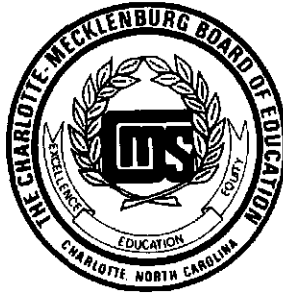


Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
August 13, 2013
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

May 28, 2013

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on May 28, 2013. The meeting began at 4:30 p.m. and was held in the Media Center at East Mecklenburg High School located at 6800 Monroe Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212.

Present: Mary T. McCray, Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Timothy S. Morgan, Vice Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Member At-Large;
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: Rhonda Lennon, District 1

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 Mr. Tate, 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 discuss contract terms for the acquisition of real property;**
- 3. To discuss specific personnel matters; and**
- 4. To consult with the Board's attorney on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.**

The motion was made pursuant to Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(3), (a)(5) and (a)(6) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 4:30 p.m. until 6:08 p.m. in the Media Center Conference Room at East Mecklenburg High School.

Chairperson McCray reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the Media Center at East Mecklenburg High School. CMS TV televised the meeting.

Present: Mary T. McCray, Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Timothy S. Morgan, Vice Chairperson, Member At-Large;

Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Member At-Large;
Rhonda Lennon, District 1;
Richard Allen McElrath, Sr., District 2;
Dr. Joyce Davis Waddell, District 3;
Tom Tate, District 4;
Eric C. Davis, District 5; and
Reverend Amelia Stinson-Wesley, District 6

Absent: There were no absences.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson McCray welcomed everyone to the May 28th Regular Board meeting. Chairperson McCray reported the Board is holding the meeting at East Mecklenburg High School in District 4 in order to keep the Board's commitment to the public to hold Board meetings in all areas of Mecklenburg County in an effort to reach out to the community.

A. Adoption of Agenda

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

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

II. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Recommend approval of land acquisition for Newell Elementary Replacement School.

Recommend approval of land acquisition to build a replacement school for Newell Elementary School. Authorization is requested to purchase approximately 23 acres on Rocky River Road, Tax Parcel Numbers 049-231-03 and 049-231-51, for a purchase price of \$934,000 and in accordance with terms and conditions of the contract with the property owners. The Joint Use Task Force reviewed and approved the acquisition on April 4, 2013. The Planning Commission reviewed and approved the acquisition on April 16, 2013. The Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners reviewed and approved the acquisition at their meeting on April 16, 2013. Fiscal Implications: 2007 Bonds - \$934,000.

B. Recommend approval of proposal for Technology Assessment and Strategic Direction Analysis.

The Board of Education will be asked to approve a technology assessment and analysis for the technology services department to understand data center operations and strategic direction. Fiscal Implications: The cost of the study is \$268,480. Proposal: To engage IBM to conduct a Technology Assessment and Strategic Direction Analysis for CMS Schools. There are at least five interrelated trends that have emerged over the past few years that impact technology infrastructure and systems in K-12 education. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' support for infrastructure has been insufficient to support 21st century classrooms fully equipped with technology tools and access to extend learning to global access. We have made great strides in the past year to address infrastructure challenges in a reactive sense. It is important now to

analyze where we are and chart a path for the next three years so that our classrooms are appropriately positioned to support student learning in a digital age.

The Board is asked to support a comprehensive assessment of technology systems and data operations and development of an Information Technology Roadmap. Business partner IBM has provided an initial overview and will conduct an intense assessment and plan over the next three months, pending Board approval. The assessment and strategic direction setting process will be intensive, taking about three months to complete, and will cost \$267,000. Funds are available in the FY13 Budget for this assessment.

- *Key Trends to consider:*
 - *Technology immersion: as student learning becomes more global and digital, school systems must be prepared to support with basic connectivity.*
 - *Data analytics: analysis of student and institutional data and performance metrics is needed.*
 - *Personal learning paths: as varied learning paths allow individualization for learners, infrastructure need to be assessed to ensure connectivity and storage for personalized paths.*
 - *Knowledge skills: for service based economies.*
 - *Economic alignment: education's critical role for 21st century economy is clear.*
- *Strategic Questions: Strategic questions should be planned for and cannot be immediately addressed on a tactical basis as they occur. With the roadmap, we will be able to anticipate fiscal and human capital needs for budget considerations over the next three years. Examples of key questions that have emerged already include:*
 - *Is CMS aligned financially and technically to support the emerging trends of the K-12 education?*
 - *What storage will be required to address the needs of students and teachers? How can we reduce the footprint of our storage, using strategies such as Cloud?*
 - *How can we address infrastructure complexity as smart devices become a fabric of teaching?*
 - *How will be able to provide the consistently good network and data center service our constituents are accustomed to from CMS?*
 - *When will the current support budget and human IT capacity become insufficient to address demand? What will be fiscal and human capital needs for next three years?*

C. Recommend approval of personnel appointments.

Transfer:

- *Mark Bosco named principal at Myers Park High School. Mr. Bosco previously served as executive director in the East Zone and principal at Independence High school.*

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

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

Dr. Waddell pulled Consent Item A.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adopt Consent Items B. and C.

Upon motion by Ms. Ellis-Stewart that the Board adopt Consent Items B. and C., seconded by Mr. Davis, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

Dr. Waddell reported Consent Item A. regarded Newell Elementary Replacement School which is located in District 3. The residents are happy about the proposed project and she asked staff to provide information about the location of the Newell replacement school. Dr. Morrison called upon Dennis LaCaria, Director of Planning and Real Estate, to provide clarification. Dennis LaCaria reported the Newell replacement school will be located on approximately twenty-three acres on West Rocky River Road. The school will not be located at the existing school site.

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

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to review the personnel appointment as noted above. Dr. Morrison highlighted the transfer of Mark Bosco to Myers Park High School.

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommend approval of 2014-2015 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Academic Calendar

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

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the recommendation for approval of 2014-2015 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Academic Calendar. Dr. Morrison called upon staff to provide an overview of the Calendar Committee, calendar development process, and outreach to the community. Committee Co-chairs, Denise Cavoly and Marie Slusser, provided an overview of the Academic Calendar process and poll results.

- Calendar Development Process:
 - Calendar Steering Committee created six draft calendar options.
 - Full Committee with representation from all stakeholders (principals, teachers/teacher groups, Central Office staff, parents, and community members) studied drafts and selected two for the Staff/Parent/Community Poll.
 - Two drafts shared with executive staff for input.
 - Poll conducted March 15 – March 22, 2013 for employees, parents, and community to state their preference.
 - Poll results shared with Superintendent.
 - Superintendent presents recommendation to the Board of Education (May 28, 2013).
- Poll Results:
 - 2014-2015 Number of Respondents: 4,001 participants.
 - 2,588 preferred Option 2.
 - 1,413 preferred Option 1.
 - The largest percentage of the feedback, 84.7%, was from CMS employees and the next highest percentage, 22.1%, was from CMS parents.
 - Key highlights from recent calendar surveys distributed to both staff and the community:
 - Number of respondents:
 - 4,001 participants in 2014-2015 calendar poll.
 - 8,657 participants in revision of 2013-2014 school calendar poll.
 - 6,137 participants in the 2012-2013 calendar poll.
 - 5,905 participants in the 2011-2012 calendar poll.

- Comments/Responses:
 - Spring break after Easter holiday preferred by 6:1 margin.
 - Prefer two days in October for elementary parent conferences.
 - Favor teacher workdays spread throughout the year.
 - Prefer two-week winter break.
 - Do not prefer holidays used as make-up days.
 - Would like semester exams prior to winter break.
 - Concerned that comments and feedback are not considered when developing the calendar.
 - Placement of teacher workdays on days of anticipated high absenteeism.
- Next Steps:
 - The Calendar Committee will reconvene in early 2014 to discuss and develop 2015-2016 traditional school calendar options.

Dr. Morrison reported in the spirit of listening to our community we would like to recommend that the Board adopt Option 2 as the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar.

Chairperson McCray thanked Dr. Morrison and staff for the information and recommendation and invited Board members to ask questions.

- Mr. Morgan asked did a large majority of respondents prefer the exams before the holiday? Ms. Slusser said it was mentioned more than other comments but it was not overwhelming. Mr. Morgan requested the percentage of people who made that notation because that type of information will be helpful when the Board speaks to the General Assembly regarding calendar flexibility and the ability to start school earlier.
- Chairperson McCray asked does Option 2 provide two days in October for elementary parent conferences. Ms. Slusser reported Option 2 provides two workdays in October for parent conferences, a two week winter break, and Spring break after Easter.
- Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked what are the days with anticipated high absenteeism? Ms. Slusser said high absenteeism could vary from school to school but impacted days include Rosh Hashanah, Good Friday, Thanksgiving, and winter and spring breaks.

Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adopt the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar.

Upon motion by Dr. Waddell that the Board adopt Option 2 as the 2014-2015 Academic Calendar as presented, seconded by Mr. Tate, and the motion passed upon unanimous voice vote of the Board.

IV. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A.. First Reading on Proposed New Human Resources Policies and Proposed Amendments to Current Human Resources Policies

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 called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the First Reading on Proposed New Human Resources Policies and Proposed Amendments to Current Human Resources Policies. Mr. Tate reported before the Board for First Reading

is proposed new Human Resources policies and proposed amendments to current Human Resources policies. The proposed recommendation includes seven policies related to Human Resources of which four polices are amended and three are new.

Amendments to the following Human Resources policies are proposed for approval:

- Policy GBK, *Grievances by Employees.*
- Policy GCCAA, *Sick Leave.*
- Policy GCCAG, *Civil Responsibility Leave.*
- Policy GCCAJ, *Educational Leave.*

The following policies are new and proposed for adoption:

- Policy GCCAE, *Professional Leave.*
- Policy GCCAF, *Unpaid Leave of Absence.*
- Policy GCQG, *Separation/Termination Due to Unavailability.*

Mr. Tate reported the Policy Committee unanimously approved these actions on May 9, 2013, after discussing the proposed changes and proposed new policies with staff from the Human Resources and Legal departments. The information will be posted on the CMS Website for review and feedback. The Board will also hold a public hearing on the proposed recommendations on June 11th and June 25th, and conduct a Board vote on June 25, 2013. Mr. Tate reported the Policy Committee and staff will be glad to provide the Board with additional information if needed.

Report on Project L.I.F.T.'s Strategies to Increase Student Achievement and Garner Community and Parent Support in the West Charlotte Corridor Schools

Correlation to Board of Education Vision, Mission, and Core Beliefs: Providing all students with the opportunity to perform to their fullest potential and ensuring that there is no discernable difference between the achievement levels of students by race, gender or economic level.

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Project L.I.F.T. Dr. Morrison reported the Board was promised a quarterly update on Project L.I.F.T. and he called upon Denise Watts, Project L.I.F.T. Zone Superintendent, to provide an update on Project L.I.F.T.

Denise Watts provided the Board with an overview of the following:

- Details of the ongoing and extensive communication and outreach efforts employed to ensure all stakeholders are informed about the changes and impact of implementing continuous learning calendars in four Project L.I.F.T. schools.
- An update on recruitment and retention efforts and strategies to invest parents and the community in supporting the schools in the West Charlotte corridor.
- An outline in the Year 1 evaluation of the Project L.I.F.T. initiative. The evaluation is being conducted by Research for Action, a third-party evaluator based in Philadelphia with expertise and experience in research and evaluation of education reform.
- Synergy of twenty-one partners and L.I.F.T. strategies focus on the four pillars of Talent, Time, Technology, and Parents and Community Support. The synergy of these entities working together will assist in reaching the Project L.I.F.T. goals.
- Talent Update - Teacher Recruitment and Retention Efforts:
 - Currently forty-nine vacancies in the L.I.F.T. Zone:
 - Vacancies at West Charlotte High School make up almost half of the openings

- with sixteen for regular teacher and seven strategically staffed positions.
 - Last year during the same time frame, the L.I.F.T. Zone had 158 vacancies.
 - Recruitment bonuses will be offered this year for top talent with proven success.
- Seventy-six potential, pre-screened candidates in the L.I.F.T. pool.
 - An additional seventy people are in the pipeline of the screening process.
- Time Update:
 - Policy Flexibility: In July 2012, the General Assembly authorized the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education to establish a more flexible school calendar by exempting the nine L.I.F.T. schools from the mandatory start and end dates for other North Carolina schools. State funds cannot be used to pay for additional instructional days over 185. On January 22, 2012, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education approved a Continuous Learning Calendar for the 2013-2014 school year in four of the Project L.I.F.T. schools. Two schools will add nineteen instructional days and two schools will maintain the 180-day calendar but they will be spread throughout the entire school year.
 - Summer Opportunities for L.I.F.T. Schools - Proposal to Address Summer Learning Loss: Extend the school year by adding days to the current school calendar. Implement Single-track, Year-round Program. Provide academic enrichment during intersessions.
 - Continuous Learning Calendar Communication and Coordination Efforts:
 - Continuous learning calendar:
 - ✓ 180-day calendar distributed across the entire year.
 - ✓ Start date: July 23; End date: June 13.
 - ✓ 3-week intersessions in October and April.
 - ✓ Project L.I.F.T. provides optional enrichment activities during intersession.
 - ✓ Winter break coincides with CMS traditional calendar.
 - Continuous Learning Calendar with extended time:
 - ✓ Adds nineteen instructional days. The additional days will have no fiscal implications on CMS. Project L.I.F.T. will assume the fiscal implications for the extended calendar.
 - ✓ Days distributed across the entire year.
 - ✓ Start date: July 22; End date: June 20.
 - ✓ 2-week intersessions in October and April.
 - ✓ Project L.I.F.T provides optional enrichment during intersessions.
 - ✓ Winter break coincides with CMS traditional calendar.
 - Calendar Change - Impacted Schools:
 - ✓ Traditional CMS School Calendar:
 - ❖ Allenbrook Elementary, Ashley Park PreK-8, Statesville Road Elementary, Ranson IB Middle, and West Charlotte High.
 - ✓ Continuous Learning Calendar:
 - ❖ Walter G. Byers School and Bruns Academy.
 - ✓ Continuous Learning Calendar with Extended Time:
 - ❖ Thomasboro Academy and Druid Hills Academy.
 - Other opportunities to minimize Summer Learning Loss:
 - 900 students will be served in BELL Summer Programs in Non-Continuous Learning Calendar schools.
 - West Charlotte High School Summer Programs includes Credit Recovery and Rising 9th grader PreAP and Prep Program.

- 296 students will be served in CMS Summer Programs: Rising 3rd Grade Academy, Middle School Transition, and Rising 9th Grade Math and English programs.
- CMS Department Coordination Efforts: Sixteen CMS departments have been active and supportive in planning and preparation efforts: Human Resources, Student Placement, Child Nutrition, Transportation, Legal, CMS Police Department, Curriculum & Instruction, Bright Beginnings, Alternative Education and Safe Schools, Exceptional Children, Transportation, Student Applications and Web Development (PowerSchool), Inventory and Distribution, Building Services, and After-School Enrichment Program.
- Communication for Impacted Employees: Department staff meetings, customized letters, and FAQs were developed and provided to all impacted employees with title-specific details regarding instructional days, workdays, compensation changes, etc.
- Project L.I.F.T. Teacher Transfer Fair: Zone Level Transfer Fair for teachers opting 'out' and 'into' a Continuous Learning Calendar school. Sixteen teachers attended.
- Parent Communication Efforts: Infographics, banners, small business/yard signs, postcards, and buttons provided to schools. Focus areas included ensuring information is concise and easy to distribute and establishing ongoing consistent messaging to get the word out. Community events included a meeting at Johnson C. Smith May Fest which reached 200 parents; Four Pulse Events which reached 200 parents; Parent Voice Meeting which reach 60 parents; and other school-level spring events and ceremonies.
 - Utilize text messaging, Connect Ed and social media.
 - Leverage print, radio, and television media.
 - Coordinate with Charlotte Housing Authority.
 - Garner communication support from other neighborhood leaders and events.
 - School level teams made up of social workers, counselors, and family advocates will be employed this summer to focus on student attendance.
 - ✓ Door to door campaigns.
 - ✓ Compulsory attendance letters mailing.
- Parent and Community Support Update: The Pulse - Meeting Parents:
 - Text messaging platform was utilized for broad outreach.
 - Staff returned calls to initially engage parents:
 - Goal: Attain correct contact information for 500 parents.
 - Impact: Acquired 960 accurate phone numbers for ongoing communication.
 - Parents invited to four non-traditional school parent meetings: movie, Zumba class and health screening, lounge, and faith-based event. Meetings included opportunity for parent feedback and information/updates about the nine schools in Project L.I.F.T. Over 200 parents attended these events.
- Presbyterian Hospital Medical Care Cruiser: 396 students immunized. May Clinic goal is to reach an additional 200 students.
 - Impact: Supports students' long-term health as well as the health of friends, classmates, and others in the community. Decrease in student absences for failure to meet the State legislative requirements.
- Project L.I.F.T. Pediatric Dental Clinic Scheduled for October: In January, the North Carolina Dental Health fund Board approved Project L.I.F.T.'s application to hold a 2013 North Carolina Missions of Mercy Pediatric Dental Clinic in the West Corridor. The clinic is currently scheduled for October and extensive planning is underway.

- Project L.I.F.T. Formal Evaluation Update: Research for Action is a 3rd party evaluator. Conducting a five-year mixed method project evaluation. Initial implementation report will be released in August 2013. Year I report will be released in January.
 - Evaluation Scope of Work:
 - Identify key contextual factors that promote or inhibit implementation of L.I.F.T. strategies.
 - Track L.I.F.T. school progress towards meeting the long-term student achievement goals.
 - Compare the attendance, retention, behavioral and academic performance of students at L.I.F.T. schools to students at other similar CMS schools.
 - Assess the relationship between the implementation of L.I.F.T. strategies across each focus area and student performance at L.I.F.T. schools over time.
 - Initial Evaluation Report Delayed: Two State changes have delayed the initial comprehensive reporting: Transition to PowerSchool and release of student achievement results on State tests not expected until October.
 - Research for Action - August Report (qualitative report):
 - Review of the implementation of L.I.F.T. strategies within each of the four focus areas in Year I of the initiative: Time, Talent, Technology and Community Engagement.
 - Review key factors that supported or inhibited implementation across each focus area.
 - Develop key implementation strategies to monitor moving into Year II of the initiative.
 - Research for Action - January Report:
 - Year I Final Report will be developed for internal and external L.I.F.T. stakeholders and the general public. The report will present findings from a thorough analysis of Year I Implementation across all L.I.F.T. focus areas and include findings of student attendance, behavior, and academic performance in Year I of the initiative.
 - January report for broader audiences:
 - Report content: Year I comparisons between L.I.F.T. schools and comparison schools along key measures of attendance, retention, behavior, and academic performance. Year I of a five year 'Performance Tracker' of progress of schools in meeting their long-term goals. Additional data sources will include student, parent, and teacher surveys; student attendance and behavior data; and student achievement data.

Chairperson McCray thanked staff for the report and invited Board members to ask questions and make comments. Ms. Watts and Dr. Morrison provided clarification to the Board member's questions.

- Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked questions regarding the following:
 1. Based on the proposed calendars and communication efforts, what is the anticipated attendance and do you need additional resources from the District to reach those goals? Ms. Watts said the goal is 100% but it is hard to predict. Staff will work hard during the summer to reach out to parents and the community in an effort to reach the goal. The CMS departments have provided outstanding support and most departments are knowledgeable about the calendar and can respond to questions. The

collaboration has made this initiative a joint effort.

2. Explain the details of the programming and partnerships during intersessions. Ms. Watts said the goal is to offer students optional programming (enrichment opportunities and academic support) during intersessions with a focus on science, technology, Arts, math, and the academic aspect. We are working with partners throughout Charlotte to see if they can offer services during those time periods. This will assist parents with no childcare and students who need additional structure and academic support.
 3. Explain learning opportunities and efforts to increase rigor. Ms. Watts said as part of our mission we are focused on increasing the graduation rate and increasing the quality of the diploma to ensure students are college or career ready. We will provide 8th graders course work to better prepare students for 9th grade and AP courses. We are seeking to expose students in the Pre-K-8 classes to the level of rigor expected at the high school level so they come to high school better prepared. This will expose students to rigor and academic support and we expect to serve about fifty students. Ms. Ellis-Stewart believes this is a worthy goal and an effort to reverse engineering and focus on research and best practices.
 4. Was the anticipated number of teachers to attend the Project L.I.F.T. Transfer Fair more than sixteen? Ms. Watts said there was not an anticipated number and we were pleased with the sixteen attendants. This provided teachers an opportunity to 'opt in or out' of a Project L.I.F.T. school and we believe it was a successful event.
 5. Ms. Ellis-Stewart said the evaluation process will compare student attendance, retention, and behaviors with students in similar schools and she suggested the scope of evaluation should also compare students to themselves.
- Reverend Stinson-Wesley said the BELL Summer Program was used last year and based on the outcome of those results will the strategies remain the same or change? Ms. Watts said this year we will serve fewer students but more middle school students because the BELL funding partners wanted more of a focus on that group of students. Other than that, we had great success with the BELL Program and it will remain the same.
 - Mr. Tate thanked Ms. Watts and her team for the great work with the teachers, parents, community, and everyone. Mr. Tate said the Project L.I.F.T. Zone will be using three different school calendars and he asked as the complexion of schools change over the next couple of years do you anticipate more schools moving to the Continuous Learning Calendar? Ms. Watts said there is a potential for that to happen. We will monitor the results of this year as well as community acceptance before adding additional schools. Dr. Morrison noted that he often gets asked why other schools cannot be a part of a year-round program and he noted that the General Assembly only authorized the schools in the Project L.I.F.T. Zone the ability to have an extended calendar.
 - Dr. Waddell said she attended the recent Project L.I.F.T. Board meeting and much of this information was shared at that time. Dr. Waddell urged Ms. Watts to ensure Board members are informed of the meeting dates and locations of those meetings. What is the likelihood the vacancies will be filled by the start of school? Ms. Watts said we are working hard to narrow the list of vacancies and last year we opened with only five vacancies. We have schools with zero vacancies as well as people ready to start. We will work throughout the summer to ensure we find the best teacher and do not anticipate any vacancies. Dr. Waddell said with the Continuous Learning Calendar and 296 students in the Summer School Programs most students will have an opportunity to have a summer experience. Dr. Waddell urged that the schools in the Project L.I.F.T. Zones

work to have an active PTA because that is a good way to get parents involved in the school and learning. Ms. Watts said not all schools have an active PTSA but we are working to build PTSAs at the schools. Dr. Waddell expressed concern that students in the Project L.I.F.T. Zone will have access to technology but if they transition out they may lose their access to technology devices. Dr. Waddell is pleased Project L.I.F.T. is working with clinics to ensure all students get their immunizations because previously students were not allowed to attend school until they got their current immunizations.

- Mr. Davis said in the short time that Project L.I.F.T. has been in operation are there any lessons learned that could be extrapolated throughout CMS? Ms. Watts said there have been many opportunities and successes. The PreK-8 configuration is an asset to the work and the feeder pattern creates a backward engineering concept to ensure students have access to key subjects in order to be better prepared for high school.
- Mr. Morgan thanked Ms. Watts and her team for their work because this is providing a different level of service and educational experience for our students. Mr. Morgan asked does the year-round calendar allow teachers an opportunity for continuing education in order to maintain their certification? Ms. Watts reported CMS offers a wealth of professional development opportunities for teachers and we are working to ensure teachers in the year-round program can leverage those opportunities. Some of our teachers take summer college courses but they were able to work those arrangements out with the college. Mr. Morgan asked what is the age of the students needing immunizations? Ms. Watts said the initial issue was with the rising 6th graders but that is now transitioning to elementary students.
- Ms. Ellis-Stewart said in order for Project L.I.F.T. to do the extended time it cost \$2.3 million and if this program is successful we will want to replicate it at other schools. Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked at what point will we have discussions to seek funding to do this at other schools? Dr. Morrison said at this point we only have the option to do this at Project L.I.F.T. schools and a first step would be to seek approval from the General Assembly to expand this model. To expand this at the Project L.I.F.T. schools would depend upon the budget of Project L.I.F.T., whether we would want to appropriate funds ourselves, and what aspects of the strategy to continue. There is a national move toward expanding extended learning opportunities and efforts to prevent summer learning loss. Moving forward, we will strive to match our strategies to the needs as well as research best practices to develop strategies for future budget discussions. Ms. Ellis-Stewart asked do all the schools have an active Student Leadership Team? Ms. Watts said, yes.
- Chairperson McCray asked what will be the impact on Pre-K and kindergarten programs for the early start schools? Ms. Watts said we are excited about this opportunity and we are working with the PreK Department to ensure students are screened and ready for the early calendar. We believe this will be an added bonus toward their student achievement.

Report/Update on Proposed Capital Improvement Plan and 2013-2014 Operating Budget

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

Chairperson McCray called upon Dr. Morrison to introduce the report on Proposed Capital Improvement Plan and 2013-2014 Operating Budget. Dr. Morrison reported as we have moved through the process for the capital and operating budgets, he promised to keep the Board informed of any changes and this will be an opportunity to provide a budget update. Dr. Morrison reported at this time we are still awaiting the final funding from our federal,

State, and local partners and that is a challenge in determining the CMS budget. Dr. Morrison called upon Sheila Shirley, Chief Financial Officer, to provide the Board with an update on Sequestration, federal dollar cuts, and State Senate's proposed budget. Guy Chamberlain, Associate Superintendent Auxiliary Services, will provide an update on the CMS proposed Capital projects. The Board approved eighteen projects totaling \$294 million that will be put through the Board of County Commissioner's project rubric for bond Consideration.

Sheila Shirley provided the Board with an update on the current CMS fiscal landscape.

- 2013-2014 Budget Outlook:
 - State's 2013-2015 Biennial Budget consensus forecast predicted modest growth in revenue during the next biennium.
 - Current revenue forecast projects \$405.7 million in over-collections for the current fiscal year.
 - Fiscal Research Division revised tax revenue projections downward for the next two years, \$101.5 million and \$125.8 million less respectively, as a result of the April 'surprise' being revealed.
 - The key reason for over-collections this year and downward revision for the next two years is the shift of taxpayer income into 2012 and out of 2013 which will result in less revenue than original projected in the Biennial Budget.
 - State projections also indicate Medicaid costs are underestimated for next two years by \$249 million and \$197 million.
 - County manager has proposed an increase in funding to CMS of \$21.3 million and this is pending approval by the Board of County Commissioners.
 - Regarding Sequestration, the State has indicated we should plan on approximately a 5% reduction for Sequestration and our allotments will reflect that reduction.
- Senate Budget Highlights and CMS Impact:
 - Overall, the Senate's budget for Public Schools is about \$49 million less than the Governor's Budget.
 - Significantly less discretion and flexibility with State funding, i.e. discretionary reduction (LEA Adjustment) is eliminated. This was the category where CMS could make specific cuts and this should amount to approximately \$33 million in the current year.
 - Estimated Financial Impact to CMS **IF** Senate version is approved:
 - Cuts required would increase by about \$15 million including a larger reduction to teacher assistants, reductions in teachers and instructional support positions, and eliminates the planned increases for technology.
 - Restores discretionary reduction cuts that have been in place for past several years (i.e. Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Academically Gifted funds). CTE transferability is limited, adding about \$7.5 million.
 - Eliminates 1% salary increase for State paid employees which adjusted the budget request by \$5.7 million from the State and \$2.2 million from the County.
 - Reduces the employer paid health premiums to \$5,285 down from \$5,503 in the proposed budget which adjusted the budget request by \$2.8 million from the State and \$.6 million from the County.
 - Provides additional resources to support the Excellent Public Schools Act and funds may not be transferred for any other purpose, estimated at \$1.8 million.

- Other points to note:
 - ✓ Classroom teacher allocation ratios increase by one or more depending on grade span.
 - ✓ Class size maximums and teacher daily load maximums are deleted.
 - ✓ Funding is added to establish a Teach for America Program in the Triad region and grow in southeastern region.
 - ✓ Senate budget passed to House on 5/24/2013. We hope they will work quickly and the next step will be approval by the State.

Guy Chamberlain provided an overview of the proposed Capital Projects as proposed by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

- CMS Capital Projects Overview:

CMS Rank	BOCC Rank All Projects	BOE District	BOCC District	Locations	Estimated Escalated Cost
3-Year Bond Projects					
3	1	1	1	J. M. Alexander Middle	\$30,672,000
8	2	5	5	Myers Park High	22,248,000
2	3	2	2	Olympic High	8,964,000
5	4	2	2	New PreK-8 (potential Berryhill/Reid Park relief)	30,376,000
1	5	4,5	5	Oakhurst STEAM Magnet Elementary/ Starmount Elementary Conversion	5,940,000
4	7	4	4	New Language Immersion K-8 (relief for Albemarle Rd Elementary/Middle)	30,376,000
9	8	2	2	Nations Ford Elementary Replacement at E. E. Waddell	19,440,000
16	9	3	3	Statesville Road Elementary Replacement	20,340,000
10	11	4	4	East Mecklenburg High	12,744,000
12	12	5	5	South Mecklenburg High	18,360,000
7	15	4	3	Northwest School of the Arts	12,420,000
3-Year Bond with Pay Go or 4-Year Bond					
17	17	5	5	Selwyn Elementary	2,592,000
11	18	2	2	Ashley Park/Bruns Avenue/WG Byers/Druid Hills/Reid Park/Westerly Hills	24,432,000
4-Year Bond with Pay Go					
18	22	3	3	Northridge Middle	6,448,000
13	25	1,4,6	1,4,6	Career and Technical Education Phase I (Garinger/West Mecklenburg/Independence)	8,640,000
4-Year Bond with Extra Pay Go					
14	28	1	1	Davidson K-8 Conversion	9,500,000
15	29	6	6	New STEAM K-8 (Ballantyne/Elon/Hawk Ridge/Polo Community House/JMR relief)	31,376,000
In Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) Request					
6	N/R	2	2	New CPCC Harper Campus Building	In CPCC

- BOCC Ranking Methodology: Many of the older schools were ranked higher on the priority list because CMS was able to provide documentation relative to the 'safety' category (number of work orders, backlog of work, and pest control calls) for those schools which helped to raise the BOCC rubric score. It was difficult to make a compelling case for schools dealing with overcrowding issues in the safety category and those schools did not receive extra points based on the County Rubric. In addition, CMS

did not receive points for high growth because the County's measurement is different than the growth measurement for CMS. The BOCC's growth measurement is the number of voters in a precinct whereas CMS measures growth on the number of students.

- Next Steps:
 - May 30: Public Hearing on County's budget.
 - June 11-12: BOCC Budget Straw Vote Workshops.
 - June 18: County adopts 2013-2014 Operating Budget and approve projects.
 - June – Sept: State funding approved for 2013-14 Operating Budget.
 - July – Sept: 2013-14 Operating Budget finalized and approved by Board of Education.

Dr. Morrison commended Guy Chamberlain and his staff on the quality of work they presented to the BOCC. Out of the fourteen projects initially presented, eleven CMS projects were approved. Dr. Morrison said he is pleased the majority of the CMS projects presented to the BOCC were funded and he thanked CPCC for their collaborative spirit in working with CMS on projects. Dr. Morrison said he is concerned about growth in CMS because when you have more students in a school than you have the capacity to educate them impacts our fiduciary responsibilities. We will continue to outreach with the County to discuss concerns about growth in CMS.

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

- Ms. Lennon addressed concerns about the rubric used by the County and their growth metric does not recognize the number of students. Education is the job of the Board of Education and the number of students is important. School overcrowding issues and the number of trailers at a school should be considered a safety issue. Based on the County's rubric, a severely overcrowded school was outranked by a school with a pest problem. Ms. Lennon believes the relief school for Bailey Middle School should have been on the Bond request because that school is severely overcrowded and now a relief school is not scheduled for another three years. She urged parents in districts in 1 and 6 to let the BOCC know their concerns regarding the County's rubric and that the CMS projects should be ranked in the order approved by the Board of Education. The Board of Education very thoughtfully considered and approved the projects and ranked them in the order of our overall needs based curriculum, academic success, safety, and building maintenance. The priority list gives a balance of projects throughout the County which the voters can get behind and they meet the needs of this elected body.
- Revered Stinson-Wesley agreed with Ms. Lennon's comments. She addressed concern that the BOCC list did not include any projects in District 6 and those projects were a priority in the ranking by the Board of Education and addressed overcrowding issues at Community House, Polo Ridge, and Matthews Elementary. Reverend Stinson-Wesley urged the community to voice their concerns about the shift in the rankings of the projects.
- Mr. Tate urged all the voters to share their concerns with the BOCC. Mr. Tate noted that the report referenced Oakhurst STEM in District 5 but it is located in District 4 and he asked that it be corrected.
- Dr. Waddell said the Board of Education wants the best for all children in CMS and she urged the public to advocate for the projects to be ranked in the order as presented by the

Board of Education.

- Mr. Davis thanked the Interim County Manager, Bobbie Shields, for his budget recommendations to the BOCC. The recommendation does not include all of what we asked but it is a first step. Mr. Davis addressed concerns that the State continues to spend more on healthcare than education and placing tax cuts ahead of the next generation. We must reform and invest in education for the future. Mr. Davis hopes the final State budget will recognize the importance of investing in our future which is the education of our youth. Mr. Davis asked what is the status of teachers and teacher assistants in the Senate Budget? Ms. Shirley said the reductions for teacher assistants is more significant and increases the number of teacher assistants that may be cut from 400 to 484 for CMS. Mr. Davis addressed concern about the proposed cuts in the State's budget because it will negatively impact education. Mr. Davis addressed concerns about how the BOCC ranked the CMS projects and he urged the BOCC to maintain the CMS projects in the order submitted by the Board of Education.
- Mr. Morgan addressed concerns about the County rubric, the importance that overcrowded schools should be considered a safety issue, and that the rubric should consider the number of students and not voters. Mr. Morgan believes the County's rubric for growth should actually look at the number of students instead of the number of voters. The rubric should also include the number of wrecks that occur near schools in the safety category because overcrowded schools normally have more wrecks. Mr. Morgan addressed concerns that the 2007 Bonds did not pass because the projects approved by the BOCC were not supported by the voters. This year again, several CMS districts are left out which is similar to the 2007 Bond situation. Mr. Morgan said it is concerning that the proposed list of projects by the BOCC could lead to the same situation that happened six years ago. We must work together to make this good for the community and prevent a failed bond from happening again. We are a district, we are one, and this Board is working together. We must work with our constituents to get the message out and communicate our concerns to the BOCC. Mr. Morgan said these projects are important and it is important to use the Board of Educations' prioritization list. This Board is elected to educate 143,000 students and to manage how schools are maintained and where and when schools are built. We need the BOCC's help and leadership to put a bond in front of the voters that will pass.
- Ms. Ellis-Stewart agreed with the comments made by Board members. She said we are elected to educate all students and provide the resources, tools, and facilities to educate all students throughout the entire district. The BOCC must see CMS as a totality and not as individual districts. CMS has needs for all the children throughout districts 1 through 6 and the investments are needed in order for all CMS students to prosper. Ms. Ellis-Stewart urged the BOCC to take a hard look at the needs the Board of Education put in front of them and recognize that the Board of Education and staff completed its due diligence and selected projects that make the most sense for education and facilities. She urged the voters to make their voices heard because we cannot afford to allow the 2013 Bonds to fail. It is important to deal with the growth that CMS anticipates and the County must allow CMS to provide them the information needed for them to make an informed decision.
- Chairperson McCray asked the following questions:
 1. Based on the proposed Senate's budget what teacher and instructional support positions will be cut? Ms. Shirley said she does not have those positions but it will result in a reduction of \$2.6 million in teacher positions, \$1.6 million in instructional

support positions, and an additional cut of 84 teacher assistant positions.

2. What area of technology will be cut? Ms. Shirley said CMS planned to reinvest some of the funding we expected to get back from non-recurring cuts in textbooks and supplies in technology. This equated to approximately \$6.6 million and those amounts are no longer available because they will not be restored.
3. Does the healthcare cost include an additional cost to our employees? Ms. Shirley said this references the employer component only.

Dr. Morrison said we were encouraged by the Governor's proposed budget for growth because CMS continues to be a growing school district but we are concerned about losing those revenues as projected in the Senate's budget. This year more students will be coming to CMS and the majority of proposed 2013-2014 Board of Education Budget (\$18 million of the \$28.5 million) was for growth and sustaining operations. Dr. Morrison commended Interim County Manager Shields for putting forth his budget recommendation for CMS (an additional \$21.3 million) and for advocating for the capital needs of CMS. Dr. Morrison stressed the importance of the joint project with CPCC and for working in partnership with the BOCC. The CMS initiatives are geared to make a better community and seeking areas of partnership and alignment will be a key as we move forward in the remaining parts of this process.

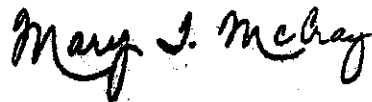
Chairperson McCray reported the Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on the County's proposed 2013-2014 Budget on May 30th. We are in this for the entire district, districts 1 through 6, and we want all districts to benefit from one capital plan brought forth and voted on by this Board. We hope the people in the community will attend that meeting and support the Board's request.

ADJOURNMENT

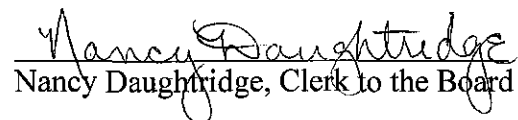
Chairperson McCray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board adjourn the Regular Board meeting, seconded by Ms. Lennon, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.



Mary T. McCray, Chairperson



Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board