principals and the community to gather feedback. Ms. Clark urged the Board to provide input on developing rigor indicators at the elementary level. Ms. Ellis-Stewart suggested staff develop a strong action plan for the new State Grading System that includes clear direction and information to the community so parents, students, and the public can be informed and know what to expect. Ms. Ellis-Stewart wants to ensure CMS has methodologies in place that allow high performing students to perform at an even higher level. CMS must do a better job in preparing students to be career and college ready as well as in World Languages because businesses want employees to be Bi-Lingual.

- Chairperson McCray commended staff for reaching out to other school districts to gather information. Ms. McCray believes the growth indicator is important, specifically at the elementary level. She wants all schools to be successful and gain opportunities for freedom and flexibilities. Ms. McCray hopes the process for freedom and flexibility provides opportunities for schools with high percentages of Economically Disadvantaged Students, Exceptional Children, and Limited English Proficient students because those factors can be contributors to below performance. Mr. Barnes said the process acknowledges hitting a target as well as making progress towards a target from one year to the next which will help reward that progress. The process acknowledges progress towards a target and measures that are not just focused on test score performance.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Ann Clark reported on the following items:

- Appreciation to the Board of Education for staying focused on three important conversations about moving CMS forward: Legislative Agenda, Pupil Assignment and School Options, and how to push CMS beyond State expectations to support students.
- Recognition of James Ford, CMS and North Carolina Teacher of the Year: *Charlotte Magazine* named James Ford as the first-ever Charlottean of the Year. James Ford is a great ambassador for CMS and teachers.
- State Recognition for Board of Education members: Tom Tate has been a member of the CMS Board of Education since 2005 and on November 19, 2014 was selected by the North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) to serve as a member of the All State Board. Tim Morgan has been a CMS Board of Education member since 2009 and serves on the NCSBA's Board of Directors. Mr. Morgan was selected as the NCSBA School Board Leadership Award winner. Congratulations to Messrs. Tate and Morgan on their good work and the State recognitions.
- Congratulations to Janetta Martin Tanner, principal at Ridge Road Middle, named Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools 2014-2015 Principal of the Year. We wish Ms. Tanner good luck as she advances to represent CMS at the Regional level.
- American Education Week: CMS is hosting many events to salute all the educators in CMS.
- "I am CMS" Award: Each month CMS will recognize one certified and one non-certified employee, employees are nominated by his/her peers. CMS appreciates the partnership with the Charlotte law firm, Monnett & Associates, who will present a \$100 gift card to recipients of the award.
- *Teacher Voice Session*: CMS held its first *Teacher Voice Session* at Spaugh Professional Develop Center. This is an opportunity for teachers to meet with the Superintendent and members of executive staff to share ideas, concerns, and

suggestions. Upcoming *Teacher Voice Sessions* will be held at Providence High School in February and Vance High School in April.

- *Coffee with the Superintendent*: On November 18, 2014 Ann Clark participated in a *Coffee with the Superintendent* at Huntingtowne Farms Elementary in the morning and in the evening at J. M. Alexander Middle School. This was a great opportunity to meet with parents, community partners, and employees to discuss CMS.
- November 20, 2014 Events: Announcement of Jimmy Johnson Gardening Program Grant at Garinger High School at 10:00 a.m. Media Briefing at the Performance Learning Center at 11:00 a.m.
- Congratulations to Terri Cockerham, Chief Human Resources Officer, on her retirement effective November 20, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Cockerham has served CMS well and wore many hats during her career from 1984 to 2014: teacher, principal, Zone Superintendent, and Chief Human Resources Office. Dr. Cockerham has been an amazing teacher, principal, and leader in CMS and we wish her well in her retirement. Ms. Clark invited Board members, executive staff, and meeting attendees to stand and appropriately honor Dr. Cockerham for her leadership legacy in CMS.

VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Rhonda Lennon thanked Mary McCray for her comments at the beginning of the meeting because it is important to assure the community we are a Board that is united and focused on CMS. Ms. Lennon has been overwhelmed by the number of people who thanked the Board for taking decisive action and improving the CMS working environment. Most of this Board meeting was focused on student achievement and that will continue to be a top priority. Ms. Lennon recognized Karen Guild, orchestra director at Mallard Creek High School, and Ruth Petersen, band director at Bailey Middle School, for being recognized by the Western North Carolina Music Educators as Top Educators in North Carolina. Ms. Lennon made a public announcement on her private life. She will embark on a journey in which she is one of eight people. One in eight women has breast cancer and she found out on Monday she is that one. She is lucky her breast cancer was detected early and at this time she is a Stage Zero. For many years, Ms. Lennon has been an advocate to encourage women to get their mammograms each year and she will continue stress the importance of mammograms. She has decided to make her journey public and be a messenger for Breast Cancer Awareness.
- Dr. Joyce Waddell said this is a great opportunity to look where CMS has been as a Board and to move forward to make CMS the best educational facility in the country. We cannot be distracted and must honor our confidentiality agreements. This Board will stay focused on educating children and making our schools the best in the country. Dr. Waddell, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported the Audit Committee met last week to review the findings of the 2013-2014 CMS Audit and those results will be presented at the December 9, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.
- Paul Bailey said this Friday will be 'Football Friday Night' and he is proud to report the four high schools in District 6 will play in the playoff games: Ardrey Kell, Butler, Independence, and Rocky River. Mr. Bailey wished the student athletes good luck.
- Tom Tate thanked the Board for nominating him as a candidate for the North Carolina School Boards Association's All State Board. This was an honor and he is grateful for the opportunity to serve.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart thanked the CMS schools and Tom Tate for participating in the

CROP Walk in October. She also thanked Leadership Charlotte Class 36 for inviting her to serve on their Community Leadership Panel as a part of their *Government and Politics Day* event. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said this Board has a lot of important work to do in preparation of the upcoming budget development, General Assembly Session, and Magnet school review. This Board will stay focused on our students to ensure they are prepared for their futures and advocate for our teachers and employees to ensure they are adequately paid for the work that they do. Ms. Ellis-Stewart urged the community to stand with the Board on these priorities and to advocate for public education.

- Thelma Byers-Bailey commended Project L.I.F.T. for holding TeamSmile Dental Clinic on November 12, 2014 which was sponsored by the Charlotte Panthers and other community organizations. This was a great event that reached more children than last year and children were excited about seeing a dentist.
- Tim Morgan commended James Ford who was a guest speaker at the North Carolina School Boards Association's (NCSBA) Annual Conference held in Greensboro this week. Mr. Ford was inspiring as he shared his life's story with several hundred Board members from across North Carolina. Mr. Ford is a great ambassador for CMS and public education. Mr. Morgan reported at the NCSBA Conference, he was reelected president of the NCSBA's Action Center which is an organization that raises funds to support the NCSBA's Legislative Agenda. Mr. Morgan thanked the Board for their support in this endeavor and Coach Joe White, former Board member, who urged him to serve at the State level. Information shared at the NCSBA Conference highlighted the importance of school districts having topics related to student achievement on every Board meeting agenda. Mr. Morgan commended the CMS Board and staff for ensuring student achievement is a high priority and that will continue. CMS has a *Strategic Plan 2018* that is in place and our leadership, staff, and principals are following that plan. CMS has teachers that are teaching every day and students that are learning. As a District we are moving forward.
- Mary McCray said many people throughout North Carolina and the nation see CMS as a beacon to other school districts. Other schools districts are impressed with the reports that the CMS Board receives at Board meetings. CMS staff and this Board will keep student achievement as a top priority. We are here to tell our story about public education and there are great things happening in CMS.

ADJOURNMENT

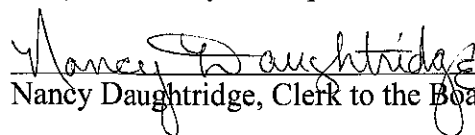
Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Board meeting.

Upon motion by Tim Morgan that the Board adjourn the meeting, seconded by Thelma Byers-Bailey, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 10:13 p.m.



Mary T. McCray, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board