

Approved by the Charlotte-  
Mecklenburg Board of Education  
April 14, 2015  
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

January 13, 2015

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on January 13, 2015. The meeting began at 4:30 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  
Tom Tate, District 4  
Eric C. Davis, District 5  
Paul Bailey, District 6

Absent: District 3 Vacant Seat

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 Tom Tate, seconded by Tim Morgan, the Board voted unanimously of those present to go into Closed Session for the following purpose:**

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

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

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 4:35 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in Room CH-14.

Chairperson McCray reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:13 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  
Tom Tate, District 4  
Eric C. Davis, District 5  
Paul Bailey, District 6

Absent: District 3 Vacant Seat

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 January 13, 2015 Regular Board meeting which was held in the Meeting Chamber. Chairperson McCray reported that Dr. Waddell had officially vacated her seat on January 9, 2015 when she was sworn in as Senator Dr. Joyce Waddell at an event held at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center on that same date. Chairperson McCray reported following the Adoption of Agenda and Pledge of Allegiance, she will call upon Dr. Joyce Waddell to share some parting comments.

### 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 Paul Bailey, and the motion passed upon 8-0 voice vote of the Board. District 3 Seat was vacant.**

### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson McCray called upon Rhonda Lennon to introduce the student to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and speak to the January character trait of *fairness and justice*. Rhonda Lennon introduced Mia Pachat who is a thirteen year old 8<sup>th</sup> grade IB scholar at J.M. Alexander Middle School. Mia is a cheerleader, serves on Student Council, and is a Student Ambassador. As a Student Ambassador Mia goes to local elementary schools with the IB Coordinator to speak with rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders about the IB program. Mia plans to attend college to be a pediatrician and would like an internship as soon as possible to help her reach her goal. Accompanying Mia were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ousmane; Adrean Pachat; Asia Moore; Pagan Moore; and her principal Angela Richardson; and Learning Community Superintendent, Dr. Matthew Hayes. Mia invited everyone to stand and join her in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, Mia explained the definitions of justice and fairness. Mia addressed concerns regarding people being treated unfairly and unjustly. It is important to treat people the way you want to be treated and that may help lessen people from being treated unjustly.

Board Member Rhonda Lennon – Moment of Personal Privilege

Rhonda Lennon said as most of you know five weeks ago I had surgery for breast cancer. Ms. Lennon said thank you for your many phone calls, prayers, cards, fruit baskets, flowers, and plates of food and goodies. Ms. Lennon said what she most wants to share with the public is that she was given a miracle. She was diagnosed on November 17<sup>th</sup> with breast cancer and on December 11<sup>th</sup> after surgery at 8:00 p.m., she was told she was cured. Ms. Lennon believes the peace and calm she had going into surgery was the result of all the prayers and positive energy she received from everyone. Early detection is important because the faster cancer is found the better are your options. Ms. Lennon's mission is to be the public ambassador to remind everyone that early detection is the way to save your life. Ms. Lennon said she has been told by many people that she looks great and she feels great now that her energy level is coming back and she is happy to be returning to work next week. Ms. Lennon said she is the 'Pink Princess Warrior' on Facebook and in real life and she urged everyone to get their annual mammograms. Ms. Lennon said her early breast cancer detection is the reason she is cured from breast cancer less than sixty days from diagnosis.

The Board and the audience gave Ms. Lennon a standing ovation.

C. Statement from Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell

Chairperson McCray reported this was an opportunity for the Board to recognize Dr. Joyce Waddell, former Board member representing District 3, and for Dr. Waddell to share some parting words to the Board and the public. Dr. Waddell resigned from the Board of Education on January 9, 2015 when she was sworn in as North Carolina Senator Dr. Joyce Waddell representing District 40. Dr. Waddell was unable to attend the meeting because she had to have an earlier departure to Raleigh as a result of the pending bad weather.

Chairperson McCray thanked Dr. Waddell for her years of service to the Board, citizens and children of Mecklenburg County, and employees of CMS. Dr. Waddell was a staunch advocate for the families in District 3 but also for every child in CMS. Dr. Waddell was not only a Board of Education member but also an employee of CMS holding numerous positions including executive director in Central Office.

Chairperson McCray commended Dr. Waddell for her years of service and invited the Board and the audience to stand to give Dr. Waddell applause for her contributions to CMS.

D. Public Notice of Board Member District 3 Seat Vacancy

Chairperson Mary McCray reported with the resignation of Dr. Joyce Waddell as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education elected representative of District 3 and in accordance with State law and Board policy. The Board announces the vacancy for the unexpired term of the District 3 seat ending December 2017. The Board will accept applications for the seat until 5 p.m. Monday, February 2, 2015. Applicants must be 21 years of age or older and a qualified voter in District 3. The candidate selected will complete Dr. Waddell's remaining term ending December 2017. Applications may be picked up at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education's Board Services Office on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Government Center, 600 E. Fourth St., Charlotte, North Carolina. Applications may also be completed Online beginning January 14, 2015 by visiting the CMS Board of Education

Webpage. The selection protocol for the vacancy is outlined in Board Bylaw, BBBE, *Unexpired Term Fulfillment/Vacancies*.

The Board will hold two Special Meetings for candidate statements and candidate selection.

- Candidate Statements: February 3, 2015, 6:00 p.m. Government Center, Room 267. Each applicant will make a brief statement to the Board as to why they would be the best candidate.
- Candidate Selection: February 5, 2015, 6:30 p.m., Spaugh Administrative Center - Cafeteria, 1901 Herbert Spaugh Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208.

C. Public Hearing on proposed revisions to Instructional Policies and Exhibits

Chairperson McCray reported this is the Public Hearing on proposed revisions to Instructional Policies and Exhibits and she called upon Tom Tate, Chair of the Policy Committee, to introduce the public hearing. Tom Tate reported this is the Public Hearing on proposed revisions to Instructional Policies and Exhibits and no speakers are scheduled to speak before the Board. The proposed revisions include four instructional policies and two exhibits which have been updated to reflect changes in North Carolina law and State Board of Education policies impacting graduation standards, course titles, and Personal Education Plans. Other proposed amendments are included in the summary of changes. The proposed revisions were approved by the Policy Committee on November 13, 2014. First Reading occurred at the December 9, 2014, Board meeting and the policies and exhibits are now before the Board for Public Hearing. Another Public Hearing and Board action are scheduled for January 27, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

Proposed Revisions:

Type	Title	Substantive Changes
Policy IKA	Grading/ Assessment Systems	Remove "Preparation for class" as criteria for student grades, so that students are graded on their demonstration of mastery of course objectives rather than nonacademic standards.
Policy IKB	Homework	Change "homework is" to homework "can be" a necessary part of the learning.
Policy IKE	Promotion/ Retention/ Acceleration of Students	Update to be consistent with North Carolina law requiring Personal Education Plans (PEPs) to be developed starting in kindergarten.
Policy IKF	Graduation Requirements	P. 3, Section II, A – delete information about North Carolina High School Exit Standards. P. 4, Section II, C – rewrite requirements of CMS Graduation Project P. 4, Section II, D – clarify circumstances when students may be exempted from local graduation requirements P. 5 – Section IV – update titles of required State tests
Exhibit IKF-E	Course of Study Chart, Classes of 2013-2015	Update course titles to reflect North Carolina Standard Course of Study
Exhibit IKF-E	Course of Study Chart, Classes of 2016 and beyond	Update course titles to reflect North Carolina Standard Course of Study

Chairperson McCray called the Public Hearing closed at 6:24 p.m.

## 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. Six speakers were signed up to speak before the Board.

Four people commended the staff, curriculum, educational programs, and extracurricular activities at Metro School. Students are given the opportunity to use their capabilities and not disabilities. All students can learn. Please tour Metro to see the positive things happening.

- Annette Cunningham.
- Tyson Coughlin, pastor of Vision Church, highlighted that Metro School and staff is an incredible blessing to their church and everyone should be proud of the positive impact Metro School has in the community.
- Cathy Riley, physical therapist in CMS.
- Stephanie Dorton, Speech Pathologist.

Geoffrey Fine talked about the importance of strong leadership and being a strong leader is not being aggressive or bullying. He addressed staffing concerns in the CMS Legal Department and recommended the department report to the Superintendent.

Chairperson McCray thanked the public speakers for their comments and called the Requests From The Public closed at 6:41 p.m.

## III. CONSENT ITEMS

### A. Approval of Minutes:

1. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes.
  - December 9, 2014
  - December 18, 2014
  - December 18, 2014
2. Recommend approval of Open Session Minutes.
  - October 14, 2014 Regular Board Meeting
  - October 28, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

### B. Human Resources:

1. Recommend approval of plan in response to State law on Differentiated Pay for Highly Effective Teachers.

*Human Resources staff crafted a plan in response to State legislation around differentiated pay for highly effective teachers. Staff will present the draft plan to the Board and seek Board approval. The State set a January 15, 2015, deadline for districts to submit a plan. Staff sought and received feedback on the plan from executive staff, Principals Leadership Advisory Team, Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council, and Compensation Task Force. Approximately \$1 million is expected to be generated Statewide from the sale of "I Support Teachers" license plates, any designated gifts, grants or contributions to the fund, or any funds appropriated by the General Assembly. These funds will be used to pilot one or more plans submitted by districts.*

*The anticipated amount of money to be distributed Statewide is \$1 million.*

2. Recommend approval of Licensed/Non-Licensed Hires, Promotions, and Selected Position Separations for December 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: 2,539. (Licensed Hires: 1,532/Non-Licensed Hires: 1,004).*
- *Total Promotions July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015: 607. (Licensed Promotions: 336/Non-licensed Promotions: 271).*
- *Total Selected Positions Separations: July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015: 25.*

C. Construction and Real Estate:

1. Recommend approval of contract for Elevator Modernization Service at the Atrium Corporate Center.

*The elevator modernization project for the Atrium Corporate Center was informally bid on October 29, 2014. Staff recommends approval of the elevator modernization to the lowest most qualified vendor, Otis Elevator Company. The scope of work includes various upgrades to the existing elevator system in Building 4421. The contract calls for providing improvements required to the elevator infrastructure, elevator cabs, conveying equipment, and other items required to modernize the elevator system. The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2015. The MWSBE percentage for this project is 0%. Fiscal Implications: Local Funds - \$300,397.00.*

2. Recommend approval of resolution to Lease Certain Property at James Martin Middle School to Berkley Group, LLC for a Cell Tower.

*Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (CMBE) proposes to lease a portion of property owned by CMBE at James Martin Middle School to Berkley Group, LLC. Fiscal Implications: Upon lease commencement, CMBE will have received \$22,200 per year in rent (with 3% increases annually) for the five-year term of the lease. Proceeds to James Martin Middle School will be \$4,440 annually with a 3% increase per year.*

3. Recommend approval to grant Utility Easement to Duke Energy at First Ward Creative Arts Academy.

*Duke Energy is requesting a grant of easement to accommodate placement of a new voltage cabinet to be located at the First Ward Creative Arts Academy campus as part of the adjacent redevelopment project. Fiscal Implications: None.*

4. Recommend approval of Permanent Easement at Barringer Academic Center.

*As part of this previously approved project, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation has completed construction of an accessible greenway path from Barringer Academic Center to Irwin Creek Greenway. The path has been surveyed and the easement is ready for recording. Fiscal Implications: CMS will benefit from the addition of an accessible path connection to Irwin Creek Greenway.*

5. Recommend approval of Chiller Replacement at Merry Oaks International Academy.

*The chiller replacement is for one existing 270 ton York air cooled chiller. Staff recommends the approval of project to the lowest competent bidder, Carolina Air Solutions, Inc. The contractor agrees to provide labor, services, equipment, and materials needed to remove the existing chiller and replace it with a new Trane RTAC 250 air cooled chiller. All work is to be performed in accordance with the standard terms and conditions outlined in the contract. MWSBE participation for this project is 1.11%. Fiscal Implications: Local Funds - \$125,405.92.*

6. Recommend approval of Chiller Replacement at Southwest Middle School.

*The chiller replacement is for one existing 400 ton Trane air cooled chiller. Staff recommends the approval of project to the lowest competent bidder, Thermal Conditioning, Inc. The contractor agrees to provide labor, services, equipment, and materials needed to remove the existing chiller and replace it with a new Trane RTAC 400 Air Cooled Chiller. All work is to be performed in accordance with the standard terms and conditions outlined in the contract. MWSBE participation for this project is 0%. Fiscal Implications: Local Funds - \$189,673.64.*

7. Recommend approval of Chiller Replacement at Lincoln Heights Academy.

*The chiller replacement is for one existing 200 ton Carrier air cooled chiller. Staff recommends the approval of this project to the lowest competent bidder, Thermal Conditioning, Inc. The contractor agrees to provide labor, services, equipment, and materials needed to remove the existing chiller and replace it with a new Trane RTAC 200 air cooled chiller. All work is to be performed in accordance with the standard terms and conditions outlined in the contract. MWSBE participation for this project is 0%. Fiscal Implications: Local Funds - \$107,954.02.*

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

**Upon motion by Eric Davis that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through C., seconded by Tom Tate, and a discussion followed.**

Paul Bailey pulled Consent Item C.3.

Ericka Ellis-Stewart pulled Consent Item B.1.

**Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote to adopt Consent Items A. through C. excluding B.1. and C.3. and the motion passed upon 8-0 voice vote of the Board. District 3 Seat Vacant**

Paul Bailey said Consent Item C.3. is the recommendation for approval to grant Utility Easement to Duke Energy at First Ward Creative Arts Academy. Mr. Bailey disclosed that he is an employee of Duke Energy Corporation. The action of this Board regarding the transfer of property for purposes of an easement to Duke Energy is not within the scope of his responsibility with his employment with Duke Energy or for any personal gain. Mr. Bailey made a motion to adopt Consent Item C.3.

**Paul Bailey moved that the Board adopt Consent Item C.3., seconded by Tim Morgan, and the motion passed upon 8-0 voice vote of the Board. District 3 Seat Vacant.**

Ericka Ellis-Stewart asked staff to provide a brief explanation of Consent Item B.1. Recommend approval of plan in response to State law on Differentiated Pay for Highly Effective Teachers. Ann Clark highlighted information as noted above under Consent Item B.1. This item regards State law that was recently passed to create an opportunity for differentiated pay for highly effective teachers from the sale of "I Support Teachers" North Carolina license plates. CMS staff anticipates this State initiative will generate a small revenue stream for the State, approximately \$1 million, which equates to approximately \$100,000 for CMS. CMS staff worked with the teacher groups, teacher compensation Task Force, Principal Leadership Team, executive staff, and the compensation team to gather feedback from various focus groups. Based on information gathered and the limited amount of funds for CMS, the recommendation going forward is to target the initiative at the CMS

Beacon schools. Criteria for teacher eligibility would be based upon the Summative Evaluations: Standard I, Leadership in the Classroom, and Standard IV, Facilitation and Instruction; teachers must be rated proficient or above; and have one accomplished or distinguished grading. Other criteria would include teacher attendance. A Board discussion followed. Mr. Davis asked do any other schools in CMS besides Beacon schools meet the criteria? Ann Clark said CMS has other schools that have complexity and hard to staff positions but given the limited funding from the State initiative, staff believes it would be most effective to target the funds at the Beacon schools which would align to Goal 2 of the *Strategic Plan 2018*. Avery Mitchell, Acting Chief Human Resources Officer, reported at this time it is hard to estimate the number of teachers that would be eligible for the initiative and based on the limited dollars the resulting monetary reward would be small. Mr. Davis asked is the State funding recurring or one time funding? Ann Clark said the funding would be on a year to year basis based upon the revenue generated which is unknown at this time. Thelma Byers-Bailey asked does the Beacon Initiative include Project L.I.F.T. schools and will they participate in this initiative? Ann Clark said, yes.

**Ericka Ellis-Stewart moved that the Board adopt Consent Item B.1. as presented, seconded by Tim Morgan, and the motion passed upon 8-0 voice vote of the Board. District 3 Seat Vacant**

#### **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

The Agenda did not include any Action Items.

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

##### **A. Report on Budget Amendments for November 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 November are as follows:

##### **Fiscal Implications:**

Fiscal Year 2014-15 State Operating Revenue increased by \$3,797

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Federal Operating Revenue increased by \$184,081

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Other Operating Revenue increased by \$107,012

Fiscal Year 2014-15 State Operating Expenditures increased by \$3,797

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Federal Operating Expenditures increased by \$184,081

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Other Operating Expenditures increased by \$107,012

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



B. Report on Financial Statements for November 30, 2014

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

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

C. First Reading on proposed revisions to Policy JLCE, *First Aid and Emergency Medical Instructional Policies and Exhibits*

*Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Preparing all students to be successful in institutions of higher learning or the workforce without a need for remediation.*

Chairperson McCray called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the First Reading on proposed revisions to Policy JLCE, *First Aid and Emergency Medical Instructional Policies and Exhibits*.

Tom Tate said Policy JLCE, *First Aid and Emergency Medical Care*, is before the Board for First Reading on proposed amendments. The General Assembly enacted a statute in August 2014 that requires local boards of education to provide for a supply of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors for use during the school day and at school sponsored events on school property. Policy JLCE has been extensively rewritten to incorporate the statutory provisions. In addition, it is recommended that CMS Policy JLCEE, *Automatic External Defibrillators*, be incorporated into Policy JLCE with slight revisions so that all provisions for rendering emergency health care will be available in one Board policy. The Board's approval of the proposed amendments to Policy JLCE would therefore result in the deletion of current Policy JLCEE from the Policy Manual. The Policy Committee approved the proposed amendments to this policy at its meeting on December 11, 2014. Policy JLCE with proposed revisions marked in black-line format is attached to the agenda item along with the pertinent Session Law. Fiscal implications include dollars will be budgeted in the 2015-2016 Budget to cover replacement of expired epinephrine auto-injector devices. The proposed policy will be posted on the CMS Website for public review. The Board will hold a Public Hearing on January 27 and February 10, 2015 and Board vote on February 10, 2015.

D. First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy GGO, *Employee Performance and Non-Renewal Process for Teachers and Administrators*, and Policy GCOB, *Plans for Growth and Improvement of Teachers and Licensed Employees*

*Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Ensuring that an effective principal leads every school; ensuring that an effective teacher instructs each class.*

Chairperson McCray called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the First Reading on proposed revisions to Policy GGO and Policy GCOB. Tom Tate said proposed amendments to Policy GCO, *Employee Performance and Nonrenewal Processes for Teachers and Administrators*, and Policy GCOB, *Plans for Growth and Improvement of Teachers and Licensed Employees*, is before the Board for First Reading. The proposed changes incorporate amendments to North Carolina law enacted by the General Assembly in 2013 and clarified in 2014. The statutory changes eliminate career status for teachers effective June 30, 2018 and change the process for decisions not to renew teacher contracts.

The policies were reviewed by the Policy Committee on January 8, 2015 and recommended for Board adoption by the unanimous vote of the four members present. There are no fiscal implications associated with this policy. The proposed policies will be posted on the CMS Website for public review. The Board will hold a Public Hearing on January 27 and February 10, 2015 and Board vote on February 10, 2015.

E. First Reading on proposed amendments to Policy DDA, *Grant Funding*

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

Chairperson McCray called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the First Reading on proposed revisions to Policy DDA, *Grant Funding*.

Tom Tate said proposed amendments to Policy DDA, *Grant Funding*, is before the Board for First Reading. The amendments change the minimum amount for grant applications which must be approved by the Board prior to submission from \$15,000 to \$50,000 for grants that do not require a matching fund obligation. For grants that require a match, the minimum amount requiring prior Board approval will remain at \$15,000. In addition, the terminology in Section IV, 'Alignment with CMS Goals,' has been updated to reflect current district practices. The policy was reviewed by the Policy Committee on January 8, 2015 and recommended for Board adoption by three of the four members present. There are no fiscal implications associated with this policy. Proposed amendments to Policy DDA will be posted on the CMS Website for public review. The Board will hold a Public Hearing on January 27 and February 10, 2015 and Board vote on February 10, 2015.

## VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Ann Clark reported on the following items:

- Recognized Lucinda Ourant, School Health Coordinator Specialist, who recently joined CMS to support CMS schools and school nurses.
- Weather Update: CMS staff in conjunction with the City, County, and other surrounding school districts is monitoring the weather conditions on a continual basis and will make the best decisions. High school students should study hard for their exams because all tests will be given as planned regardless of the school start time. CMS will announce any changes to the school schedule for January 14<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 a.m. Information will be posted on the CMS Website and communicated through ConnectEd messages and social media.
- *Superintendent Coffee:* Harding High School, January 20, 2015, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please join Ann Clark to discuss pertinent topics related to CMS.
- State Ten Point Grading Scale: The State's Ten Point Grading Scale originally planned for only 9<sup>th</sup> graders fall 2015 has changed. Based on State Board action last week, it will now impact all students in grades 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> beginning fall semester 2015 and that will not be retroactive for previous grades. The State Board of Education made this change based upon feedback from students, parents, superintendents, and principals regarding the importance to have this in place for all students.
- Delay in Report Cards: There will be a delay in the distribution of report cards due to a delay from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in getting grades for English II and several North Carolina final exam courses. CMS is hopeful to have the

State testing data in order to distribute report cards by the first week in February.

- Mid-Year Graduations: CMS will hold two Graduation Ceremonies on February 2, 2015 at Bojangles' Coliseum, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., to honor approximately 600 mid-year graduates. CMS is proud of the mid-year graduates and wish them much success in their future endeavors.
- 2015 School Options Fair: CMS held a Magnet, Career and Technical Education, and Other Program Options Fair on January 10, 2015 at Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology, 9 to 1 p.m. There were over 3,500 students, parents, and community citizens in attendance. The deadline for applying for the School Options Lottery is January 26, 2015.

## VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

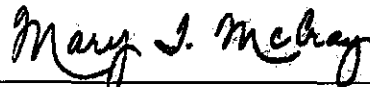
- Rhonda Lennon commended all the CMS schools and employees for showing their Panther Pride in supporting the Panthers in the NFL Playoff games. Ms. Lennon also thanked Ann Clark for the letter she sent to CMS staff that encouraged employees to learn from the experiences of the Panthers in 'never give up.' The Panthers went into the playoffs with a losing record but ended up winners. The letter was so inspiring that Jerry Richardson wrote a personal note to Ann Clark to thank her for the comments. Ann's letter highlighted what CMS means to the community and boosted everyone's morale.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart thanked Gerald Johnson at the Charlotte Post for hosting an event at the end of December that supports quality afterschool programming throughout CMS. She also commended Ann Clark on her participation at a January 10<sup>th</sup> event on What Happens in Raleigh Matters in Mecklenburg which was hosted by the League of Women Voters and Charlotte Mecklenburg Association of Educators. The Board of Education will hold a Board Retreat on January 21, 2015, 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Leadership Academy. Please join the Board at the meeting to get involved with the Board's work.
- Mary McCray thanked the principal and staff at West Charlotte High School for allowing her to proctor during testing. Ms. McCray urged Board members to volunteer to be proctors at the schools in the spring.

## ADJOURNMENT

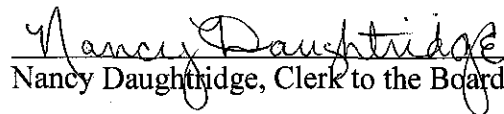
Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Upon motion by Tim Morgan that the Board adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rhonda Lennon, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.**

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.



Mary T. McCray, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board