

Approved by the Charlotte-
Mecklenburg Board of Education
December 8, 2009
Regular Board Meeting



Charlotte, North Carolina

November 10, 2009

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

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on November 10, 2009. The meeting began at 5:04 p.m. and was held in Room CH-14 of the Government Center.

- Present: Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;
Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);
James Ross (District 3);
Tom Tate (District 4); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)
- Absent: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5, and
Kimberly Mitchell-Walker, District 2

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; André F. Mayes, Acting General Counsel/Deputy General Counsel; Hugh Hattabaugh, Chief Operating Officer; LaToya Walker, intern with the Urban Superintendents Program at Harvard Graduate School of Education; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

Upon motion by Mr. Merchant, seconded by Mr. Ross, the Board voted unanimously of those present for approval to go into Closed Session for the following purposes:

- **To consult with the Board's attorneys on pending litigation matters:**
 - **KB by parent AB and MB v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (09-EDC-3626);**
 - **Petruk v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (3:06CV445);**
 - **Sugar Creek Charter School, et al. v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, et al. (07-CVS-6451);**
 - **Hoke County Board of Education v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, et al. (95-CVS-1158); and**
- **To consult with the Board's attorneys on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege concerning a pending property damage claim by Frank Dunlap and a pending workers' compensation claim by Philip Graham.**

The motion was made pursuant to Section 143-318.11(a) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The Board held a Closed Session meeting from 5:04 p.m. to 5:35 p.m.

Chairperson Griffin reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Government Center. CMS-TV Channel 3 televised the meeting.

Present: Molly Griffin, Chairperson, District 5;
Kaye McGarry, Vice-Chairperson, Member At-Large;
Joe I. White, Jr., Member At-Large;
Trent Merchant, Member At-Large;
Larry Gauvreau (District 1);
James Ross (District 3);
Tom Tate (District 4); and
Ken Gjertsen (District 6)

Absent: Kimberly Mitchell-Walker (District 2)

Also present at the request of the Board were Dr. Peter Gorman, Superintendent; André F. Mayes, Acting General Counsel/Deputy General Counsel; Members of Executive and Senior Staffs; Judy Whittington, Manager of Board Services; and Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chairperson Griffin welcomed everyone to the Board's first meeting of the month. Chairperson Griffin said Mr. Gjertsen is here but is under the weather and is watching the meeting in the other room, and he will join the meeting for the Board votes.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Griffin introduced the student to lead those present and in the viewing audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and to speak to the November character trait of "honesty." Randy Rodriguez is an eighth grade student enrolled in the Math, Science, and Environmental Studies (MSE) Program at Cochrane Middle School. Interesting facts about Randy include he is A-honor roll student who achieved a Level IV score on both the Language Arts and Math End-of-Grade tests last year; participates in several extracurricular activities including Lego League Robotics, the Global Information Systems Program, and the National Academic League; serves as a school ambassador for the MSE Program; plays on Cochrane's baseball team; and his favorite hobbies are playing football with friends and participating in outdoor activities. Randy is the son of Carlos Rodriguez and Claudia Molina and is one of six children. Randy intends to attend Harding University High School as a freshman in order for him to continue his studies in the MSE Program. Randy plans to attend Harvard, Yale, or Princeton with career aspirations of being either a pilot or surgeon. Attending the meeting with Randy were his father, Carlos Rodriguez; principal, Dr. Valarie Williams; assistant principals, Angela Richardson and Joshua Bishop; dean of students, Carlos Richardson; financial secretary Karen Riggins; and teachers, Veronica Hall, Julia Burrus, and Josephine Burgos. Randy invited everyone to stand and join him in reciting the pledge. Following the pledge, Randy talked about the importance of honesty. There are many quotes that talk about honesty such as "Honest hearts produce honest actions" but the best quote is "Honesty is the best policy" because it is simple and easy to remember. Randy encouraged everyone

to be honest.

B. Adoption of Agenda

Chairperson Griffin said there have been changes to the agenda since it was first published and the adoption of the agenda will include the following amendments:

- Change Agenda Item I.F. (Report on Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY ending June 30, 2009) to Agenda Item I.C. and re-letter the remaining items under Call to Order (I.C. to I.D., I.D. to I.E. and I. E. to I. F.).
- Add new Action Item IV.D. (Motion to change feeder areas for Myers Park, East Mecklenburg, and Harding International Baccalaureate (IB) Magnet Programs).
- Change original Action Item IV.D. (Recommend approval of recommendation to provide transportation to all rising 12th grade students affected by boundary changes related to the "new Bailey Road and Mint Hill" high schools) to Action Item IV. E.

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

Mr. Tate moved, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board adopt the agenda as amended, and the Board voted 7-0 in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Tate voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gjertsen was out of the room at the time of the vote. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

C. Report on Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY ending June 30, 2009

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the report. Dr. Gorman called upon Shelia Shirley, Chief Financial Officer, and the auditor representative to provide the report. Ms. Shirley said she was pleased to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 and the Compliance Report for year ending June 30, 2009. Ms. Shirley commended the outstanding accounting and auditing work of the Accounting Department which contributes greatly to the positive outcomes for CMS. Ms. Shirley introduced April Bell, Senior Manager with Dixon Hughes PLLC the external audit firm, to provide a brief review of the results of the CMS audit and the opinion regarding the financial statements which is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Ms. Bell said the Board engaged Dixon Hughes to perform the audit for the year ending June 30, 2009. She met with the Audit Committee in June to outline the plans for the audit and to develop expectations for the audit delivery. She also met with the Audit Committee last week to conclude the audit and present the financial statements. The audit includes a financial statement audit and compliance audit. The product of the financial statement audit is the Comprehensive Audit Report which is prepared by the CMS Finance Department. CMS has received an unqualified audit opinion which means that CMS does not have any exceptions from accounting standards and the financial statements complied with the generally accepted accounting principles. Ms. Bell highlighted the 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which included the Balance Sheet for the governmental funds and the fund balance; Expenditures which was within the budget amount for the Board; and Child Nutrition received favorable results. Ms. Bell said the Single Audit Report is prepared by Dixon Hughes and it is the results of the testing of compliance with laws and

regulations of federal and state programs. The federal programs that are audited rotate from year to year depending upon the size of the program, results of prior audit, and the last time the programs were audited. This year, Dixon Hughes audited the Child and Nutrition Program and Improving Teacher Quality. Next year, CMS can expect to see an increase in the federal revenues as a result of the stimulus funding and that may cause an increase in the programs that will be audited in a Single Audit. The Single Audit Report also includes State programs that were audited. This year, because of the rotation of when programs have been audited in the past, resulted in most of the state programs being required to be audited. Ms. Bell was pleased to report that CMS did not have any findings in the Single Audit this year which is quite an accomplishment given the size of the school system and the amount of state and federal dollars received. The reports in the Compliance Report are also unqualified. Ms. Bell thanked the Board for allowing Dixon Hughes to perform the audit and she commended the CMS staff for being professional.

Dr. Gorman thanked Ms. Shirley and the Finance Department for the excellent work that they do every year particularly in this difficult year. Kaye McGarry commended the professionalism of the staff of Dixon Hughes and CMS staff for working within accounting procedures.

D. Public Hearing on proposed amendments to Policy BA: Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2: Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to introduce the Public Hearing on proposed amendments Policy BA, Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2, Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment.

Mr. Tate said there were no public speakers to speak to this item and he called the Public Hearing closed.

E. Public Hearing on proposed amendments to Policy JCA, Student Assignment Plan

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to open the Public Hearing on proposed amendments to Policy JCA, Student Assignment Plan.

Mr. Tate said there were no public speakers to speak to this item and he called the Public Hearing closed.

F. Public Hearing on Superintendent's proposal for overcrowding relief at Eastover Elementary School

Chairperson Griffin called the Public Hearing Open. She said this is the Public Hearing for the overcrowding relief at Eastover Elementary School as well as an opportunity for comments regarding Myers Park and East Mecklenburg high schools. Chairperson Griffin said there are sixty-nine speakers and the Board looks forward to hearing the comments. She encouraged the audience to be as quiet and respectful as possible because this is the Board's business meeting and while we respect the right to show support this could delay the meeting.

Fourteen people encouraged the Board to approve staff's recommendation to relieve overcrowding issues at Eastover Elementary School because it is sustainable for long term growth and provides stability and academic success for all children across the affected schools.

- David Matvey, represented Dilworth Community Development Association (DCDA), reported that the DCDA provides its firm support for staff's recommendation.
- Deborah Edwards, Dilworth resident with two children at Dilworth Elementary School, represented a group of parents at the Dilworth School who believe the Arts Magnet at First Ward located downtown will enhance the program.
- Jennifer Bennett, Dilworth resident with two children at Eastover, supports staff's recommendation because children will receive the same quality education they received at Eastover.
- April Whitlock, Dilworth resident and parent of a student at Eastover, said Eastover is overcrowded and her daughter attends a make shift classroom in the auditorium. The facility is not being used in the way it was designed; provides limited recess time; no optimal learning; and the school must start serving lunch at 9:30 a.m.
- Carrie Allison, Dilworth resident with two children at Eastover, said moving the Arts Program uptown will help the magnet flourish and creates a second home school that will be successful.
- Courtney Varzandeh, Dilworth resident with a child at Eastover, said staff's recommendation is a viable solution that restores Eastover to its original state and the community solutions will dilute the Magnet Program.
- Joe Teague, resident of Dilworth with a child at Eastover and three more at home, supports staff's long-term solution that solves problems.
- John Murchison, Dilworth resident and CMS graduate, believes staff's recommendation as presented solves the overcrowding problem, is a multi-year solution, creates a strong neighborhood school, and a compact boundary.
- Jason Galek, Dilworth resident with a child at Eastover, expressed concern that the process created misperception. Eastover is overcrowded, his daughter attends class in an auditorium, and there is no more room for growth. Staff's recommendation provides a long-term solution with two great home schools and all schools involved with a solid student population with room for future growth.
- Melissa Kemmer, parent of two students at Eastover Elementary School, said Eastover does not have any more room and staff's recommendation provides a strong base for a viable solution that gives it room to grow organically over time.
- Winn Maddrey, represented the Elizabeth Community Neighborhood Association and parent of two children at Eastover, supports the CMS recommendation.
- Mike Malloy said CMS should be about the education of the largest number of its students and expressed concern regarding the community recommendation because a zone-wide preference would not cure the problem and the next Board would have to clean up the mess. Eastover is overcrowded and must remove approximately 200 students and staff's recommendation is the best solution.
- Chip Ford, Dilworth resident and Eastover parent, said staff's recommendation provides a lasting solution that will bring a positive and constructive change.
- Tom Donaldson, resident of Dilworth, spoke on behalf of the McDonald Avenue Friends and Neighborhood Association and they support staff's recommendation.

Sixteen people discussed their concerns regarding staff's recommendation and encouraged the Board to seek other options because the plan disrupts too many students, costs \$1 million, and destroys two good schools.

- Tom Palmer, parent of three daughters at Dilworth Elementary School, discussed his concerns regarding staff's recommendation noting that the First Ward parents are opposed to the recommendation and at the October 27th Board meeting five Board members (Mr. Gauvreau, Ms. McGarry, Mr. Tate, Mr. Ross, and Ms. Griffin) expressed concern regarding the recommendation. He asked the Board to seek a better solution and to let the new Board take on the challenge.
- Nancy Carlton, parent of two children at Eastover and lives in the Eastover area, represented the Eastover residents. The residents are opposed to staff's plan because it damages Eastover Elementary and the neighborhood, dismantles the schools, and the math that CMS used to formulate the recommendation is questionable. The plan is unacceptable because it moves some students out, others in, and is not a win-win situation. She said her older child is in the IB Program at Myers Park High school and she asked the Board to not move the program.
- Sabryah Alghrary, parent of a 3rd grader at Dilworth Elementary School, represented the single parent families, the low income families who don't have money for t-shirts, and who need an after school program. The current Dilworth School is more than bricks and mortar because it offers stability to these families. She asked the Board to not move these students to First Ward because it would be disruptive to the families. The Magnet Program is only four years old and needs more time to show its full potential. She asked the Board to keep the Magnet Program at Dilworth.
- Joanna Fadel suggested the Board add another floor to Eastover to solve the overcrowding issue and to keep the Magnet Program at Dilworth to let it thrive.
- Brian Pace, parent of children at Selwyn Elementary School, chose Selwyn as a strong neighborhood school. He attended First Ward and is a CMS graduate. He expressed concern why Option A was taken off the table and believes the inclusion of Selwyn in the recommendation is an illogical conclusion.
- Jeff Fowler, parent of children at Selwyn Elementary School, said this has been a seriously flawed process and approval of staff's recommendation ratifies a horrible precedent that sends a bad message; disrupts 1,200 students versus 90 students; spends over \$800,000 in a very difficult budget year; and is based upon false data.
- Mustafa Shah-Khan expressed concern regarding logic of moving 1,200 students around four schools; moving the Arts Magnet from one school to another school; destroying one school; and moving another school for a net result of reducing Eastover by ninety students. He asked the Board to reconsider the previous options.
- Rusty Bryson, parent of a child attending Eastover, cares about the future of children and does not believe staff's recommendation is the best option because it will leave Selwyn, Eastover, Dilworth, and First Ward weaker.
- Sherard Anne Gates, Eastover parent and lives in the Myers Park wedge, chose Eastover and believes they made the best choice for their family. Staff's recommendation is not the right solution for their area, defies common sense, and pays no attention to proximity or stability for her children. She asked the Board to give parents a choice.
- Steve Schumacher, Eastover parent and graduate of East Mecklenburg High School, represented the Myers Park families that live in the wedge and urged the Board to

vote no to staff's recommendation.

- Beth Moss, Selwyn parent, expressed concern that staff's recommendation moves 1,200 students to new schools but the real overcrowding problem at Eastover only involves 100 students. The problem at hand has not been defined and this is not the best solution.
- Gary Hecimovich, father of two children at Eastover and lives in the Myers Park wedge, expressed concern that the process is flawed and has divided the Eastover family. The recommendation is a short-term solution with unnatural neighborhood boundaries that disrupts 1,200 students.
- Darrin Bailey, Selwyn parent, feels disenfranchised both as a parent and taxpayer. He expressed concern that this area was pulled into the recommendation at the last minute without an opportunity to participate in the process. He asked the Board to vote no to staff's recommendation because it is fiscally irresponsible, sends the wrong precedent, and unnecessarily disrupts too many students. He suggested the Board have an independent third party evaluate the long term growth of the area because overcrowding may not be an issue in the near future.
- Joe Moss, Selwyn parent and resident of Forest Park, said Selwyn is not overcrowded. He asked the Board to oppose the plan because it is based upon false information about Selwyn.
- Caroline Shah-Khan, Selwyn parent, expressed concern that Selwyn was brought into the process at the end without having the opportunity to be involved. Selwyn is not overcapacity, does not need relief, and should be left out of the recommendation. She said the process was flawed and Selwyn students should not be used as numbers to make a new school work. She asked the Board to put all the options back on the table, to give the Selwyn parents an opportunity to be involved, and to develop a plan that provides long term stability.
- Adrienne Trent said there were approximately fourteen speakers in favor of staff's recommendation and fourteen against the recommendation. She expressed concern that the boundaries are the core issue, the process was flawed, and continuing to use a flawed process to make changes to our community is causing more problems. She said Dr. Gorman and staff should be the advisors and the Board should be the leadership that takes the information provided by staff. She does not believe the Board should add additional amendments or reintroduce options that were taken off the board because that weakens the community trust in the Board's ability to do what is best for students and the community. She asked the Board to not support staff's recommendation and to develop a process that will make CMS stronger because the process in place does not work.

Twenty people discussed the successes of the IB Program at Myers Park High School and encouraged the Board to not move or dismantle the IB Program.

- Nicholas Rose presented an alternate proposal. He moved to Charlotte in order for his children to attend that program and decreasing the number of students will cause the program to be unsustainable. This should not be an urgent matter for this Board as its final act.
- Maria Smithson, parent of two children in IB Programs and lives in the South Mecklenburg feeder zone, said moving the IB Program to East Mecklenburg would double the busing distance; cause a loss of sleep for the family; and students will not

be able to participate in extracurricular activities and sports. Smart students also have needs, are not pawns to be moved, and they are excelling at Myers Park High School.

- Dr. Vikram Kumar, professor at Davidson College, parent of two IB students at Myers Park High School, and lives in the Myers Park area.
- Derrick Flakoll, student in the IB Program at Myers Park High School, said, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” Discussed the successes of the IB Program as one of the nations’ most successful academic programs. He urged the Board to cap the program in lieu of transferring students to East Mecklenburg because that is an unworkable solution that would increase transportation costs.
- Janet Flakoll, parent of Derrick Flakoll, discussed the challenges her son faced through middle school to be able to attend the IB Program at Myers Park High School which included bullying and long transportation commutes. She promised him school would get better when he gets to Myers Park High School.
- Grant Flakoll said mergers do not always go according to plan and the consequences to the community can be fatal.
- Priyang Shah, student at Myers Park High, said Myers Park High School lost twenty-five teachers this year and moving the IB Program will also remove additional IB teachers and burden the four feeder zone schools (Ardrey Kell, South Mecklenburg, E. E. Waddell, and Olympic high schools).
- Marcela Liscano, parent of international students in the IB Program at Myers Park High School, said her children would graduate with an American high school and Columbia diplomas. Her family plan included the Myers Park High IB Program. She discussed the importance of preparing students for success and making CMS schools better but not at the cost of making one school less successful.
- Suzan Becker expressed concern that students from the south and southeast portion of the County do not have their own IB Program and must ride long distances to attend the IB Program at Myers Park High School which is the closest of the five programs. She urged the Board to allow students to attend the Magnet Program closest to their home and to develop a well thought out policy that addresses overcrowding.
- Mike Griggs, junior at Myers Park High School, said Myers Park High School is a nationally recognized successful school because of its exceptional academic and extracurricular rankings, and moving the program would weaken the school. Any school can achieve success and the Myers Park success was achieved by the hard work of students and staff.
- Antar Azan Rodriguez and Will Robinson represented students at Myers Park High School. They reviewed the tenets of the IB student, discussed the successes and benefits of Myers Park IB Program and urged the Board to not fix something that is not broken.
- Kim Lamphear expressed concern that moving the IB Program would not address the problems at East Mecklenburg and would weaken a centrally located, successful, and nationally recognized academic program. She asked the Board to give stability to East Mecklenburg by allowing existing students to remain at East Mecklenburg. Moving the IB Program is not a valid method of dealing with overcrowding issues.
- L. D. Simmons, parent of two children (one IB) at Myers Park High School, recapped the seventeen year history of the IB Program at Myers Park. The original goals have not changed, the program has performed, and it is important to note that this was one decision that the Board got right. This program cannot be moved and expected to

perform as well because embedded in the program are students, faculty, academics, and services and moving the program will lose that integrity.

- Mike Daisley, parent of a non-IB student at Myers Park High School, said following the seven guiding principles simultaneously is no easy task. He offered guidance and urged the Board to not move people and programs that have been built over years like immanent objects.
- Sarah Lee, freshman in the IB Program at Myers Park High School, previously attended East Mecklenburg in the Horizon Program and she does believe the IB Program will be the same at East Mecklenburg. She has planned to get her IB Diploma at Myers Park since elementary school. She said the IB population at Myers Park will be shrinking in the future because of the removal of the partial IB Programs and non-Magnet sibling rule.
- Elise Smith, senior at Myers Park High School, said moving the IB Program would negatively impact the other students in the school; the cost outweigh the benefits; and destroys one of the most successful schools in the nation. She said Myers Park is not really overcrowded and is built and designed to hold a large student body.
- Doug Swaim, parent of two IB students at Myers Park High School, discussed the economic environment, declining banking industry, and the nationwide concerns regarding the Charlotte public education. The Myers Park IB Program has a national reputation of excellence and the Board should not take its importance lightly because many families have moved to Charlotte for the IB Program at Myers Park. The Board conducted a comprehensive Magnet Program review and voted to strengthen the IB Program by implementing entrance requirements and ending the partial IB option. He urged the Board to not weaken the strongest IB Program in CMS.
- Debolina Banerjee, IB student at Myers Park High School, shared concerns regarding uprooting the IB program at Myers Park. She urged the Board to keep the program in tact because it is one of the most successful and vibrant programs in the nation.
- Esteva Torres, sophomore in the IB Program at Myers Park High School, said moving the successful IB Program from Myers Park would not benefit him or his fellow students and that decision would negatively affect their education and future goals.

Elizabeth Vaughn, parent of three children who attend Eastover Elementary and Alexander Graham Middle), expressed concern regarding the public process because it ripped schools and neighborhoods apart, and creates the perception that CMS does not know what they are doing. She urged the Board to not make public hearings mandatory.

Nine people encouraged the Board to increase the student population at East Mecklenburg High School and support moving some or all of the IB Program to East Mecklenburg. They urged the Board to keep East Mecklenburg strong.

- Kevin Coons said last year seventeen IB diplomas were awarded at East Mecklenburg High School, twenty-six at Myers Park High School, and forty-four at North Mecklenburg High School. The IB Programs at these schools are comparable to Myers Park High School and the diplomas are transferable. East Mecklenburg will welcome all students coming to the school.
- Larry Bosc, represented the faculty at East Mecklenburg High school, expressed concern that a decline in student enrollment following a reduction in force will damage the school far into the future in terms of program losses as well as student and teacher morale. East Mecklenburg will not be fine at 1,500 students. He encouraged

the Board to move some of the Myers Park High IB students to East Mecklenburg; grant a STEM Magnet instead of a STEM Program; allow East Mecklenburg, Independence, and Butler high schools to retain rising sophomores and juniors; minimize the number of teacher losses at East Mecklenburg to sixteen; grant a three-year continuation of the partial-IB Program; and students wishing to participate in the STEM Program may remain at their current school.

- Lea Rappis, sophomore at East Mecklenburg High School, loves her school and is opposed to the STEM Program. She expressed concern that decreasing the student population will result in losing more teachers and courses.
- Tyrus Threat, junior at East Mecklenburg High School, expressed concern that he may not be able to continue to participate in the same programs East Mecklenburg if the school loses seven hundred students. East Mecklenburg has a family atmosphere and losing students and teachers would negatively impact the school.
- Bill Allen, Spanish and Journalism teacher in the IB Program at East Mecklenburg High School, urged the Board to increase the student capacity at East Mecklenburg; to establish the STEM Program at East Mecklenburg, McClintock, and Rama Road, and to also extend the program to the students being moved to Butler High School; move the renovations at McClintock higher on the priority list; and realign the boundaries approved with the new Mint Hill high school so that the juniors and sophomores will remain at East Mecklenburg, Butler, and Independence high schools.
- Cindy Brewer, Vice-chair of the School Leadership Team at East Mecklenburg, is concerned about CMS as whole. She urged the Board to do what is best to keep CMS strong as a system and not what is best for one school or one segment of the community. East Mecklenburg must have a population that will allow it to continue to offer the appropriate number of IB and AP courses. She asked the Board to maintain East Mecklenburg at its current enrollment; to allow existing students to remain at East Mecklenburg; and to open the IB Program to students outside of the Myers Park area.
- Mark Hatcher, Vishalle Patel, and Pali Sikisi (students in the IB Program at East Mecklenburg High School and representatives of the Charlotte Coalition for Social Justice) urged the Board to move only part of the IB Program at Myers Park High to East Mecklenburg. They discussed the successes of the IB program at East Mecklenburg, expressed concern regarding the negative image this process has created for East Mecklenburg, and urged the Board to keep East Mecklenburg strong.
- Elaine Fairman, East Mecklenburg parent and long time supporter of the school system, urged the Board to swiftly find ways to send a few hundred students to East Mecklenburg because losing students means the lost of teachers, staff, and programs.

Three speakers encouraged the Board to not change First Ward Elementary School.

- Deborah Albritton wants to ensure children's rights are guaranteed and policy decisions warrant a fair decision. She urged the Board to not use First Ward as a solution to overcrowding issues at Eastover; to keep First Ward as a Magnet; to continue the Arts Magnet Program at Dilworth, and to resolve overcrowding issues at Eastover by filling the empty seats at the schools in close proximity to Eastover.
- Karizma Hunter, 4th grade student at First Ward Elementary School, urged the Board to not change First Ward. She loves First Ward and everyone is treated like family. She feels safe at First Ward and she does not want her family broken up again.

- Brooklyn Darmody is the daughter of Nicole Hudson and a student at First Ward. They moved to the area to be able to attend their neighborhood school, First Ward. She discussed the successes of First Ward and asked the Board to expand the attendance zone at First Ward to address the overcrowding at Eastover; to consider the cost of moving the Arts Magnet as not a good use of resources; and to consider the importance of stability and consistency for students and staff. She urged the Board to not displace the students and staff at First Ward.

Irene Suchoza, represented the Sardis Forest Reassignment Committee, and urged the Board to reassign this area from McClintock Middle School to Crestdale Middle School. Making this change will keep their neighborhood together grades K-12.

Three people discussed the importance of the Traditional Program and encouraged the Board to keep the program in tact.

- Tony Scheer, parent of students at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School, discussed the successes of the Traditional Program and expressed concern regarding the walk zone with priority for the Eastover neighborhood and the Traditional schools.
- Taryn Mecia, graduated from West Charlotte High School and has children at Myers Park Traditional Elementary School, does not support the temporary solution that was posted last night which shuts down the lotteries at the Traditional Magnets and creates a priority to the students within the Eastover zone. This would have a ripple affect on the other home schools in the area and the Board should seek other options.
- Aaron Christensen, spoke on behalf of parents at Myers Park Traditional Elementary School and the Traditional Program, said the Traditional Program is a successful program that needs to be preserved. This school is already a part of the solution and provides relief to Eastover Elementary School. The Traditional Program parents are committed to the program and the proposal is not the best solution for Myers Park Traditional Elementary School.

Chuck Davis, parent of two high school children in CMS and a senior at Chapel Hill, said thank you CMS. His older son was very prepared for the rigors of college and is receiving many job offers. CMS is doing something right. His two children in CMS are well on their way to similar success. Thank you CMS. The basis of his children's success is attending the Magnet Program at Harding University High School. He urged the Board to keep the county-wide Magnet at Harding University High School and to base their final recommendation on minimizing the number of students and schools impacted by the solution and recommendation.

Chairperson Called the Public Hearing closed at 9:35 p.m.

II. REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC

Five speakers encouraged the Board to name the new high school on Blair Road after Ed Sanders, former CMS principal, and to amend the rules of policy regarding Naming Schools. They commended Mr. Sanders' strength, character, and his importance as a principal to the history of CMS.

- Joan Hargett.
- Martha Broadwell.
- David McKinnon, Naming the school after Mr. Sanders would be more viable than

naming it after a creek. CMS has a school named after Governor Martin and he is still alive.

- BB Delaine, Mr. Sanders influenced many students during turbulent times. He urged the Board to thank him while he is living.
- Bob Burroughs urged the Board to name the school to honor Ed Sanders and not in memory of Ed Sanders.

Four speakers represented Parents for Strong Schools and asked the Board to grandfather all remaining siblings into their siblings' current high schools without athletic penalty and open East Mecklenburg and Butler to be choice lottery schools and/or Independence and Mint Hill as they have room.

- Julie Parsons said their recommendation develops a permanent strategy to solve the East Mecklenburg and Butler problems and leaves Myers Park High School alone. She talked importance of family unit and the hardship of having children attending two different high schools.
- Deborah Miller asked the Board to open underutilized schools to the lottery and to allow rising sophomore and juniors the option to remain at Butler High School. Butler is a School of Distinction that has lost 600 students which will cause the school to have unused facilities.
- Carol Weddle asked the Board amend Policy JCA to keep siblings together.
- Mary Beth Lichacz, president of Butler High School PTSO and parent of two CMS students, expressed concern regarding dividing families, not grandfathering siblings, and having siblings attending the same school would eliminate rivalry at home.

Rhonda Freeze expressed concern regarding naming the new high school W. A. Hough because of the difficulty of pronouncing the word "Hough" which could be mispronounced as "Ho" High. She urged the Board to name the new school Bailey High because it is next to Bailey Middle School and Bailey Park all located on Bailey Road. She suggested naming the auditorium at North Mecklenburg High School after Mr. Hough because that is where he spent most of his career.

Bill Strong urged the Board to accept the Naming Committee's recommendation to name the new Bailey Road high School after William A. Hough. Mr. Strong commended Mr. Hough for his thirty-eight year service to CMS.

Jake Kelly urged the Board to reassign the Sardis Forest area from McClintock Middle School to Crestdale Middle School.

Chairperson Griffin said she has had a request from Board members to have a short recess. Chairperson Griffin recessed the Regular Board meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Chairperson Griffin reconvened the Regular Board meeting at 10:21 p.m.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Recommend approval of Closed Session meeting minutes:

- October 13, 2009.
- October 15, 2009 (2 sets).
- October 27, 2009.

B. Recommend approval of Open Session meeting minutes:

- March 10, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.
 - September 22, 2009 Joint Meeting.
 - September 22, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.
- C. Supplementary Funding/Grant Requests-Jimmie Johnson Foundation.
1. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Science Exploration at Ashley Park Elementary School grant proposal.
 2. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Improving Technology Learning at J.H. Gunn Elementary School grant proposal.
 3. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for SMART Tables Learning Centers at Metro School grant proposal.
 4. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Technology at Morehead Elementary School grant proposal.
 5. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for READ at University Meadows Elementary School grant proposal.
- D. Supplementary Funding/Grant Requests - Dropout Prevention.
1. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Vance High School Dropout Prevention Program grant proposal.
 2. Recommend approval of supplementary funding request for Increasing Student Success at West Charlotte High School grant proposal.
- E. Recommend approval of the adoption of a resolution authorizing the Director of Storage and Distribution to dispose of property by way of on-line bid in auction format.

The on-line auction time span will encompass the November 30 through December 18, 2009 period. GovDeals, (www.govdeals.com) an experienced and proven on-line government surplus sales service provide, will facilitate the process.

- F. Recommend approval of licensed/non-licensed hires and promotions for October 2009.
- G. Recommend approval of naming of new Bailey Road high School.
- The recommended name is the William Amos Hough High School (W.A. Hough).*
- H. Recommend approval of naming of new Mint Hill high school.
- Recommended name is the Rocky River High School.*
- I. Real Estate:
1. Recommend approval of annexation of River Gate Elementary School property to the City of Charlotte.
 2. Recommend approval of annexation of Reedy Creek Elementary School property to the City of Charlotte.
 3. Recommend approval of a temporary construction and a permanent sidewalk utility easement to the City of Charlotte for the Grier Road Sidewalk Project.
- J. Recommend approval of appointment of administrative personnel.
- Valerie Morgan named Exceptional Children Director, Education Services. Ms. Morgan previously served as an Exceptional Children Specialist.*
- K. Recommend approval of one citizen appointment to the Equity Committee by At-Large Board member, Kaye McGarry.

Ms. McGarry recommended the appointment of Sharon Starks for a second three-

year term ending on November 30, 2012.

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Tate moved, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through K. excluding Consent Items G. and H., and a discussion followed.

Mr. Gauvreau pulled Consent Items G. and H.

Mr. Merchant moved that the Board adopt Consent Items A. through K. excluding G. and H., seconded by Mr. Tate, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

Mr. Gauvreau said regarding the naming of the new Bailey Road High School, a significant number of people contacted him expressing concern regarding the naming of the school. He is not concerned regarding the pronunciation of the name Hough but is more concerned regarding the number of people involved in the Naming Committee. Mr. Gauvreau asked how many people were involved in naming process? Dr. Teresa Cochrane, principal of the new high school located on Bailey Road, said approximately twenty people were on the School Naming Advisory Committee. Mr. Gauvreau said he normally accepts the recommended name for the schools but he would encourage the Board to delay this process in order for those people who believe they were shut out of the naming process to be involved. Mr. Gauvreau offered a substitute motion to delay Consent Item G. and H. in order for the Naming Committees for both schools to review the recommendation.

Mr. Gauvreau made a substitute motion that the Board delays the vote on Consent Items G. and H. until the first meeting in December in order for the School Naming Committees at each school to review the process and the recommended names, seconded by Ms. McGarry, and a discussion followed.

- Mr. Gauvreau encouraged the Board to support this motion because a significant number of people in the northern portion of the district were not aware that the naming process was being conducted. This would provide the two Naming Committees an opportunity to take a second look to ensure the process included adequate community input even though that review may result in the same recommended names.
- Mr. Tate said there is a naming process in place and typically that process is time sensitive. Mr. Tate asked would a delay in the approval of this item have a detrimental affect on the schools? Dr. Gorman said this would impact ordering items with the name of the school and possibly construction related items. Dr. Cochrane said bids for athletic related items must be submitted in January and that must include the name of the school in order to receive the items by the start of school. Mike Raible, Executive Director for Planning and Project Management, said construction related items would include lettering on the building, logo on the gym floor, and ordering Curriculum and Instruction materials. Mr. Tate expressed concern that nothing would be gained by delaying this item if the process was followed and it appears the process was followed. He encouraged the Board to approve the recommended names because the schools followed the naming process and approval of this would upset the process.
- Mr. Gauvreau said he is not sure the naming committees did not follow the process and

he is not opposed to the method the district follows in naming a school. He does not believe a thirty day delay for a review would make a difference and it would allow those people who were not involved in the process an opportunity to provide input.

- Mr. White said this could be a dangerous step because the Board has a process for naming schools and the two principals followed that process to the letter of the law. He expressed concern that Mr. Gauvreau wants to change the process of the policy at the last minute and at his last meeting. Mr. White recognized Bill Hough the son of Mr. W. A. Hough who was attending the meeting in the audience. He expressed concern that the school followed the naming process and Bill Hough was attending the meeting to witness the school named in honor of his father and to change the process at the last minute is not fair. Mr. White expressed concern that tonight the name “Hough” was maligned. Mr. Hough led North Mecklenburg High School through the transition from a County school to a City-County school, through integration, and he is admired by many. Mr. White said he also knows Ed Sanders and he is a great man but he is not willing to change the policy at this meeting. He said the Board should do what it is suppose to do and congratulate the two principals for establishing a committee, following the process, and selecting the names. He encouraged the Board to approve the recommended names of the two high schools.
- Mr. Gauvreau said he supports the CMS policy on this process and he trusts the principals. Mr. Gauvreau said he is only suggesting that this item be deferred by thirty days to review the recommendations and this has nothing to do with Mr. Hough or his son.

The Board voted 1-7 on the substitute motion and the substitute motion failed. Mr. Gauvreau voted in support of the substitute motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted against the substitute motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

Chairperson Griffin called for a motion to adopt Consent Items G. and H.

Mr. Merchant moved that the Board adopt Consent Items G. and H. as stated, seconded by Mr. White, and the Board voted 7-1 in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommend approval of proposed amendments to Policy BA: Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2: Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the recommendation. Mr. Tate said proposed amendments to Policy BA: Theory of Action, and Exhibit BA-E2: Theory of Action for Improved Student Achievement: Managed Performance/Empowerment are before the Board for action. At the Sustainability Retreat in March 2009, the Board directed the Policy Committee to review these documents to ensure they adequately communicate the Board’s intentions. The Policy Committee has reviewed the Theory of Action and is recommending substantial

changes to streamline and clarify the intentions of the Board. The task was not to change but streamline. The recommendations have condensed the document from four pages to less than two pages and changed the verbiage. The proposed amendment comes to the Board with the recommendation of the Policy Committee. The recommendations were posted on the CMS Website for public feedback and the Board held a Public Hearing at this meeting.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board approve the proposed amendments to Policy BA and Exhibit BA-EA, a second was not required because this was presented through the Policy Committee, and a discussion followed.

- Mr. Gauvreau said he would not support this item because the Board did not change the substance of its Theory of Action. This should be the most important policy that this school district has and it lacks substance. This change was an incremental step towards the reforms that are necessary in this school district structurally and organizationally. This policy does not include enough flexibility or freedom.
- Mr. Merchant said this is an important policy from a system-wide view that will continue to affect the school system moving forward. This is the document upon which the Superintendent basis his strategic plan including the *Strategic Plan 2014* that was recently presented to the community. The proposed changes eliminates a lot of the verbiage of the original Theory of Action document and facilitates our move toward a performance culture that will be operationalized in compensation reform efforts in the near future. He encouraged the public to review this on the Website.
- Mr. Ross encouraged the public to pay particular attention to section that addresses School Based Responsibility and Freedom and Flexibility in which principals will be given as much latitude as possible to manage budgets, hiring and firing, schedules, etc. Mr. Ross believes the best way to make decisions are at the lowest possible level. He is pleased that this pushes decision making at the principal level because that is innovative and creative.
- Mr. Gauvreau discussed why he will not support this item. He encouraged the new Board to seriously review this policy.

The Board voted 7-1 in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

B. Recommend approval of proposed amendments to Policy JCA: Student Assignment Plan

Chairperson Griffin called upon Tom Tate, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, to present the recommendation. Mr. Tate said Policy JCA: Student Assignment Plan, is before the Board for a Board vote on proposed amendments to Section 1. The amended policy would require the Board to hold a public hearing on any initial proposal to modify geographical boundaries for home schools and transportation zones, locations for Magnet Programs, and feeder patterns for home schools and Magnet Programs. The proposed amendment comes to the Board with the recommendation of the Policy Committee. The recommendations were posted on the CMS Website for public feedback and the Board held a Public Hearing at this meeting.

Mr. Tate moved that the Board approve the proposed amendments to Policy JCA: Student Assignment Plan, a second was not required because this was presented through the Policy Committee, and a discussion followed.

- Mr. Gauvreau said he would not support this item because CMS has a weak student assignment plan and the change would add strength to the policy. He said this would force the decisions that the Board should be making back out into the public for endless community meetings. This is bad policy that makes matters worse. He encouraged the next Board to review student assignment more seriously because the Board was elected by the public to make decisions. He encouraged the Board to not support this item.

The Board voted 7-1 in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

- C. Recommend approval of Superintendent's proposal for overcrowding relief at Eastover Elementary School and Report on Academic Programming Decision for East Mecklenburg High School and Report from the Superintendent on Plans to Implement a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Program at East Mecklenburg High School, McClintock Middle School and Rama Road Elementary School

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to introduce the recommendation. Dr. Gorman called upon Scott McCully, Executive Director of Student Placement, to present the recommendation. Dr. Gorman said the recommendation includes the same boundaries as presented at the last meeting. Mr. McCully said to relieve overcrowding at Eastover Elementary School, the Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the proposal, effective with the 2010-2011 school year. The recommendation includes the following:

1. Modify the attendance boundaries for Eastover and Selwyn elementary schools;
2. Create a home school attendance area for Dilworth Elementary School;
3. Eliminate the home school attendance area for First Ward and divide the 2009-2010 First Ward Elementary School attendance area between the new home school attendance area for Dilworth Elementary School and the Eastover Elementary School attendance area;
4. Relocate the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program from Dilworth Elementary School to First Ward Elementary School, creating a full Magnet school at First Ward.

The recommendation will reduce the number of students at Eastover from 589 to 438 students (projected 2010-2011 utilization 76%) with 26% of these students eligible for free and reduced price lunch. The new Dilworth school will have a projected enrollment of 450 (81% utilized) with 28% of these students eligible for free and reduced priced lunch. In addition the recommendation includes moving the Visual Performance Arts Program to an uptown location with access to Arts Community. The First Ward, which will house the Visual Performing Arts Program will have 533 students (91% utilization) with 66% of these students eligible for free and reduced priced lunch. Selwyn

Elementary School will experience a loss of 69 students (13% utilization not including the classrooms at old Selwyn) reducing the number of students to 703 with 19% of these students eligible for free and reduced price lunch. The 5th graders will be allowed to remain at their existing schools. The recommendation reduces the enrollment at Eastover Elementary School to ensure long-term sustainability, provides a new attendance zone for which the school site is located approximately in the zone mid-point, and achieves student assignment predictability.

Mr. Merchant moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation as presented, seconded by Mr. Tate, and a discussion followed.

The proposed motion includes the following details:

In order to create a new home school area for Dilworth Elementary School and relieve overcrowding at Eastover Elementary School, the following boundary shifts will occur, effective with the 2010-2011 school year:

A. Boundary Shifts for Selwyn and Eastover and First Ward to create a new home school attendance area for Dilworth Elementary School:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2010- 2011 school year
2. Affected Areas:
 - a. The part of the *2009-2010 Selwyn* attendance area generally east of Park Road, south of Dairy Branch, west of Freedom Park and Little Sugar Creek, and north of Hillside Avenue, is shifted from Selwyn to the new home school area for Dilworth Elementary. This area is bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of Park Road and Hillside Avenue, continuing north on Park Road until it meets Dairy Branch at Scott Avenue, continuing east along Dairy Branch to Cumberland Avenue, continuing south on Cumberland Avenue and the west side of Freedom Park to Princeton Avenue, continuing east on Princeton Avenue to Little Sugar Creek, continuing south on Little Sugar Creek to Hillside Avenue, and continuing west and ending on Hillside Avenue to Park Road, as indicated on the accompanying map.
 - b. The part of the *2009-2010 Eastover* attendance area generally west of Providence Road, Kings Drive and Elizabeth Avenue, as indicated on the accompanying map, is shifted from Eastover to the new home school area for Dilworth.
 - c. The part of the *2009-2010 First Ward* home school attendance area within the I-277 loop, as indicated on the accompanying map, is shifted from First Ward to the new home school area for Dilworth. Combined with the boundary shifts described below in Section B, this action eliminates the home school area for First Ward, absorbing it into the new home school area for Dilworth and the modified home school area for Eastover.
3. Assignments for current Selwyn, Eastover and First Ward students living in the new Dilworth attendance area:
 - a. Default Assignment for all rising grades K-4 students: Dilworth (new home school).
 - b. Other Assignment Options for all rising Grades K-4 students: may apply through the Lottery to other CMS schools with available space including the Visual and

- Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
- c. Default Assignment for rising 5th grade students at Selwyn and Eastover: Dilworth.
- d. Other Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students at Selwyn and Eastover: may choose to remain at current schools; must indicate this intent on lottery application; not eligible for CMS provided transportation. May also apply through the Lottery to other CMS schools with available space.
- e. Default Assignments for rising grade 5 students at First Ward: Dilworth (new home school).
- f. Other Assignment Options for rising grade 5 students at First Ward: no guaranteed option to remain at First Ward. May apply through the Lottery to CMS schools with available space including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
- g. Sibling Guarantee: None for younger siblings of rising 5th grade students who exercise option to remain at Selwyn or Eastover. Typical sibling rules apply to younger siblings of students admitted through the Lottery to other schools.

B. Boundary Shifts for First Ward and Eastover:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2010-2011 school year
2. Affected Area:
The part of the *2009-2010 First Ward* attendance area east of the John Belk and Brookshire Freeways, generally known as “Old Elizabeth” and “Seigle Point,” as indicated on the accompanying map, is shifted from First Ward to Eastover. Combined with the boundary shifts described above in Section A, this action eliminates the home school area for First Ward, absorbing it into the new home school area for Dilworth and the modified home school area for Eastover.
3. Assignments for current First Ward students living in the modified Eastover attendance area:
 - a. Default Assignment for all rising grades K-4 students: Eastover (new home school)
 - b. Other Assignment Options for rising grades K-4 students: may apply through the Lottery to CMS schools with available space including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
 - c. Default Assignment for rising grade 5 students: Eastover (new home school).
 - d. Other Assignment Options for rising grade 5 students: no guaranteed option to remain at First Ward. May apply through the Lottery to other CMS schools with available space, including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
 - e. Sibling Guarantee: Typical sibling guarantees apply to younger siblings of students who are admitted through the Lottery to schools other than Eastover.

C. Relocation of the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program from Dilworth to First Ward Elementary School:

1. Projected Effective Date: Beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.
2. Affected Programs:
With the absorption of the home school attendance area for First Ward into the new Dilworth and modified Eastover attendance area, and the elimination of the

Accelerated Learning Magnet Program from First Ward (action approved by the Board on November 12, 2008, effective with the 2010-2011 school year), the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program currently located at Dilworth Elementary School, including current students in grades K-4 and all 2010-2011 kindergarten students, is relocated to the First Ward Elementary School facility.

3. Assignments for students enrolled in Accelerated Learning Magnet Program.
 - a. Default Assignment for all rising grades 1-4 students: home school based on student residence.
 - b. Other Assignment Options for rising grades 1-4 students: Dilworth (transportation not provided);¹ must indicate this intent on Lottery application. May also apply through the Lottery to other CMS schools with available space, including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
 - c. Default Assignment for rising 5th grade: home school based on student residence.
 - d. Other Assignment Options for rising 5th grade students: Dilworth (transportation provided);² must indicate this intent on Lottery application. May also apply through the Lottery to CMS schools with available space including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.
 - e. Sibling Guarantee: None for younger siblings of students who exercise Lottery option to attend Dilworth. Typical sibling rules apply to younger siblings of students admitted through the Lottery to other schools.

¹. This action is consistent with the Board's action on November 12, 2008, to allow students in rising grades 1-4 at discontinued partial Magnet Programs to stay at the regular programs at their schools, without transportation or sibling guarantees.

². This action is consistent with the Board's action on November 12, 2008, to allow rising 5th grade students at discontinued partial Magnet Programs to stay at the regular programs at their schools, with transportation, but without sibling guarantees.

D. No Changes in High School and Middle School Boundaries:

No changes to high school or middle school boundaries or feeder patterns are made with the elementary school boundary changes adopted with this motion. Students attending Dilworth living in the former First Ward attendance area will attend Spaugh Middle School and Myers Park High School. Students attending Eastover living in the former First Ward attendance area will attend Spaugh Middle School and Myers Park High School. Students attending Dilworth living in the former Eastover and Selwyn attendance areas will attend Alexander Graham Middle School and Myers Park High School.

Board members were invited to ask questions and make comments.

- Mr. Merchant said he would abbreviate his comments in the discussion of this item and he noted that he agreed with the comments made by Melissa Kemmer and Chip Ford. Mr. Merchant said he agreed that the process needs to be improved. He believes staff and the Board also agree that it needs to be improved. When we reach certain points in that process that eliminate individual's views and ideas those people are likely to be unhappy. Mr. Merchant said a flawed process is not a reason to abandon an end result that he believes to be good. He encouraged the Board to discuss building utilization in a manner that more accurately describes how overcrowding feels at a

particular school site and how it affects program delivery at those individual sites. Mr. Merchant expressed concern regarding Selwyn Elementary School which has 772 students in a school built for 536 students. Those students are occupying a building that was originally slated for demolition and that will likely not be renovated for another twelve years. Mr. Merchant understands that this recommendation is disruptive but there are overcrowding issues at Eastover Elementary School. As staff reviewed options for a comprehensive solution they realized there were other problems as well such as what to do at First Ward Elementary with the Board approval a year ago for eliminating the Magnet Program at that school. Mr. Merchant said this recommendation is a comprehensive solution that solves the original problem and correlated problems, adds a home school which will provide some predictability in student assignment, long term stability, eliminates a Magnet Program, balances equity and geographic proximity, and creates strong viable schools that will be successful. He believes all the students impacted by this recommendation will be in schools that are strong as or stronger than their existing schools. Mr. Merchant encouraged the Board to support the recommendation.

- Mr. White said this followed a process that demonstrated the great American way. He has heard from the public. He has met with people, talked with people, and has received over 5,000 emails. He said a process is flawed only if it leads to the conclusion that an individual did not want. The Board will vote on this recommendation but there is no great panacea. There is not an easy way to handle reassignment or change boundaries that will not be emotional for those who will be moved. Mr. White said he cannot agree with each and every person but he will vote his conscious. He believes this is the best possible solution and presents every child that it impacts with the opportunity to receive a quality education. Mr. White will support the recommendation. He thanked the parents for their hard work and their passion. He encouraged them to make the school that their child attends the best school possible.
- Mr. Gauvreau expressed concern that this is the final vote and the Board has made a mountain out of a mole hill. This should be a tactical, day-to-day operational item. He expressed concern that this has involved numerous proposals and community meetings but the proposal omits consideration of a school that is 1.2 miles away and that school only has 450 students with a capacity of 700 students. Many of the students impacted could walk to that school. This is laughable. Mr. Gauvreau said there are three schools within a three mile radius that are half empty. He will vote no on this because the Board is missing the target.
- Chairperson Griffin said she would not support staff's recommendation and this is an unusual position for her and certainly not one that she would have chosen at her last School Board meeting. She said her respect for the Superintendent, his staff, and the work that they have done as well as her respect for her colleagues generally leaves her to be able to support such recommendations. She has struggled time and time again to be able to support the recommendation and tried to tweak or amend it to be acceptable. She is not able to support the recommendation because she believes the recommendation comes from a faulty premise. She thought the process was begun to solve overcrowding at Eastover Elementary but he quickly became a process to create a strong neighborhood school in the Dilworth community. She believes CMS achieved that purpose and it would be a strong school. Chairperson Griffin said she

does not want to tweak it because if this were to pass it should pass in this form and she will do all she can to make it successful. Chairperson Griffin said for her the potential success of the Dilworth School has come at too high of an expense. The recommendation will move approximately 1,200 students to achieve a net reduction of approximately 100 students at Eastover Elementary school; it disrupts the school family at Selwyn Elementary which is a wonderful school that is thriving and not overcrowded; moves the Arts Magnet from its Dilworth location at an expense of over \$750,000 while disrupting that entire student body and faculty; it ends the hard work of the First Ward family to create a new Magnet that would serve its student population; and the Eastover Elementary School family has been drastically changed. In the process CMS has pitted family against family and neighborhood against neighborhood. She said this feels wrong to her and she regrets this process. She said while we vehemently disagree, she believes most everyone has worked passionately to achieve a plan that we think makes sense for all the students and all of our families. She has met with representatives from every neighborhood and every school and she thanked those individuals for their passion that they brought to the process. She believes we all want to do the "right thing" but we have ended up with different opinions. Chairperson Griffin said this has been a painful process and she believes there has to be a better way. She said she prepared a substitute motion that would have created a temporary solution while a better long term solution was created. This motion would have created additional seats at the Magnets within the Eastover zone and led to an eventual policy that would have provided staff with that option as tool at any time there was overcrowding issues. She has spoken with all her colleagues and she respects the fact that she has not been able to garner support for that motion. She said one of the rules that she has consistently followed over the past twelve years is she will not put something forward if she knows that it has no chance of success because that appears to be for show rather than showing real substance. She is in that position to night and she will not put forward her substitute motion. Chairperson Griffin will vote no to this proposal because she believes it is flawed.

- Ms. McGarry made the following modifications to the main motion.

Ms. McGarry moved to make the following modifications to the main motion:

I. In the introductory section of the main motion, in the first sentence, after the word "*proposal*," add the words, "*with the modifications as shown below*," and in Paragraph 1, delete the words "*and Selwyn*" and the letter "*s*" from the word "*schools*," and add the following two new paragraphs:

- 5. Create a guarantee for students in the 2010-2011 Eastover attendance area to attend Dilworth Elementary School.**
- 6. Direct the Superintendent to expand the proximity areas for Elizabeth and Myers Park Traditional schools from 1/3 mile to 1/2 mile and increase the allowable percentage of seats available for students living within the modified proximity area.**

II. Delete Section A, Paragraph 2, subsection "a."

[*Comment:* The effect of this action will be to leave the Selwyn boundaries unchanged for the 2010-2011 school year.]

III. Renumber Section A, Paragraph 2, "Subsection b," to "Subsection a," and

renumber “Subsection c” to “Subsection b.” In renumbered “Subsection a,” add the words “*Selwyn Avenue, Queens Road*” before the word “*Providence*” in the description of the section of the current Eastover Elementary School attendance area that will be shifted to the new Dilworth home school area.

The renumbered “Subsection a” would then read:

The part of the 2009-2010 Eastover attendance area generally west of Selwyn Avenue, Queens Road, Providence Road, Kings Drive and Elizabeth Avenue is shifted from Eastover to the new home school area for Dilworth.

[*Comment:* The effect of this action will be to move the modified boundary for Eastover Elementary to the west, thereby decreasing the number of students moved from Eastover to Dilworth.]

IV. Change Section A, Paragraph 3, Subsection “e,” to delete the words “*Dilworth (new home school)*” and add the words “*First Ward (in the Magnet Program); transportation will be provided.*”

- **Change Section A, Paragraph 3, Subsection “f,” to:**
 - delete the words “*no guaranteed option to remain at First Ward,*” and replace that text with the word “*Dilworth.*”
 - delete the words “*including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward.*”
- **Change Section B, Paragraph 3, Subsection “c” to delete the words “*Eastover (new home school)*” and add the words “*First Ward (in the Magnet Program); transportation will be provided.*”**
- **Change Section B, Paragraph 3, Subsection “d” to:**
 - delete the words “*no guaranteed option to remain at First Ward,*” and replace that text with the word “*Eastover.*”
 - delete the words “*including the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet relocated to First Ward*”

[*Comment:* The effect of this action will be to change the default assignment for rising 5th grade students currently at First Ward whose home school area is changing to either Dilworth or Eastover, so that they will be able to attend First Ward and participate in the Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program for their 5th grade year, rather than attend either Dilworth or Eastover elementary school. Transportation will be provided for these students.]

V. Add a new Section E to read as follows:

“Guarantee for Eastover Students to Attend Dilworth Elementary”

Students assigned to Eastover Elementary School for the 2010-2011 school year are guaranteed admission to Dilworth Elementary School. Students wishing to exercise this option must indicate this intention on a lottery application.

[*Comment:* The effect of this action will be to decrease the student population at Eastover by guaranteeing that students in the Eastover home school area may attend either Dilworth or Eastover.]

VI. Add a new Section F to read as follows:

“Expanded Proximity Areas for Elizabeth Traditional and Myers Park Traditional Magnet Schools”

The Superintendent is directed to develop and bring to the Board for approval a revision to Section II, subsection 1 of Exhibit JCA-E2, “Student Assignment Priorities – Magnet Programs,” that expands the proximity area for Elizabeth and Myers Park Traditional schools from 1/3 mile to 1/2 mile and increases the allowable percentage of seats available for students living within the modified proximity area.

[Comment: The purpose of the motion is to increase the numbers of students in the Eastover attendance area who are admitted to these magnet schools, thereby relieving the overcrowding at Eastover Elementary.]

Mr. Gauvreau seconded the amendment for the purpose of discussion.

- Ms. McGarry said this amendment will act as a release valve to relief that congestion and it is less disruptive than displacing 1,200 students throughout these schools.
- Mr. Gauvreau said he would not support the amendment.
- Chairperson Griffin said she while she does not support the Superintendent’s recommendation, she would also not support the modifications to the recommendation because this may create a Dilworth school that will not be strong.

The Board voted 1-7 on the proposed modifications to the motion and the modifications to the motion failed. Ms. McGarry voted in support of the modifications to the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Gauvreau, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted against the modifications to the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

The Board voted 5-3 on the original motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation as presented. Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, and Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

The Report on Academic Programming Decision for East Mecklenburg High School and Report from the Superintendent on Plans to Implement a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Program at East Mecklenburg High School, McClintock Middle School and Rama Road Elementary School was not presented. The reports include the following information:

At the August 11, 2009 Board of Education meeting, in conjunction with a motion for the approval of the new Mint Hill High School boundary, the Board voted to “...direct our staff to expand consideration of the boundaries for East Mecklenburg High School by looking at Myers Park High School boundaries and the feeder schools for both high schools in an effort to increase the number of students at East Mecklenburg and decrease the number at Myers Park, and that a recommendation come back to the Board for approval in time for the enrollment process for the 2010-2011 school year.” The following were two distinct discussion options presented to the community (an earlier option previously presented is omitted based on Board feedback at September 22

meeting) to address the Board's directive. In summary, they include: 1) modification of Myers Park IB Program sending part or all of the feeder area to East Mecklenburg, or East Mecklenburg and Harding; and 2) addition of a new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Magnet to East Mecklenburg with a south county feed, eliminating the south county feed to Harding Math and Science Magnet Program.

Building Level Data for East Mecklenburg:

As part of the data table presented with the staff recommendation for the new Mint Hill High School and associated boundary changes, the projected enrollment for East Mecklenburg for the 2010-2011 school year was 1,428. This projection is based on a grade 9-12th grade (20th day 2008-2009) configuration without adjusting for rising seniors who may opt to remain for their senior year (as adopted by Board). Students affected reside in the Piney Grove and Crown Point (West) elementary zone feeders that would be assigned to Butler High School. Based on the 20th day 2009-2010 date (official count day), there are currently 99 12th graders in the area who would go to Butler High School. Based on updated 20th day 2009 data for the adopted boundary 2010-2011, East Mecklenburg has 1,500 students. It is recommended that transportation be provided for rising seniors for 2010-2011 impacted by boundary changes that choose to remain at their current school. If all seniors remain at East Mecklenburg (with transportation), along with a growth projection of 22 students, 1,621 total students are projected for 2010-2011 at East Mecklenburg High School.

Academic Programming Decision:

After three public engagement meetings held October 1, October 6 and October 22 at East Mecklenburg, Myers Park, and Harding high schools, and having received numerous emails and phone calls, the academic programming decision is Option 3. Effective for the 2010-2011 school year, start a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Program at East Mecklenburg High School as well as McClintock Middle School and Rama Road Elementary School. Staff is not recommending this as a Magnet Program, nor are any changes recommended to the East Mecklenburg High School feeder pattern. All of Rama Road and McClintock feed to East Mecklenburg High School, and would serve as a feeder for the STEM Program as well. This initiative is driven by the need for students to develop mastery of science and math skills for 21st Century learning. This program will require offering high-level math and science classes at East Mecklenburg High School. Though this program may not provide additional students from outside the attendance area for 2010-2011, as the program grows, it is likely that students who live in the attendance area currently choosing other school options will return to East Mecklenburg High School.

A new Magnet (Math and Science) or realignment of the International Baccalaureate Program from Myers Park High School is *not* proposed at this time. The Math and Science Magnet Program at Morehead Elementary School will be expanding to a K-8 starting in the 2010-2011 school year. It is recommended to delay the additional Math and Science High School Magnet until the demand can be determined from the Morehead K-8 feed. An additional Math and Science High School Magnet may be needed at a later date. Also recommended is delaying changes to the Myers Park IB Program until a full IB Program review at all program locations. The recommendation to provide transportation to all rising seniors affected by boundary changes is included as a

separate item on the November 10, 2009 agenda.

D. Motion to change the feeder areas for Myers Park, East Mecklenburg, and Harding International Baccalaureate (IB) Magnet Programs

Chairperson Griffin called upon Mr. Tate to present the motion.

Mr. Tate moved, that the Board approve changing the feeder areas for Myers Park, East Mecklenburg, and Harding high schools International Baccalaureate Magnet Programs, seconded by Mr. Merchant, and a discussion followed.

Chairperson Griffin said staff will not be making a presentation on this item because they do not support the recommendation.

Mr. Tate said when the boundaries were defined for the new high school built in Mint Hill it became necessary to affect three other school boundaries because of the close proximity of those schools. He believes it should have also included a fourth school, Myers Park High School. The Board voted on boundaries that impacted Butler, Independence, and East Mecklenburg high schools. The motion included an amendment that directed staff to review options to decrease the number of students at Myers Park High School and increase the number of students at East Mecklenburg High School. The physical boundary debate was taken off the table immediately and ultimately staff's recommendation was to do nothing that required a Board vote and to do nothing that would increase or decrease the number of students at these schools. This discussion has included the IB Program, a STEM Program, and a STEM Magnet. A part of this issue will be addressed with the next Action Item which will recommend transportation be provided for seniors at the affected schools. Mr. Tate believes a resolution to this issue is to consider the IB Program. This motion is in effort for the Board to consider changes to the IB Program assignments. This program can continue and can continue to be a strong part of Myers Park High School. This motion is a legitimate means to affect the education of students in a positive way. There is a need to relieve overcrowding at Myers Park High School and it is a high priority in the Ten-Year Plan. There is not funding to build a new high school to relieve overcrowding for this area and this is a legitimate method to move forward to help East Mecklenburg and Myers Park high schools. Mr. Tate said the motion includes the following details:

The attendance areas for the Myers Park International Baccalaureate (IB) Magnet, the East Mecklenburg IB and the Harding University High School IB Magnet Programs are modified as follows:

- 1. The Ardrey Kell and South Mecklenburg home school areas of the Blue Transportation zone are removed from the attendance area for the Myers Park IB Magnet Program and are assigned to the IB Magnet Program at East Mecklenburg, effective with the 2010-2011 school year. Transportation will be provided to East Mecklenburg for students living in these areas.**
- 2. The Olympic and E.E. Waddell home school areas of the Blue transportation zone are removed from the attendance area for the Myers Park IB Magnet Program and are assigned to the IB Magnet Program at Harding University High School, effective with the 2010-2011 school year. Transportation will be provided to Harding for students living in these areas.**

3. **The Superintendent is directed to develop and bring to the Board for approval a revision to Exhibit JCA-E2, "Student Assignment Priorities - Magnet Programs," that creates enhanced priorities for admission to the Harding IB Program that precede other established priorities, in the following order:**
 - a. **All rising 9th grade students living in the Olympic and E.E. Waddell home school areas who successfully completed a middle school IB Program; and**
 - b. **All applicants to the Harding IB program who live in the Olympic and E.E. Waddell home school areas.**
4. **The Myers Park home school area will constitute the entire attendance area for the Myers Park IB Program, which will continue to operate as a Magnet Program.**
5. **Current 11th grade students living outside of the Myers Park home school area who are assigned to the IB Magnet Program at Myers Park may continue to attend Myers Park IB Magnet for their 12th grade year; transportation will be provided to these students. Younger siblings of these students do not have a sibling guarantee to attend Myers Park in the regular education program or the IB Program.**

Board members were invited to make comments and ask questions.

- Ms. McGarry said she would not support this motion but she will support the Superintendent's recommendation to delay changes to the Myers Park IB Program until further and full IB review of all programs locations is completed. This motion is premature because Myers Park has maintained that number of students for six years and this is not a crisis mode. She thanked the students who spoke on behalf of the IB Program at Myers Park. She said the Myers Park IB Program is nationally recognized and should not be dismantling because it is an effective program.
- Mr. Gauvreau said he is opposed to this motion. He would prefer staff and the Superintendent recommend a solution that would fix an irregular attendance boundary. He does not believe East Mecklenburg High School is underutilized or not big enough. He said he believes Myers Park High School overcrowded and the school too large by enrollment but that is a facility planning matter. He is opposed to programmatically taking the IB Program, regardless of its merits, and using that as the tool to shift boundaries. He encouraged the Board to direct the Superintendent to fix the irregular attendance zone at Myers Park High School because it stretches down to Hwy 51. He is opposed to this motion because the Board has missed the target and this is not a valid reason to tinker with the IB Program.
- Ms. McGarry said there are approximately 200 students in the Certificate Program at Myers Park High School and that program has been phased out. She believes the Board should enforce the rules and those students who should not be at Myers Park High School she be reassigned to their home schools rather than dismantle a program that is effective. Mr. McCully reviewed the changes to the Certificate Program.

Dr. Gorman asked Mr. Tate to review points 1 through 5 and Mr. Tate reviewed the points 1 through 5 as noted above. The Board discussion continued.

- Chairperson Griffin said she would not support this motion. She does not believe this motion would significantly help East Mecklenburg High School and the process will

dismantle one of the most successful IB Programs in the nation. Chairperson Griffin said she calls this dismantling because she does not believe it is a program that can be moved. She said if she thought it could be successfully moved, she would be more apt to support the motion. The Myers Park IB Program has been a model of success for CMS much in the same way that the East Mecklenburg IB Program has been a model of success for CMS. Chairperson Griffin said she believes there is room in CMS for both of these programs. In addition, CMS is the process of phasing in significant changes to the IB Program system wide. Staff does not yet know the impact of the elimination of the partial IB Program. She believes it would make better sense to wait one or two years to be able to measure the impact and then review the entire IB Programs throughout the county before recommending any partial changes. The IB Program attracts distinct type of students. Chairperson Griffin said two of her children were very successful in the IB Program but her other three children had different interests and never even considered the IB Program. She believes the Board should recognize the distinct academic styles and interests of all the students and ensure CMS offers each of them the opportunity to craft an educational path that makes sense for them. She believes the attempt to move this IB Program will do the opposite of those objectives. She said East Mecklenburg is a wonderful school and she deeply regrets that any one in this process has implied otherwise. She is enthusiastic about the Superintendent's recommendation to create a STEM Program at East Mecklenburg High School as well at two of its feeder schools (Rama Road and McClintock). She believes the STEM Program can do a great deal to help East Mecklenburg by both strengthening the academic offerings for its students and by enabling it to keep strong faculty in higher course offerings that the East Mecklenburg family was concerned about losing. Chairperson Griffin agreed that 3,000 students at Myers Park are too many for that school or any high school. She believes the attempt to reduce the size of the Myers Park student body should be done in a systematic manner considering boundaries and programs before making any changes. In the meantime, Myers Park High School is functioning extremely well and it is not in any crisis that demands immediate action. Chairperson Griffin asked regarding the part of the motion that states Olympic High School and E. E. Waddell High School students will have first priority into Harding University High School, what is the student number impact this will have on Harding University High School? Mr. McCully said there are currently 211 students attending Myers Park High School from the respective feeder areas of Olympic and E. E. Waddell. Currently, there are 1,037 students at Harding University High School and the school has a capacity of 1,223 students. This is a difference of 186 seats and this recommendation could overflow the school and perhaps close seats to other families. Dr. Gorman said this could be impacted by the number of 9th grade students who would be allowed in next year which could bring it to an even number.

The Board voted 5-3 in support of the motion. Mr. White, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Ross, Mr. Tate, and Mr. Gjertsen voted in support of the motion. Chairperson Griffin, Ms. McGarry, and Mr. Gauvreau voted against the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

- E. Recommend approval of recommendation to provide transportation to all rising 12th grade students affected by boundary changes related to the "new Bailey Road and Mint

Hill" high schools

Chairperson Griffin called upon Dr. Gorman to present the recommendation to provide transportation to all rising 12th grade students affected by boundary changes related to the "new Bailey Road and Mint Hill" high schools. Dr. Gorman said this recommendation will correct an item that staff previously presented to the Board in which staff does not believe they provided the correct advice to the Board. This recommendation will correct that and allow the grandfathering with transportation for the seniors whose boundaries were changed in the new Bailey Road and Mint Hill process. This will impact schools in the northern and southern portion of the County (East Mecklenburg, Butler, West Charlotte, and Hopewell high schools). Details of the recommendation are as follows:

In adopting boundaries for "new Bailey Road" High School, the home school boundaries of North Mecklenburg and Hopewell were redrawn to reassign students in grades 9 – 11 to "new Bailey Road." In adopting boundaries for "new Mint Hill" high school, the Independence and Butler high school boundaries were redrawn to assign students in grades 9 – 11 to "new Mint Hill." Rising seniors at North Mecklenburg, Hopewell, Butler, and Independence living in the attendance areas for the new schools were not affected by these actions. Their assignments continue to be their current schools and transportation is available to eligible students. In adopting these new school boundaries, some students at West Charlotte, Hopewell, East Mecklenburg, and Butler high schools were reassigned to other, existing high schools. Rising seniors were given the option to remain at their current schools or to attend the other schools. (Students in grades 9 – 11 do not have the option to remain at their current schools.) Transportation options for the rising seniors who choose to remain at West Charlotte, Hopewell, East Mecklenburg, and Butler are not clear.

- The June 9, 2009 "new Bailey Road" motion, in which students at West Charlotte and Hopewell were reassigned to other existing schools, did not address transportation options for seniors who decide to remain at their current schools.
- The August 11, 2009 "new Mint Hill" motion, in which students at East Mecklenburg and Butler were reassigned to other existing schools, included a statement that transportation would not be provided for rising seniors who elected to remain at those schools.
- Further, in adopting the 2009-2010 budget on August 11, the Board approved a provision to eliminate funding for transportation for "grandfathered" students. It was not clear if the Board intended rising seniors (for 2010-2011) to be included in this action.

Therefore, to clarify the transportation eligibility for all rising seniors affected by boundary changes for the 2010-2011 school year, and to provide consistency for these students, it is recommended that the Board adopt a motion as follows:

1. Rescinding that portion of the August 11, 2009 "new Mint Hill" motion that denied transportation to East Mecklenburg and Butler high school rising seniors affected by the opening of "new Mint Hill" High School; and
2. Clarifying that rising seniors at West Charlotte and Hopewell high schools affected by the opening of "new Bailey Road" High School are not included in the definition

of “grandfathered students” to whom transportation was denied in the August 11 budget adoption, thereby assuring that transportation will be available for these students.

The effect of the motion will be to assure that transportation is available to rising seniors at West Charlotte, Hopewell, East Mecklenburg, and Butler high schools affected by the drawing of boundaries for “new Bailey Road” and “new Mint Hill” high schools, if they are otherwise eligible for CMS transportation.

Mr. Merchant moved, seconded by Mr. Ross, that the Board approve the recommendation to provide transportation to all rising 12th grade students affected by boundary changes related to the "new Bailey Road and Mint Hill" high schools, and the Board voted 8-0 in support of the motion. Ms. Mitchell-Walker was absent.

V. REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on Budget Amendments for September 2009

Dr. Gorman said Report Items A., B. and C. are the monthly reports and they are as presented.

B. Report on Capital Project Ordinances for September 2009

Report Item B. was presented with Report Item A.

C. Report on Financial Statements for September 2009

Report Item C. was presented with Report Item A.

VI. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Gorman said on behalf of the employees of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools he would like to express his deep appreciation to Chairperson Molly Griffin and four of the other five Board members who are attending their last Board meeting, Larry Gauvreau, Kimberly Mitchell-Walker, James Ross, and Ken Gjertsen, for your commitment to ensuring success for all of our students in the district. You have been a vital link between the classroom and the community, making policy, approving budgets, and exerting leadership to prepare our children. You are among the dedicated few who, whether elected or appointed, have accepted the call to represent our community’s values and thinking about public education. Often this can be a thankless job. Thank you for the countless hours you have devoted to CMS. Dr. Gorman said the staff of CMS appreciates all the work that all of you do on behalf our students, staff, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg community. Dr. Gorman said we hope your work with CMS does not end here and you will take advantage of other opportunities in which you can make a difference in the lives of our students. Dr. Gorman said, “Thank you very much for all that you have done.”

Dr. Gorman reminded everyone that the Board had previously approved the cancellation of the November 24th Regular Board meeting.

VII. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Kaye McGarry congratulated the new Board members who would be joining the Board in December (Rhonda Lennon, Richard McElrath, Joyce Waddell, Eric Davis, and Tim Morgan as well as Tom Tate who was re-elected). Ms. McGarry said she would miss her departing colleagues (Larry Gauvreau, James Ross, Molly Griffin, Ken Gjertsen, and Kimberly Mitchell-Walker). She enjoyed attending the Carolina Freedom Breakfast which honors the celebration of Veterans Day. She said Obie Oakley, a Board member of that foundation, presented CMS copies of the book *Secrets of Success, North Carolina Valued-Based Leadership* by General H. Hugh Shelton for each high school. She enjoyed participating in the 5K run at McAlpine Parkway as a part of the CMS Physical Education Association and serving as a judge at the Senior Exit Projects at East Mecklenburg High School versus West Mecklenburg High School. She announced the next “Kaye About Town” would be held Thursday, November 19th from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Summit Coffee Shop in Davidson.

Joe White said Mr. W. A. Hough ran a great school and was tough as a nail. He was a very humble and Christian man. Mr. White said if he had been here to hear his name maligned he would have rubbed his head and said, “Well I declare now and God bless you for your thoughts.” Mr. White commended Mr. Hough for his long history with CMS and his contributions to the students of CMS. Mr. White said the statements regarding Ed Sanders are true. He also is a great man that served this community at a time when it needed good leadership. He said he would take the responsibility to see if the new Board would review the policy for naming schools to consider changes. Mr. White wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Griffin called the meeting adjourned, and by consensus, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting.

The Regular School Board Meeting adjourned at 11:32 p.m.

Molly B. Griffin, Chairperson

Nancy Daughtridge, Clerk to the Board