December 11, 2012



Charlotte, North Carolina

Approved by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education

January 8, 2013 Regular Board Meeting

REGULAR MEETING of the CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on December 11, 2012. The meeting began at 5:05 p.m. and was held in Room CH-14 of the Government Center.

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

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

Upon motion by Dr. Waddell, seconded by Ms. McCray, the Board voted unanimously of those present for approval to go into Closed Session for the following purpose:

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

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

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 5:05 p.m. until 6:04 p.m. in Room CH-14.

Chairperson Ellis-Stewart reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:07 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Government Center. CMS-TV 3 televised the meeting.

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

Absent: There were no absences.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ellis-Stewart reconvened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the December 11th Regular Board meeting which will be the only meeting of the month.

A. Adoption of Agenda

Chairperson Ellis-Stewart called for a motion to adopt the proposed agenda.

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Ellis-Stewart called upon Dr. Joyce Waddell to introduce the student to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak on the December character trait of *caring*. Mr. McElrath introduced Raquan Howard is a Lincoln Heights Academy 8th grade student. He is a bright, articulate and well-mannered student who maintains an A/B grade average. Raquan plans to play basketball at the University of Kentucky upon high school graduation and aspires to be a professional basketball player. Raquan enjoys, in addition to basketball, playing video games and spending time with his family. Lincoln Heights will miss Raquan as he will be transferring back to his home school soon. Accompanying Raquan tonight are his mother, Shontella Howard; his brother, Charles Howard; and Bobby Moss, family friend. Raquan invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and following the pledge he thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the meeting.

C. Election of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Chairperson Ellis-Stewart called upon Dr. Morrison to conduct the election for Chairperson. Dr. Morrison reviewed Bylaw BDB which provides that a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be elected at the first Regular Board meeting in December and shall assume the office immediately upon election. The election of a Chairperson will proceed according to the following procedure:

• Call for nominations. The nominations will continue until every member has had the opportunity to place a name in nomination.

- Call for a motion to close the nominations.
- Following the close of the nominations and if there is more than one nomination for the seat, the votes will be called for in the order in which the nominees were nominated. The first person to receive the majority of the votes of those Board members present will be elected as the new Chairperson and will assume the office immediately.

Dr. Morrison opened the floor for nominations for Board Chairperson.

Ericka Ellis-Stewart nominated Mary McCray to serve as Chairperson of the Board of Education for 2013, seconded by Dr. Waddell.

Rhonda Lennon moved to close nominations for the Board Chairperson, seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley.

Dr. Morrison reported all individuals had an opportunity to place a name in nomination and there were no other nominations, and he called for the Board vote to close the nominations. **The Board voted 9-0 to close the nominations for Board Chairperson.**

Dr. Morrison declared the nominations closed and he called for the Board vote to elect Mary McCray as Chairperson of the Board of Education. The Board voted 9-0 to elect Mary McCray as Chairperson of the Board of Education.

Dr. Morrison declared Mary McCray Chairperson of the Board of Education and he invited everyone to join him in congratulating Ms. McCray. Dr. Morrison said on behalf of CMS he would like to also thank Ericka Ellis-Stewart for her leadership. The relationship between a new Superintendent and the Board Chair is special and he thanked Ms. Ellis-Stewart for her leadership and support. Dr. Morrison turned the proceedings over to Chairperson Mary McCray to conduct the election of the Board Vice Chairperson.

Chairperson McCray reviewed the procedures for the election of the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education which followed the same process for the election of Chairperson. Following the review of the procedures, Chairperson McCray called for nominations for Vice Chairperson.

Tom Tate nominated Tim Morgan as Vice Chairperson.

Joyce Waddell nominated Ericka Ellis-Stewart and Ms. Ellis-Stewart declined the nomination.

Eric Davis moved to close nominations for the Board Vice Chairperson, seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley.

Chairperson McCray reported all individuals had an opportunity to place a name in nomination and she called for a motion to close the nominations. The Board voted 9-0 to close the nominations for Board Vice Chairperson.

Chairperson McCray declared nominations closed and she called for the Board vote to elect Tim Morgan as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education. The Board voted 9-0 to elect Tim Morgan as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education. Chairperson McCray declared Tim Morgan named Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education.

Tim Morgan moved that the Board take a five minute recess, seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley, and Chairperson McCray called for a five minute recess.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:14 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Chairperson Mary McCray reconvened the meeting at 6:22 p.m. and following is the new alignment of the Board.

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

Absent: There were no absences.

D. Public hearing on proposed amendments to Policy KI, School Visitors

Chairperson McCray reported there were no people signed up to speak to the Public Hearing on Policy KI and she called the Public Hearing closed at 6:22 p.m.

II. REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC

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

NaKeshia Williams, a doctoral student at UNC-Charlotte, discussed concerns regarding the Late Bell Schedule. She shared research that is important to CMS and families regarding the negative implications the late bell schedule has on parents, students, and staff. Parents have protested against the schedule and shared concerns regarding the adverse impact on students and teachers. A 4:15 p.m. dismissal is too late, limits after school activities, and creates additional stress on students and staff. Ms. Williams proposed an alternate school start and end schedule and will send an outline of the proposal to the Board in the near future

Diamond Crystal Hayes, represented a non-profit organization, and he advocated for being allowed to speak with children who attend disadvantaged schools with the objective to empower, encourage, and motivate children to seek successful achievement in education and plan for a great future. Many children do not have dreams or goals and Mr. Hayes asked the Board to give him the chance to help children overcome obstacles to see a bright hope in their present and future.

Four speakers addressed concerns regarding the looming fiscal cliff and the impact on CMS students, teachers, and education. They encouraged the Board and members of congress to take action to prevent severe education budget cuts. The proposed national budget reduces education funding by more than \$5 billion which will result in fewer services for 9 million public school students, job losses for 80,000 Americans, and negatively impact children. They urged the Board, congress, and the public to support the "Kids Not Cuts Campaign."

- Veronica Talton, co-president of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Association of Educators and teacher at Reid Park Academy of Learning.
- Charley Smith, co-president of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Association of Educators and teacher at Independence High School.
- Earlene Lyde, treasurer of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Association of Educators and teacher at Harding University High School.
- Linda Ingle, secretary of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Association of Educators and teacher at Shamrock Gardens Elementary School.

Chairperson McCray called the Requests from the Public closed at 6:36 pm.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes.
 - October 30, 2012.
 - November 5, 2012.
 - November 13, 2012.
 - November 15, 2012.
 - November 15, 2012.
- B. Recommend approval of Open Session meeting minutes.
 - October 9, 2012 Regular Board Meeting.
 - November 5, 2012 Work Session.
- C. Recommend approval of School Improvement Plans.

Per State Board of Education policy, all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to approve School Improvement Plans. Plans are submitted for the following:

- Central Elementary Zone: 37 schools.
- Central Secondary Zone: 16 schools.
- East zone: 27 schools.
- Exception Children: 0 schools.
- Northeast Zone: 28 schools.
- Project L.I.F.T.: 9 schools.
- Southwest Zone: 40 schools.
- D. Recommend approval of 2013 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.
 - January 8th and 22nd.
 - February 12th and 26th.
 - March 12th and 26th.
 - April 9^{th} and 23^{rd} .
 - May 14th and 28th.
 - *June* 11th and 25th.
 - July 23rd.
 - August 13th and 27th.
 - September 10th and 24th.

- October 8th and 22nd.
- November 12th.
- December 10th.
- E. Recommend approval of administrative personnel appointment.

Appointment:

- Jeremy Batchelor named principal at James Martin Middle School. Mr. Batchelor previously served as East Zone Area Administrator for Student Services.
- Avery Mitchell named Executive Director, Employee Support Services. Mr. Mitchell previously served as Central Secondary Zone Executive Director.
- Rasidah Morgan named Executive Director Talent Management. Ms. Morgan previously served as Director of Leadership Strategy and Director of Succession Planning and Talent Development.
- Talla Rittenhouse named Executive Director of Sourcing and Onboarding. Ms. Rittenhouse has a Master of Education in Secondary Teacher Certification from the University of Pennsylvania and Bachelor of Science Human Resources Management from University of Maryland. Ms. Rittenhouse previously worked with Teach for America and served as Managing Director, Business Analysis, Information Technology from 2011-2012 and Managing Director, Talent Acquisition Strategy and Operation, Human Assets.
- Gina Smith named Assistant Superintendent for Exceptional Children. Ms. Smith previously served as principal at Stoney Creek Elementary School.
- F. Recommend approval of Licensed/Non-Licensed Hires and Promotions for November 2012.

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

- Total Hires July 1, 2012 June 30, 2013: 2,757. (Licensed Hires: 1,606/Non-Licensed Hires: 1,151).
- Total Promotions July 1, 2012 June 30, 2013: 231. (Licensed Promotions: 147/Non-Licensed Promotions: 84).
- G. Construction Item:
 - 1. Recommend approval of new elementary school #E07-04 (Winget/Lake Wylie Relief) construction contract.

The general construction contract for the new elementary school #E07-04 (Winget/Lake Wylie Relief) was publicly bid on November 29, 2012. Staff recommends the approval of the new elementary school #E07-04 general construction contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Clancy & Theys Construction Company in the amount of \$12,936,000. The contract will include site work, parking, road paving, building construction, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, cabling for voice, video, data and all other systems related to the construction of a new 39-classroom elementary school. The school is scheduled for occupancy in August 2014. MWSBE participation for this construction contract is 10.05%. Fiscal Implications: 2007 Bonds funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB) and Local Bonds - \$12,936,000.

H. Recommend adoption of resolution to authorize the director of storage and distribution to dispose of surplus school property by way of Online Bid in auction format.

The Online auction time span will encompass the December 13-31, 2012 period. GovDeals, (<u>www.govdeals.com</u>), an experienced and proven Online government surplus sales service

provider will facilitate the process. Recommend approval authorizing the director of storage and distribution to dispose of electronic/AV surplus school property through "secured disposal" by way of private negotiation and sale using HVE Inc., a certified recycle vender. This process will occur during the time period of December 13 - December 30, 2012. Action necessary, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-266-270, in order to dispose of surplus school property. Fiscal Implications: The auctions usually generate \$6,000 to \$15,000 in revenue.

I. Recommend support of At-Large Board member's nomination to join Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) National Steering Committee.

The Board will be asked to support Ericka Ellis-Stewart's nomination to join Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) National Steering Committee and authorize payment of the costs exceeding Ms. Ellis-Stewart's board member travel allotment for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The steering committee works to improve the effectiveness of board members as policy makers in urban schools. Committee meets quarterly and is composed of sixteen urban school board members from across the United States. Committee members serve a three-year term. CUBE is the urban component of the National School Boards Association's national affiliate program. Fiscal Implications: Not to exceed \$5,000 aggregate.

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

Mr. Tate moved that the Board adopt Consent Agenda Items A. through I. as presented, seconded by Mr. Davis, and a discussion followed.

Joyce Waddell pulled Consent Item G.

Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote to approve Consent Items A. through I. excluding G., and the Board voted 9-0 to approve Consent Items A. through I. excluding G.

Dr. Waddell reported in 2007, a Bond Referendum was approved that included the construction of a new elementary school in the Winget/Lake Wylie area to be built in 2013. Dr. Waddell said there are several CMS schools that are overcrowded (Ashley Park PreK-8, Berryhill, Bruns Academy, and Thomasboro Academy) and as the Board reviews overcrowding of schools and relief schools we must also consider the overcrowded K-8 schools. Ms. Lennon noted that Guy Chamberlain, Associate Superintendent of Auxiliary Services, provided the Board with information and this school was on the 2007 Bond Referendum and all the schools above this project on the Bond priority list have been started or under contract. This school would be next in priority order for funding and there are still a few projects from the 2007 Bond Referendum that fall after this project but the funds have not been released including the relief school for Highland Creek and Johnston Oehler Road. Mr. McElrath said parents have expressed concern that CMS is building new elementary schools but not building new high schools and the existing high schools will not have the capacity to accommodate the increased student enrollment. Mr. McElrath hopes the high school in the area will have space for the students. Chairperson McCray called upon Mr. Chamberlain to answer Board member questions. Mr. McElrath said the parents at Olympic High School would like to know when there will be a relief school in that area. Mr. Chamberlain said the two elementary schools were put on the Bond Referendum in 2007 because of the rapid growth in that area. At the same time, a high school site was purchased which is ready to be built upon in order to have capacity for the increased enrollment as the students move forward. At this time, we do not anticipate a significantly overcrowding issue at Olympic High School but staff will continue to monitor this on the capital needs assessment which will be brought to the Board in the next three to four months. Mr. McElrath hopes the parents will be informed that a high school planned in the area. Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adopt Consent Item G.

Dr. Waddell moved that the Board adopt Consent Item G., seconded by Ms. Lennon, and the motion passed upon 9-0 vote of the Board.

Dr. Morrison reviewed the personnel appointments of Mr. Batchelor and Ms. Smith as noted above. Mr. Batchelor has a vision for James Martin Middle School, a passion to see all students be successful, and desires to work collaboratively with teachers, support staff, and parents. Ms. Smith will continue to build from the existing exceptional work started by Dr. Jane Rhyne and will lead the department in a new direction utilizing the goals from *The Way Forward*. Dr. Morrison recognized Mr. Batchelor and Ms. Smith who were attending the meeting. Dr. Morrison recognized Dr. Jane Rhyne, Assistant Superintendent for Exceptional Children, who will be retiring at the end of the year. Dr. Rhyne has provided tremendous leadership in CMS and her passion and advocacy for exceptional students has been an inspiration. Dr. Rhyne is an amazing leader and she will be missed. Dr. Morrison thanked Dr. Rhyne for her many contributions to CMS and she received a standing ovation.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. <u>Recommend approval of proposed amendments to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements,</u> and Exhibits IKF-E, Classes of 2013-2015 and Classes of 2016 and beyond

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 need for remediation.

Chairperson McCray called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of Policy Committee, to present the recommendation regarding proposed amendments to Policy IKF, *Graduation Requirements*, and Exhibits IKF-E, *Classes of 2013-2015 and Classes of 2016 and beyond*.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board approve proposed amendments to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements, and Exhibits IKF-E, Classes of 2013-2015 and Classes of 2016 and beyond. The motion was presented through the Policy Committee and did not require a second.

Mr. Tate reported Policy IKF was just revised by the Board in August but on December 6, 2012 the State Board of Education acted on an agenda item affecting the policy. Mr. Tate provided an overview of the main points of the recommendation and the purpose of the Board taking action on this policy again.

• Main Points: It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that Policy IKF and its accompanying Exhibits, IKF-E, Classes of 2013-2015 and Classes of 2016+, be amended to eliminate the local high school exit standard, which currently requires students to score at Level III or IV on the End of Course tests in Biology, English II and Algebra I, and provides for review and retesting opportunities for students scoring below Level III. The amendment would be effective immediately for all CMS students. This recommendation was reviewed by the Policy Committee at a called meeting on November 28, 2012 and was supported by the five committee members.

- Background:
 - In May 2005, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted a policy requiring that students entering the 9th grade in 2006 (Class of 2010) score at Level III or IV on the North Carolina End of Course (EOC) tests in English I, U.S. History, Biology, Civics and Economics, and Algebra I in order to graduate from high school. The standards included retesting and review procedures for students who scored below Level III on any of these tests. These standards were informally known as the "Big Five" exit standard. The CMS Board incorporated this provision in Policy IKF.
 - In October 2010, the SBE eliminated the Big Five exit standard, effective for all students graduating in 2011, regardless of when they began high school. Districts were permitted to continue to use exit standards for graduation, consistent with SBE policy permitting Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to exceed state-established minimum graduation standards. The CMS Board chose to do so, and continued to require proficiency on the "Big Five" EOCs as a local graduation standard.
 - In August 2011, the State Board eliminated the EOC tests in Civics and Economics and U.S. History. As a result the CMS Board revised Policy IKF to require that students demonstrate proficiency on the remaining three EOC tests in English I, Biology, and Algebra I in order to graduate from high school.
 - In April 2012, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) notified LEAs that the EOC tests in the remaining three EOC courses would be eliminated effective with the 2012-2013 school year and that new summative assessments in Algebra I/Integrated Math I, English II, and Biology aligned with the Common Core State and North Carolina Essential Standards would be administered for the first time at the end of first semester 2012-2013. The notification also indicated that:
 - proficiency levels for these three new tests (i.e. Level I, II, III, or IV) would not be set by the State until October 2013, months after the test administrations in January and June 2013;
 - NCDPI would provide districts with a 0 100 scale for each assessment to use in calculating final course grades; and
 - LEAs are required to factor scores on EOCs as 25% of a student's final course grade, as required by SBE policy.

Based on this information, although staff had concerns about the difficulties of implementing the local exit standard without achievement levels, the decision was made to not recommend that the Board eliminate the local exit standard in the August 2012 amendments to Policy IKF. Instead, the CMS Board amended Policy IKF to require students to score a Level III or IV on the English II EOC, as there would no longer be a summative assessment in English I.

- Current Issues:
 - On October 30, 2012, CMS and other North Carolina LEAs were notified by NCDPI that 0 100 raw scale scores on the January administration of the EOC tests in Algebra I and Biology would be reported in late January. This is well after the date on which CMS teachers must submit grades, and after the beginning of second semester (which will start on January 23, 2013). Further, the memo indicated that scores on the English II EOC will be delayed until an unknown date because of the time necessary to score the constructive response (i.e. essay) part of the test. DPI staff instructed LEAs to record grades in these courses as incompletes pending the

release of the test scores and to recalculate grades upon receipt of the scores. In addition, LEAs were instructed to enforce the SBE policy requiring EOC scores to count as 25% (the 25% Policy) of a student's final course grade. Superintendents from around the state, including CMS, expressed strong reservations about the fairness of using the unscaled raw scores on the EOCs to determine course grades and, potentially, graduation eligibility.

- At the State Board meeting on December 6, 2012, the SBE passed a waiver for the 2012-2013 school year to the 25% Policy. During the discussion at the previous day's committee meeting, DPI staff described their intent to inform LEAs that they would be receiving 0 - 100 EOC scores after 95% of the students had been tested, and, further, that each LEA could decide how, or if, to use those scores in calculating students' final course grades. This statement was the first time CMS staff had heard of this latest plan. The projected date for scores to be reported is still late January 2013. There was no change to the state's plans to establish proficiency levels in October 2013. The result for CMS is that, for this school year, the District will not be able to implement the local high school exit standard, as we will not have the ability to identify which students have or have not scored at Level III or IV. We are still awaiting promised guidance from DPI on using EOC scores in determining students' final course grades. In addition, there are logistical issues that make continued implementation of this requirement difficult, even for students graduating after 2013. NCWise is being phased-out this year and NCWise will no longer allow for the inclusion of "gateway met" as a local option. This has several effects: CMS does not have the technology to automatically track which students have not met the local exit standards. Nor is there a way to indicate on a transcript whether a student has or has not satisfied the local gateway. Should a student be prohibited from graduating solely because he/she has not met the local exit standard, this would not be reflected on the transcript. Further, the migration from NCWise to the PowerSchool platform is filled with unknowns. We do not know whether it will permit CMS to document a local gateway. Therefore, it is now the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee that Policy IKF and its accompanying exhibits be revised effective immediately to eliminate the local high school exit standard, which currently requires students to score at Level III or IV on the End of Course tests in Biology, English II and Algebra I, and provides for review and retesting opportunities for students scoring below Level III. This change will not impact the current North Carolina and CMS requirements that students pass these three courses in order to graduate from high school.
- Policy revisions typically are approved by the Policy Committee and are scheduled for three Board of Education meetings (First Reading, Public Hearing, and Public Hearing/Board Action). However, Policy BG, *Board of Education Policy Process*, allows the Board to waive the First Reading and public comment requirements when the passage of an amendment is necessary to ensure the efficient operation of the District. In that case, the amendment may be submitted directly to the Board and action may be taken at the same meeting. Because the policy amendments will affect students currently enrolled in these three courses, the Policy Committee supports the Superintendent's recommendation that the amendments to Policy IKF and its accompanying Exhibits be approved at this Board meeting, for immediate implementation.

• Fiscal Implications: To be determined (cost savings expected).

Mr. Tate thanked Sarah Crowder, Associate General Counsel and Policy Administrator, for her research and work on the motion.

There was no Board discussion and Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote on proposed amendments to Policy IKF, *Graduation Requirements*, and Exhibits IKF-E, *Classes of 2013-2015 and Classes of 2016 and beyond*.

The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

B. <u>Recommend approval of proposed amendments to Policy KI, School Visitors</u>

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Providing safe and orderly learning and working environments.

Chairperson McCray called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the recommendation regarding proposed amendments to Policy KI, *School Visitors*.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board approve proposed amendments to Policy KI, School Visitors. The motion was presented through the Policy Committee and did not require a second.

Mr. Tate reported Policy KI, School Visitors, is before the Board for action on proposed amendments. The amended policy rewrites the current brief policy, which was originally adopted in 1969 and was last amended in 1985. The proposed policy rewrites the current policy which was originally adopted in 1969 and last amended in 1985. The rewritten policy reflects the changing world of communication, parent expectations, and school safety concerns, while recognizing the importance of and encouraging parent involvement in a child's education. The amended policy aligns with the Board's Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs and Commitments. It sets forth in detail the kinds of behaviors expected of school visitors and the conduct that may lead to an individual being banned from campuses, other CMS properties, and off-campus school sponsored events. It also permits a ban to be imposed for off-campus behavior that creates or may create a substantial disruption to the educational environment or that poses a threat to safety. This provision is designed to address, among other things, threatening messages sent via voice mail, email, or social media. In addition, the policy sets forth the minimum standards that must be included in school rules for visitors, while giving principals latitude to develop additional rules appropriate for their school. The policy delegates to the Superintendent the development of the process by which a person may be banned, such as which staff have this authority, the manner in which notice of the ban and information about how to pursue an appeal may be given, the duration of the ban, and the terms under which the ban may be lifted. The Policy Committee unanimously approved this policy at its meeting on October 11, 2012. The Board held a public hearing on November 13, 2012 and December 11, 2012 and the information was posted on the CMS Website.

There was no Board discussion and Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote on the motion. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

C. Recommend approval of Board appointment to Citizens Transit Advisory Group

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Engaging the student's family and the community in the education process enhances learning and academic achievement.

Chairperson McCray reported this is the approval of a Board of Education citizen appointment to the Citizens Transit Advisory Group (CTAG) for a partial term ending June 30, 2013. She reported Colvin Edwards resigned from his appointment and she thanked him for his service to the committee. CMS posted notification of the appointment on the CMS Website and through the *Charlotte Observer* and two people applied for the appointment. The Board of Education has one appointment to the committee which is made up of thirteen members for two year terms.

Christy Beth Kluesner and Justin Pickey applied for the appointment.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to appoint a citizen to the Citizens Transit Advisory Group.

Mr. Morgan moved that the Board appoint Christy Kluesner to the Citizens Transit Advisory Group, seconded by Ms. Lennon, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Chairperson McCray recognized Ms. Klusener who was attending the meeting.

D. <u>Recommend approval of Superintendent's Eight Goals as presented in *The Way Forward* report to the community on November 26, 2012.</u>

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: We are responsible for building and maintaining high performing organizations that ensure all students will successfully acquire the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for success.

Chairperson McCray said this item is the recommendation to approve the Superintendent's Eight Goals as presented in *The Way Forward* report at the Community Meeting on November 26, 2012. Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to present the recommendation.

Dr. Morrison reported he had the great opportunity to share the eight goals and the work that was accomplished in his Entry Plan at the Belk Theatre on November 26, 2012 to approximately 2,000 people in attendance. The reaction has been overwhelmingly positive. There is also the recognition that we are listening and we have heard the robust collaborative conversations that have occurred and that as we move forward we are moving forward for the right reasons. To move forward is really about improving educational excellence throughout Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. We know there is a moral imperative to do the work that we are doing. We serve over 143,000 students and we serve those students in 160 schools. It is imperative we provide a quality educational opportunity for every single student. The work is not just about graduating students but truly preparing them to walk across the stage to get a diploma that will prepare them for college-readiness or a highly skilled career. Average is officially over. We must prepare students for a world in which they will be creating their own jobs and where innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship will define their ability to fine post academic success. To do that, we want to make a brand

promise of what we pledge to deliver. We want for CMS to provide a personalized environment of academic excellence that prepares *every child*, *every day*, *for a better tomorrow*.

This work is not just the work of a small group of individuals or just the work of the CMS Governance Team (the Board and Superintendent). This was accomplished after thoughtful reaching out to our community. The process included the following:

- Visiting all 160 CMS schools and having thoughtful conversations with teachers, support staff, administrators, parents, and students.
- Conducting numerous Town Hall meetings for CMS employees and the community.
- Having hundreds of opportunities to meet with individuals and small groups who care deeply about the quality of public education in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.
- Conducting three CMS audits and publicly releasing the results of the audits. The recommendations of the audits have been taken with earnest and deliberate speed.
- Employee Engagement Surveys regarding engagement and culture.
- Reaching out to principals in new innovative ways to solicit feedback and challenging them to return to their schools to have conversations with their teachers and support staff to hear their important voices. This process will unite CMS to have a better CMS and ultimately provide a better educational opportunity for every student.

Dr. Morrison reported at the completion of the work of his Entry Plan, he shared eight recommended goals. These goals align with our current *Strategic Plan, Teaching Our Way to the Top.* We believe the goals will fundamentally shape a new strategic direction for CMS and deliver on the grand promise of delivering a personalized learning opportunity that will provide an academic excellent environment for every student every day. Dr. Morrison provided an overview of the Eight Strategic Goals to define *The Way Forward*.

- Goal 1: Accelerate academic achievement for every child and close achievement gaps so all students graduate from CMS college or career ready.
- Goal 2: Ensure an effective teacher in every class is led by an effective principal in every school served by quality support staff, by supporting the professional development of all employees.
- Goal 3: Cultivate innovative partnerships with parents/caregivers and the community to provide a sustainable system of wraparound support for all children.
- Goal 4: Continuously nurture a self-renewing culture of high engagement, customer service, and cultural competency.
- Goal 5: Establish a comprehensive performance-management approach that ensures datainformed and evidence-based decision-making for students, schools, and the District as a whole.
- Goal 6: Strengthen and expand our portfolio of educational choices for students to foster creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- Goal 7: Increase technology integration to support inspired learning and teaching.
- Goal 8: Communicate proactively and purposefully to strengthen public trust and establish CMS as the preferred K-12 choice.

Dr. Morrison said to strengthen this work and move the eight goals forward we have taken steps on a number of items. Staff has initiated work on the 2012-2013 Budget and we have challenged ourselves to not just work on next year's budget but to thoughtfully review the

budget over the next few years. We want the Eight Goals to be more than just lofty expectations. We want to actualize the Eight Goals to be real goals that work on behalf of all students in all our schools. We will need to review the budget over the next several years to launch initiatives in a thoughtful way to address our ongoing budget commitments. At the same time, we want to begin work of revising our current Strategic Plan. The Eight Goals align to our current Strategic Plan but there are new strategic directions. The budget process and revision of the Strategic Plan will occur on a parallel track. We have listened to our community and they have indicated a desire to continue to give feedback and provide input. CMS has created twenty-two task forces that align with the recommended Eight Goals. We have asked that the task forces be led by both CMS leads and community leads. The task forces will be populated by CMS employees and community members. They will be reflective of the different areas of the districts we serve and we are excited about the work they will do.

Dr. Morrison said it is important to ensure the CMS Governance Team and our Board is ready to move forward with the Eight Goals. He invited Board members to provide input on the Eight Goals and, if they are acceptable, to move forward in an affirmative vote to support the Eight Goals to be included in a revised Strategic Plan that will launch a new strategic direction on behalf of all students in CMS.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to approve the Superintendent's Eight Goals.

Mr. Davis moved that the Board of Education approve the Eight Goals as presented by Dr. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Lennon, and a Board discussion followed.

Mr. Davis commended Dr. Morison and his team for both the content of the goals and the • manner in which they were developed. This is an example of why the Board wanted Dr. Morrison as the Superintendent for CMS. Mr. Davis believes there are many reasons for the Board and the community to support the goals and he shared his top three reasons. The goals focus on performance and calls upon us to stay the course in transforming CMS from compliance-based to performance. Achieving the goals will require CMS to accelerate that transformation and transition us to an environment in which our students' performance demonstrates they have achieved the education they need in a highly competitive world. The performance culture is grounded in what every parent wants for their child and what every student needs to demonstrate the skills to successfully perform and contribute to our society. The goals encourage unity and represent an opportunity for us to unite in support of our school system. The goals are large and expansive with something for every citizen to relate to, embrace, and rally around. Coupled with Dr. Morrison's call for greater collaboration we acknowledge that CMS alone cannot accomplish these goals. The achievement requires teamwork with State legislators, County Commissioners, City Council members, neighborhood groups, and citizens across the community. The goals also focus on a vision as they are a glimpse into our future and one that we can create together. While, they include a healthy and appropriate dose of self reflection acknowledging our shortcomings and desire for improved results. Our work in pursuit of these goals will move CMS forward creating a better school system, a better community, and better home. There is one important piece that is missing and that is a unifying definition of success for CMS. A definition of success that we own as citizens of Mecklenburg County. Mr. Davis believes the community can provide a thoughtful voice to help create a definition of success for CMS that includes both efficiency and social justice but without dividing us. The definition of success should include the world we aspire for our children and grandchildren and be based upon what we can achieve together and moves us forward. Mr. Davis hopes the scope of work for each of the task forces will include defining success for CMS as a whole. Mr. Davis looks forward to the Superintendent presenting specific targets for each goal and he pledges his commitment to the work that lies ahead in achieving the goals for our students.

- Mr. Tate thanked Dr. Morrison for the goals. He is pleased that the goals are tied to the Board's Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs and Commitments, and Theory of Action for Change. They are also tied to the Board's Guiding Principles for Student Assignment with a focus on every school being a school parents, students, and community members choose to be the school they want for their community. Mr. Tate said we have lots of challenges to make every school the school in which parents want to send their children. He looks forward to hearing how the goals will be implemented and since this is a 2014 plan they must be implemented soon. Mr. Tate asked how can people sign up to participate on the task forces? Dr. Morrison said since the announcement of the task forces CMS has had a huge outpouring of people wanting to sign up and serve and this information can be accessed on the CMS Website. We will have more names than we can accommodate and the number of members on the task forces will be reasonable to the scope of work. Some committees will require a smaller group while others will require a larger group to allow for subgroups. There will be a number of different ways for people who are not selected to serve on a task force to provide input which will include surveys, Town Hall meetings, and other opportunities to be heard. Dr. Morrison thanked the community for having such a positive reaction and interest in serving on the committees.
- Dr. Waddell thanked Dr. Morrison for the Eight Goals, she is impressed by the goals, and she pledges her support. She meets regularly with several community organizations and they all stand behind Dr. Morrison, support him, and are proud of the goals he has rolled out to the community. The goals embrace many of the initiatives CMS is currently doing and takes CMS to the next level which is exactly what we need. Dr. Waddell said as a community volunteer and as a Board member she is excited about every child, every day, for a better tomorrow. The community is impressed by and supports Dr. Morrison and that is replicated by the attendance at the November 26 Community meeting.
- Mr. Morgan commended Dr. Morrison for bringing a positive unity to the community. In forty-five years he has never seen such an outpouring of community support for public education and he was impressed with the public enthusiasm exhibited at the November 26th Community meeting. It was impressive to have almost 2,000 people attend the CMS meeting to listen to Dr. Morrison talk about what he had learned in his first 100 Days. More importantly, the community is stepping up to help us and offer their support. Having the community's involvement on the task forces will be a key factor. To be successful, we must create unity, get involvement, and develop definitions and asking the community to help in this initiative is innovative. Mr. Morgan looks forward to seeing how this translates into the Board's budget discussions and decisions for this year and future years. He noted Goal 2 specifically targets teachers but in reality the teaching profession is in each of the goals and they directly impact the quality of teachers in their classroom teachers. He urged Board members to show support for teachers in their

efforts with the General Assembly and in moving forward with developing teacher reform efforts and higher salaries.

• Ms. Lennon said she supports the goals and she also was impressed with the community support at the November 26th meeting. She said there is excitement in her district as well because the goals address the schools with high risk students, accelerated students and how to move them further ahead, and Magnet schools. The people in her district believe Dr. Morrison heard what they had to say. Ms. Lennon said she is excited about this initiative and the timing is great because we are embarking on a new year 2013 and CMS is embarking in a new direction and we will take this community along with us as partners.

Chairperson McCray called for the Board vote to approve the Superintendent's Eight Goals as presented in *The Way Forward*, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on Budget Amendments for October 2012

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

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

B. <u>Report on Financial Statements for October 31, 2012</u>

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

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

C. Report on Common Core

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 Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Common Core. Dr. Morrison called upon Ann Clark, Deputy Superintendent, and staff to present the report. Dr. Morrison provided opening comments. The Common Core work is exciting and will change what we are doing in CMS. It is important we have a robust job of getting the word out. The Common Core Standards will raise the level of rigor for our students and are more aligned with college and career readiness. It will be a game changer for all our students in CMS, across North Carolina, and the forty-six states that adopted Common Core. Making a change of this significance usually results in making other system changes. The new process will change how we do our business, how we report on successes, and our instructional practices. It is important to inform our community, parents, and students about the Common Core Standards and what they mean for each and every child in CMS. We must proactively communicate with our parents and the community and the impact of the Common Core in the short and long-term. It is also important to keep the Board informed so they can be abreast of the changes and also share the information with the community.

Ann Clark introduced Becky Graf, Director of Humanities, and Amy LeHew, Elementary Math Specialist, who are the District leads in the Common Core implementation. Ms. Clark said this work is important and the next two years is a critical time as we prepare our teachers and students for the Common Core. Ms. Clark said today we met with representatives from our local colleges and we discussed the concept of 'reverse engineering' as we think about the true value of a CMS diploma. We also discussed the Common Core and believe it is an exciting opportunity to ensure the Common Core implementation maps to the expectations what colleges expect from their college freshmen.

Ms. Clark reported the presentation will involve the Board participating in hands on activities in a format to share what will be expected of our teachers and students as we move toward 2014. The report will also share examples of our teachers and students at work. The Board was provided K-8 Common Core documents that the teachers will be using to teach Common Core. The Board can use these documents to share examples of Common Core with the community.

Becky Graf and Amy LeHew provided the Board with information regarding the K-8 Common Core Essential Standards and led them through hands on activity performance task. The activity also included videos capturing students working together to generate student interest and develop solutions.

- Common Core and Essential Standards: 2012-2013 Standard Course of Study involves a high level strategy:
 - Deepen understanding of new standards.
 - Work interdependently in a Professional Learning Community.
 - Apply unpacking strategies for all standards.
 - Design aligned tasks and instruction.
 - Analyze student work to reflect on practice and adjust instruction.
- Performance tasks require student-initiated planning; reflects a real-world task and/or scenario-based problem; and allows for multiple approaches.
- W1 Writing Arguments involves over 1,600 tasks.
- What do these tasks look like in ALL content Areas? Adjust, Rigor, Levels.
- Let's Take a Closer Look: Writing Standards 1 and 2 Sample Task involves Argumentation and Information.
 - Standards of Mathematical Practices.
 - Sample Math Performance Tasks: Generating Student Interest (video clip The Hook, Risky Collections, Analyze Student Samples, video clip CMS Students at Work)
 - Performance Tasks/Other Content Areas: More Student Samples.
- Performance Tasks: The strategy includes Access, Interpret, Plan, Produce, and Disseminate. Developmental progression includes building capacity, the standard, and above standard to calibrate the work.
- Next Steps: Will continue the work to unpack the standards, develop calibrated strategies for all standards, develop curriculum guides, and coordinate the various departments to ensure a smooth and successful implementation.

Ms. Graf and Ms. LeHew reviewed information and assisted the Board with the performance task from 7:30 p.m. until 7:59 p.m.

Chairperson McCray thanked staff for the report and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments.

- Mr. McElrath said this can be frightening because this was an example for a Math class and if you cannot read you will fail this class. We must move in the direction that teachers who have skills must go where we need them the most. Ms. Clark said this is an effort to help everyone in our community and parents, beginning with the Board of Education, to understand the expectation shift for our teachers and students. It is exciting to see 3rd grade students participating in an engaging conversation to reach solutions. Common Core is a major shift that will create a different type of classroom and a different type of teaching. This is an exciting shift for teachers and students. Our goal is to continue to support and prepare our teachers in order for them to prepare our students. Ms. Clark said this was an exercise in math and students must be successful readers in order to experience success on the performance tasks.
- Ms. Ellis-Stewart appreciates the Common Core because the level of rigor needs to increase in our school district and across the country. It is important to give this Board and the community an opportunity to see the type and level of rigor. Parents need to understand the type of work their children will be doing and how they can assist the teacher and student. As a District we must ensure we communicate how we are changing instruction. The work CMS has done around professional development is essential for our staff in order to be prepared for the new level of rigor. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said she is concerned that this will look messy before it looks good. This will be a quick transition and there is the possibility our numbers may lessen. We must keep our eye on the ball to ensure this is working and students are not falling through the cracks.
- Chairperson McCray said she was encouraged with the conversation and the level of engagement as displayed by the girls in the video as they worked through their math problems. Having text will help engage children in math because it will be more than just numbers. The children were engaged as they worked together and that will help them share what they learned with their parents which will help lead parents through the new curriculum.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Morrison reported the Calendar Committee met this week to review possible changes to the 2013-2014 school calendar to accommodate the new State requirement for districts to either add five days to the school year or add 1,025 hours of instruction through longer school days. The State also provided flexibility in the first and last days of school and changed the number of required teacher workdays to nine or ten. The State changes provide CMS an opportunity to review and improve the 2013-2014 school calendar and staff will present the Calendar Committee's recommendations to the Board in January. Dr. Morrison reported he has participated in a number of engaging and collaborative conversations with community members and PTAs regarding the new goals, strategic revision, Common Core, and the CMS call for new partnerships and collaborations. Dr. Morrison also had a positive meeting with representatives from private and charter schools to discuss topics of mutual interest which included meeting frequently to talk about future collaborations and methods to serve the children of Mecklenburg County in a new and better way. Dr. Morrison said CMS staff also met with our higher education partners to discuss the changes in CMS and working together to ensure CMS graduates more students to be college and career ready.

VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Joyce Waddell provided information about the Citizen Schools' initiative at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in which businesses and other organizations bring volunteers into the lives of students to expand the learning day for children in low income communities. The national initiative has helped children become engaged, perform better on tests, and have a thirst to learn. Dr. Waddell commended the students and staff at Piedmont Middle School for winning several awards including the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, the Terrell L. Bell Outstanding School Leadership Award, North Carolina Honor School of Excellence, and Magnet School of American Excellence in 2011-2012. Dr. Waddell also visited the Right Choices Program at J. T. Williams and was impressed with the staff and the students who were respectful, wellbehaved, and actively engaged.
- Ericka Ellis-Stewart provided a recap for the year in review for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education. The Board had a productive year with many significant accomplishments in 2012 and numerous successes as it worked to improve the lives of children throughout Mecklenburg County. Among the most notable was the completion of the Superintendent Search culminating in hiring Dr. Morrison as CMS Superintendent and adoption of the 2012-2013 Budget which provided a 3% compensation adjustment for all CMS employees. With every decision this year, the Board balanced the many needs of the District with fiscal constraint and a focus on quality. The Board established the Intergovernmental Relationships Committee which was designed to focus on our legislative efforts and improve our working relationships with State and governing bodies. The adopted 2013-2014 Legislative Agenda is a twopart document that outlines the Board's priorities at the State and local levels. The Board also convened in numerous Retreats and Work Sessions to improve the working relationship among Board members, to onboard our new Superintendent, and review methods to approach the governance of this District. The Board approved a contract outlining our support and partnership with Project L.I.F.T. The Board also approved \$59 million in construction contracts in support of new and replacement schools at Bain Elementary, Pineville Elementary, McClintock Middle and the relief school for Torrence Creek Elementary School. The Board acted in the best interest of children and families by reversing the decision to merge First Ward Creative Arts Academy and University Park Creative Arts Elementary. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said through her term as Board Chair she worked hard to stay abreast of national trends and to further her knowledge on how schools boards can be most effective. She formed relationships with school board members and policy leaders across the county and used what she gained to form her perspective on issues we face in Mecklenburg County such as teacher compensation, performance models, curriculum innovations, community-based school partnerships, and creating students who are career and college ready. Ms. Ellis-Stewart is passionate about the need to get more students through Algebra I by 8th grade, creating global citizens by bringing foreign languages back into our elementary schools, and creating more Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Programs for our students. As a newly elected public official it has been an honor to serve as Board Chair. This role while rewarding is not without its challenges. The work is significant and it can be a time consuming undertaking. As the previous chairs can attest, the role of chair involves many hours on the phone and in meetings, sharing information and working to build

consensus, attending numerous public events, and signing mountains of District contracts. It also involves a tremendous learning curve and through it all Ms. Ellis-Stewart believes she handled herself with grace and dignity. Ms. Ellis-Stewart wished the new leadership well in their endeavor to build the best school district in the country. She became a Board member to be a passionate advocate for education and provide a voice for the community on issues impacting public education. She looks forward to continuing to use her skills and abilities over the next year to benefit students and families. She also wants to be more involved with education and policy issues at the national level. She hopes to secure a seat on the Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) Steering Committee which focuses on the work of urban boards of education. She also plans to play a more active role on the Board's committees, Intergovernmental Relationship Committee, and Policy. Ms. Ellis-Stewart is as committed as ever to the work of the District and the work of our schools both locally and nationally. Ms. Ellis-Stewart thanked Dr. Morrison and his staff, her fellow Board members, the staff of the Board Office, and the community for their support.

Ms. McCray, on behalf of the Board, sent condolences to Lawrence Mayes, principal at Marie G. Davis, and his family on the passing of his mother.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. McElrath, seconded by Reverend Stinson-Wesley, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Mary J. Mchay Mary T. Molray, Chairperson

Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board