

Charlotte, North Carolina August 22, 2000

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on August 22, 2000, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center. Following the Regular Meeting, the Board held a Closed Session in Room 408 of the Education Center.

PRESENT: Arthur Griffin, Jr., Chairperson; John W. Lassiter, Vice Chairperson; Wilhelmenia I. Rembert, Member at Large; James H. Puckett (District 1); Vilma D. Leake (District 2); George Dunlap (District 3); Louise Woods (District 4); Molly Griffin (District 5); Lindalyn Kakadelis (District 6)

ABSENT: No Board members were absent.

Also present at the request of the Board were Eric J. Smith, Superintendent; Dr. James L. Pughsley, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Frances Haithcock, Associate Superintendent for Education Services; Greg Clemmer, Associate Superintendent for Operations; members of Senior Staff; James L. Clark, Executive Director of Administration; Leslie Winner, Board Attorney; and Carole Hamrick, Manager School Board Services, acting as Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

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Chairperson Griffin called the meeting to order and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROMED 9-12. 2000

Mr. Griffin began the meeting by congratulating the Superintendent and staff for an outstanding opening of schools. He commented on the professionalism of all staff at our school sites and support centers. He commended the Maintenance Department for their hard work in getting school sites ready for our students. The Board of Education expressed their appreciation for the efforts of all CMS employees who contributed to a successful opening for the 2000-01 school year.

Mr. Griffin recognized 51 of our schools for the outstanding job they did last year. These were Schools of Excellence, Schools of Distinction and Exemplary Schools as recognized through the State's ABCs Program for their end-of-the-year test results.

<u>Schools of Excellence</u> – Schools that met their growth/gain and had at least 90% of its students performing at or above Level III:

Barringer Elementary, Davidson IB Middle, Davidson Elementary, Marie G. Davis Middle, Elizabeth Lane Elementary, McKee Road Elementary, South Charlotte Middle, Villa Heights Elementary.

<u>Schools of Distinction</u> – Schools that had at least 80% of its students performing at Level III or above and may or may not have met its growth/gain:

Bain Elementary, Cornelius Elementary, Crestdale Middle, David Cox Elementary, Elizabeth Traditional Elementary, First Ward Elementary, Hawk Ridge Elementary, Amay James Montessori Elementary, Matthews Elementary, McAlpine Elementary, Northeast Middle, Oakhurst Elementary, Olde Providence Elementary, J.T. Williams Middle

Exemplary Schools – Schools that met expected growth:

Albemarle Road Elementary, Ashley Park Elementary, Butler High, Collinswood Elementary, Coulwood Middle, East Mecklenburg High, Eastover Elementary, Garinger High, Greenway Park Elementary, Harding High, Hornets Nest Elementary, Huntesrville Elementary, Idlewild Elementary, Independence High, Kennedy Middle, McClintock Middle, Montclaire Elementary, Myers Park Traditional Elementary, Myers Park High, North Mecklenburg High, Oaklawn Elementary, Providence High, Selwyn Elementary, Statesville Road Elementary, University Meadows Elementary, University Park Elementary, West Mecklenburg High, Winding Springs Elementary, Vance High.

West Mecklenburg High School also ranked as one of the Top Ten Most Improved High Schools in NC.

Mr. Griffin concluded his remarks by stating that the Board would like to see 100 schools recognized next year.

ACTION ITEMS

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Approval of Administrative Personnel

The Board approved the following administrative appointments:

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On motion made by Mr. Lassiter and seconded by Mr. Puckett, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Sheila Shirley as Chief Finance Officer. Ms. Shirley holds a Master of Business Administration from Wingate University and a B.S. in Accounting from the University of South Carolina. She is a Certified Public Accountant and comes to CMS from Husqvarna Forest and Garden where she has served as Controller.

On motion by Dr. Rembert and seconded by Dr. Leake, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Grace H. Holton as Executive Director for Accounting. Ms. Holton holds a Master of Accounting Science from the University of Illinois, a Master of Business Administration from the University of NC at Chapel Hill, and a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of NC at Greensboro. She is also a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Management Accountant. She comes to CMS from FirstGroup America Inc., in Cincinnati, OH, where she has served as Benefits and Payroll Manager.

On motion by Dr. Leake and seconded by Dr. Rembert, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Sheena J. Boyd as Employee Relations Director. Ms. Boyd holds a Juris Doctor from the University of NC School of Law, Chapel Hill, NC, and a B.S. from the University of NC at Greensboro, NC. She has served as Senior Staff Attorney at the The Banks Law Firm, PA, Research Triangle Park, NC.

On motion by Dr. Leake and seconded by Molly Griffin, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Pamela N. Espinosa as principal at Olympic High School. Ms. Espinosa holds a Masters in Educational Administration from UNC Charlotte, and a B.S. in Science from UNC Charlotte. She has served at Director of Secondary Education for Curriculum & Instruction for the Union County Schools and as an assistant principal at various high schools in CMS.

Ms. Janet Stoner was recognized by the Board of Education for her service to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Mr. Dunlap commented that Ms. Stoner restored the confidence and faith of the Board of Education when she was appointed Finance Officer. Mr. Griffin offered his appreciation for Ms. Stoner's years of service, her professionalism in her position, and her service to children in her position. Due to Ms. Stoner's efforts, CMS has received the Government Award for Excellence for several years.

Approval of the FY 2000-2001 Budget Proposal

Dr. Smith commented that the budget for FY 2000-2001 had caused a great deal of deliberation for the past six months. The process has not been a painless one. The total budget amount is \$761,495,415.00. Dr. Rembert related the budget decision had been a difficult one because of lack of funding from the County Commissioners. She said that we would be able to maintain some level of service to our children but we won't be able to meet the needs or support of children as the Board of Education had intended. She

commented this community has the resources and should rise to the occasion to provide the requirements of children. The community needs to support CMS and our service to all children. Ms. Woods commented that the Board of Education needs to begin now to convince the County Commissioners of the needs of the school district.

On motion by Mr. Lassiter and seconded by Mr. Puckett, the Board unanimously approved the FY 2000-2001 Budget Proposal.

Approval of Plans to Address Needs of Low Performing Schools

On motion by Mr. Lassiter and seconded by Dr. Leake, the Board unanimously approved the Plans to Address Needs of Low Performing Schools. The adoption of these plans by the Board of Education is a mandatory requirement by the State of NC. Mr. Griffin commented that it is critical the progress of the low performing schools be made available to the Board on a quarterly basis. Dr. Smith replied that this information will be provided to the Board on a quarterly basis. Ms. Kakadelis requested that input from parents and School Leadership Teams be included as a part of the plans for school improvement at each of the four low performing schools. Dr. Leake expressed concerns regarding the salary for staff members located at the low performing schools. In light of the budget passed by the Board at this meeting, she commented that the budget does not provide the necessary funding. She was also concerned about the accountability of parents and their involvement in the process. Ms. Woods stated that she is pleased with the specifics from the state regarding the expectations of the low performing schools.

CONSENT ITEMS

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On motion by Ms. Griffin and seconded by Ms. Kakadelis, the Board voted unanimously to approve in one vote the following items on the Consent Agenda:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes for the following meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting July 27, 1999
- Regular Board Meeting July 11, 2000
- Closed Session August 8, 2000
- Closed Session August 8, 2000
- Closed Session August 9, 2000
- Closed Session August 10, 2000

APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR PUPIL REASSIGNMENT

The Board approved the requests for transfer of 209 students (Category I); and denied the requests for transfer of 35 students (Category II). There were no requests for release of students to other school districts within North Carolina.

APPROVAL OF JUNE PERSONNEL REPORT

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The Board approved the June 2000 Personnel Report. A copy of the report is on file in the Office of Human Resources.

APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERINTENDENT TO SEEK LICENSE REVOCATION FOR TEACHERS WHO RESIGN IN VIOLATION OF NCGS §115C-3259(0)

The Board approved giving authorization to the Superintendent to request that the state revoke the license of a teacher who resigns without thirty (30) days notice without the approval of the Superintendent. The license is revoked for the remainder of the school year.

APPROVAL OF THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SUPPLY SERVICES TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS SCHOOL VEHICLES ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2000

The Board approved the sale of surplus school vehicles and mowing equipment at an auction on September 23, 2000 according to G.S. 160A-270.

APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING FOR *BUILDING BRIDGES GRANT* FOR BARRINGER ACADEMIC CENTER

The Board approved the supplemental funding request for a grant for Barringer Academic Center entitled *Building Bridges*. The objectives of the project are to:

- Design an action plan that ensures the successful academic and social transition for non-magnet students who enroll in Barringer for the 2001-02 school year
- Integrate the principles of the Comer philosophy of school management with Invitational Learning strategies for successfully teaching diverse student populations
- Increase the understanding of an appreciation for cultural differences among all Barringer parents, faculty and implementation team members
- Institute both family and academic support mechanisms that will result in successful transition of new students and families into Barringer Academic Center

REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

Dr. Smith called upon Dr. Frances Haithcock, Associate Superintendent for Education Services, to present a report on Intervention Plans/Intensive Care Model. Dr. Haithcock stated this plan is in response to the policy on Student Promotion and Retention recently passed by the Board of Education. The aforementioned policy provides intervention plans, when necessary, for students in elementary through high school. The A+ Initiative addresses the fundamentals and acceleration of students, and provides a clearer framework and the tools for schools. The plan allows for "No Excuses." Dr. Haithcock commented the Intensive Care Model would provide guidelines for addressing the needs of the child who may be failing. Letters of communication to parents will be sent for those children who are targeted for intervention strategies. Teachers are preparing the plans to address these targeted students and will share with parents in a required conference in October. If a child shows no progress on the intervention plan, he/she will be placed in the plan for Intensive Care. There are very prescriptive strategies for students who are placed on the Intensive Care Plan. The last referral for students who make no progress would then be to the Exceptional Children Department.

Dr. Anne Udall, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, discussed the Intervention Plan for students in Grades K-10. The focus of the intervention plans is for those students in Level I and II in reading, writing and mathematics in Grades K-10. The five primary goals of the Intervention Plan are:

- Provides first level of intensive care
- Builds on current practice in schools
- Helps drive instruction
- Provides parents and students with a clear understanding of what services will be offered
- Builds consistency across the school system

There is a minimum of three opportunities for the Intervention Plan to be revisited and revised during the school year for elementary students. Plans are in the development stage for students in grades 6-8 and 9-10. These plans are to be completed by the parent conference period in October. Portfolios are currently being designed for teacher documentation of student progress. The portfolios will be a year-long effort by the teachers. Members of the Board of Education will be provided with a copy of the portfolio when it is completed. Dr. Udall ended her presentation with the following quotation: "Great works are performed not by strength, but perseverance."

Board Members Questions and Comments

Ms. Kakadelis suggested working with PTAs, the PTA Council, and School Leadership Teams to inform parents what we are doing regarding the portfolios. She commented the Flow Chart developed by Dr. Haithcock's office is most helpful to the Board, enabling them to visualize the plan. Ms. Griffin questioned if the sample letter had gone out to parents. Dr. Udall replied the elementary letter to parents was to go out the first ten days of school. Thanks to Haywood Holmsley, the letter is very "parent friendly," stated Dr. Udall.

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In response to a question from Ms. Woods, Dr. Udall stated that teachers don't really spend any extra time on the assessments – this is something they should be doing anyway. There are no additional assessments. Dr. Udall stated that these plans tie into the A+ Model and into the already mandatory October parent conferences. The Intervention Plan, stated Dr. Udall, just makes the process standard and provides guided help for parent conferences. Ms. Woods asked who prepares the middle and high school plans and Dr. Udall responded that middle and high schools use the team approach by utilizing the Language Arts and Reading teachers.

Mr. Dunlap had several thoughts on the letter to parents. What about those parents who can't read? How do we know that parents have actually received the letters? Does the parent understand what they are reading? Dr. Udall responded that this process for informing parents was begun a year ago. Every effort has been made for the involvement of parents. The school district is very sensitive to the issues expressed by Mr. Dunlap.

Dr. Leake suggested inviting parents to community sites to disseminate the information. Dr. Udall stated that Barbara Pellin's office is making this suggestion a reality. Dr. Leake had some concerns about the timeline – how long does it take to communicate with parents? Dr. Udall responded that the elementary Intervention Plan will be completed by teachers the end of September; the middle school Intervention Plan will be completed in time for parents conferences in October; the high school Intervention Plan will be completed in time for parent conferences in October.

Mr. Puckett asked if we are continuing the use of the TOP I and TOP II assessment tools. Dr. Smith responded that we are and that the Intervention Plans tie in nicely to these assessment tools.

Mr. Griffin reminded Board members that staff is available for further questions.

REPORT ON CMS BUSINES TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Dr. Smith called upon Rick Rozzelle, Chief Information Officer Consultant, to present an update on the project status regarding the benefits of an integrated set of business applications. Mr. Rozzelle introduced Henry McLemore, the project manager from IBM, and Glenn McCorkle, project manager for CMS. Mr. Rozzelle reported that the contract and purchase of the Lawson software is complete and the project team has been relocated to Walton Plaza where renovations for the Data Center have been completed. The project duration is projected to take 19 ½ months. Mr. McLemore has shared with Mr. Rozzelle that CMS is well organized for this project and gave credit to the PMOC process that puts us "ahead" in the project. Our current legacy system, stated Mr. Rozzelle, is a combination of manual and redundant processes. Ours is a "paper intensive work process" which causes duplication inaccuracies. The Lawson System Design is a system

built to facilitate changing business processes, practices and organizational changes. Mr. Rozzelle stated the Lawson System Design will enable CMS to meet those Fourth Goal realities. Schools and departments will be able to:

- Check real-time account balances
- Submit and track requisitions online
- Order office and other supplies directly from pre-approved vendors
- Track the employee hiring process
- Access historical data and run queries and reports

Human Resources, Finance and Technology Departments are teaming to work together on this project.

Board Members Questions and Comments

Mr. Griffin requested a status update of the Business Technology Project during the budget process. Dr. Smith replied this would be provided.

Mr. Dunlap asked if this system would give CMS the capability to extend to be able to retrieve student information. Mr. Rozzelle replied this system is not a student system. He hopes that CMS will be able to hook up with the system, NC Wise, if the implementation is successful at the NC Department of Public Instruction. CMS is currently one of a few school districts still using the current ISIS System for student information. Mr. Griffin also suggested that we look down the road in regard to data reporting of student information.

Ms. Woods asked about the security for the system. Mr. Rozzelle responded that security personnel have been hired and will begin working with IBM on the project.

Mr. Lassiter asked if implementation of the new system would result in staff elimination. Dr. Smith replied there will be a shift in some personnel. Mr. Rozzelle responded that the project is to manage organizational changes in skills and processes.

Mr. Lassiter also stated that this system would allow employees to focus on the important customer services we need to provide to staff, parents, students and our community. He feels the new business project will create a new sense of philosophy on values and service delivery. Dr. Smith commented the new business project would move CMS to a Balanced Scorecard and closer to meeting the Fourth Goal.

REPORT ON DROP-OUT PREVENTION/TNT PROGRAMS

Dr. Smith called upon Barbara Pellin, Assistant Superintendent for Student, Family, Community Services to present a report on the Drop-Out Prevention Program and the Tolerate No Truancy (TNT) Program. Ms. Pellin introduced the core team members and they are:

- Mary Beth Rigsby, Director, Prevention and Intervention
- Kathy Hall, Assistant Director, Prevention and Intervention
- Laraine Middleton, Cassandra Atkinson, Mary Wilmore, Janet Huber, Geri Ross

The two philosophies for the team are No Fear – No Excuses. This applies to students and staff as well. The goal of these programs is to reduce the percentage of students who drop out of school by 15% by providing the supports and programs needed to keep students in school. A second goal is to facilitate on-going long-term program evaluation. The three focus areas are attendance, academics and discipline issues. The strategy areas are as follows:

Elementary Prevention

Early identification of students, attendance, family support, and student/family support staff

Middle School Intervention/Prevention

Attendance, academic engagement, positive connections, career planning, and models for student/family support services

High School Intervention

Attendance, case management, on-going support for graduation, preparation for postsecondary opportunities (career planning), and Student Support Case Manager (SSCM)

According to Ms. Pellin, CMS support strategies include the following:

- Double blocking
- Relooping
- Saturday School
- Extended Day
- Tutoring
- GED opportunities for parents

Ms. Pellin also stated that the CMS support programs include the Management Schools, Covenant Academy and Mayfield, Midwood day and evening programs, TAPS, a partnership with DSS for TANF student and families, and Cities in Schools. External support programs include CPCC high school completion & GED programs, Bridge Program, Eckerd Camp, Tarheel Challenge, and treatment and therapeutic programs.

Kathy Hall presented information regarding Student Support Case Managers (SSCM). There are social workers assigned to 7 high schools which include East, Garinger, Myers Park, North Mecklenburg, Olympic, West Charlotte, and West Mecklenburg. Responsibilities of these social workers include the assessment needs of each student, the development and implementation of individual success plans, and the monitoring of the progress and success of these plans. CMS has a transition counselor located at Charlotte Transit Center to assist students who have dropped out of school or have been in a treatment facility.

Mary Beth Rigsby presented information on the evaluation of the programs. She stated that there is a database of services for each student on the SSCM's caseload; the SSCM reviews the overall attendance, dropout rate, academic achievement and discipline referrals of their assigned students; and the SSCM prepares quarterly reports. The 1999-2000 outcomes include the following per Ms. Rigsby:

- The program was implemented between March and June, 2000 147 9th graders received SSCM services
- Case managers found multiple barriers to school success which included family, health, interpersonal and school problems
- Case management intervention resulted in other services such as tutoring, academic • monitoring, enrollment in special programs, mentoring, family counseling, and/or social work services
- 86% of students served remained in school until the end of the year compared with the goal for the pilot program of 60%
- The transition counselor assessed and reentered 28 students since April 2000; an additional 22 students are in the reentry process

The needs of the Dropout Prevention Program are as follows per Ms. Rigsby:

- Additional alternative educational options such as flexible school days, self-paced • instruction, concentrated core course scheduling, and flexibility relative to entering school during a semester term
- Out of School Suspension Center ۲

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- More defined reentry/transitional programs ٠
- Program expansion to all high schools and inclusion of additional SSCMs at schools • currently being served
- Day Care Services for teen parents •
- Development of comprehensive intervention database

Board Members Questions and Comments

Mr. Griffin commented on the massive scope of the project, especially since a minimal number of resources is available. He commented that as the Board begins to look at the budget for the next school, resources for this program must be made available. He questioned the difference between an excused and unexcused absence. Principals need to improve the absence process.

Mr. Lassiter expressed concerns regarding the data presented. He commented that we currently appeared to be doing what needed to be done prior to the implementation of this program in April, 2000. He asked why the transition counselor was located at the Transit Center. Ms. Pellin responded that this was one of the places that students had suggested this office be located because of its accessibility to the bus lines. Ms. Pellin is also working with the community to secure additional locations.

Mr. Dunlap suggested going one step further in the research of the number of dropouts. Since the number of students dropping out had decreased from the previous school year, could that be tied to the fact that drivers' licenses were being revoked if students dropped out of school? He also suggested the child daycare centers were once located in our high schools and, if daycare continued to be a problem for teen parents, perhaps we should open daycare centers in our high schools again. Mr. Dunlap also suggested looking at dropout students versus disruptive students; do disruptive students contribute to teacher burnout?

Dr. Smith commented that the greatest prevention of student dropouts is intervention and rebuilding the confidence of students.

Dr. Leake thanked Iris Battle for her initiatives to reduce dropouts when she was employed by CMS. She also thanked Mary Wilmore for her support of the program and Ms. Battle. Dr. Leake asked what constitutes the definition of a dropout and Ms. Pellin responded that CMS is working towards a consistent definition of that term.

Mr. Puckett asked if CMS has looked at the dropout program that the Charleston, SC, school system has. Ms. Pellin responded that her office has been trying to get that information. Mr. Puckett also stated that he felt there should not be a celebration for attending school. There should be a celebration for academic success – what happens at school instead of just being at school. Mr. Puckett asked for ESL data in the dropout numbers. Ms. Pellin stated that staff would supply this information.

Ms. Woods requested a breakdown of the "other" category of the percentage of the dropout rate. Ms. Pellin responded that staff would supply this information. Ms. Woods also recommended that perhaps CMS might provide a transitional year for students who don't quite make the grade. Dr. Smith responded that we don't have plans in place for that as of now.

Ms. Griffin commented that the needs expressed by Ms. Rigsby's report might not be available because of funding issues.

Ms. Kakadelis asked what the graduation rate is and Ms. Pellin responded her staff would provide that information. Ms. Kakadelis would also like the retention rate of 16 year old students in 9th grade. She commented that CMS should use partnerships and the community to assist us in retention of our dropouts.

REPORT ON PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATIONOF POLICY ON STAFF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Dr. Smith called upon Dr. Barbara Jenkins, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources to present the report on Criminal Background Checks. Dr. Jenkins commented that, as a result of the policy on Staff Rights and Responsibilities passed by the BOE on August 8, 2000, the Human Resources Department surveyed other schools in the Council of Great City Schools to see what other districts use for criminal background checks. The following information is a result of that survey:

- 10 of 21 districts use SBI/FBI
- 6 districts use state agencies
- 1 district uses county sources

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- 3 districts use web-based services
- 1 district uses a western consortium of states

Per Dr. Jenkins, the benefits of a web-based service include swift results on all searches, details beyond fingerprint records, and a minimal cost for local searches. The limitations of a web-based service are some matches are by name only, the cost of a national search, and the reliability of companies. According to Dr. Jenkins, the benefits of using the SBI/FBI include an exact match based on fingerprints, an authentic national search, and a reasonable cost for a national search. The limitations of using SBI/FBI are that it takes 4 to 12 weeks to process and the search omits background checks beyond fingerprinted offences.

CMS will move towards the use, according to Dr. Jenkins, of the two-tiered approach which includes a web-based check through traced residency and SBI/FBI check to ensure access to a national database. The cost of this type of search is estimated at \$60,000. The benefits of this type search will be an immediate red flag on new hires/candidates and a safety net provision with nationwide data. Additionally, CMS will use technology for electronic transfer of fingerprints to SBI, use an initial web-based company with proven history in school systems, pilot an automated screening interview, revise applications, and distribute the new regulations. Dr. Jenkins stated that our legal counsel is working with staff to implement the new procedures.

Dr. Smith commented that CMS is moving forward with the two-tiered approach. Additional information on the regulations of the approved policy will be provided the Board members in a Friday mail packet.

REPORT/FIRST READING ON PROPOSED REVISION TO POLICY BG, SCHOOL BOARD POLICY PROCESS

Ms. Woods read the proposed policy revision to Policy BG, School Board Policy Process. (A copy of the proposed policy and current policy is attached and made a part of these minutes). The policy will be posted and the public will be invited to speak on this policy at the September 12th Board of Education meeting.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Leake congratulated Dr. Pughsley and Lisa Oates for pulling together a cadre of retired teachers to mentor in our schools. She thanked staff for providing shirts and ties for the bus drivers and commented this contributed towards the professionalism of our drivers. Students can easily recognize these employees now as members of staff, Dr. Leake stated.

Mr. Dunlap commented on the excitement of staff members prior to the opening of schools.

Ms. Kakadelis reminded the Board of the TNT Celebration at Eastland Mall on August 25.

Ms. Woods also commented on the enthusiasm of teachers and staff members prior to the opening of schools. The Planning Liaison "Smart Growth" Committee will be meeting on Friday, August 25th at 7:45 a.m. at the Government Center per Ms. Woods. She encouraged Board members to attend the Planning Liaison Committee meetings.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Smith congratulated staff for the superb opening of the 2000-01 school year. He also commented on the efforts of staff in the wake of the power outages caused by a storm on August 18th. All schools were open and ready the following Monday for students and staff. Enrollment is very strong and continues to grow daily, per Dr. Smith, and may exceed the expectations of staff.

At this time, Dr. Leake moved to amend the agenda to hear public speakers. Mr. Puckett seconded the motion. The motion failed to carry by the required two thirds majority vote.

ADJOURNMENT

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On motion by Mr. Lassiter, and seconded by Mr. Puckett, the Board of Education adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:50 p.m. and moved into Closed Session in Room 408.

Chairperson Chairperson