MINUTES OF
THE WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 2, 2022

The Wilson County Board of Education held a Special Meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the Administrative Offices, 113 N. Tarboro Street. Chairman Dr. Christine L. Fitch called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. with the following members present:

Dr. Christine L. Fitch, Chairman
Henry E. Mercer, Vice-Chairman
Velma Barnes
Beverly Boyette
Blake Boykin
Rhyan Breen
Debora Powell
Dr. Lane B. Mills, Secretary

Others present were Associate Superintendent Dr. Cheryl Wilson, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Norris Parker, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ben Williams, Director of Public Relations Amber Lynch, Assistant Director of Transportation Danny Williams, TIMS Data Manager Emeli Zuniga, Board Clerk Linda Horrison and Board Attorney Katie Cornetto. Also present was *The Wilson Times* Reporter Olivia Neeley.

After calling the meeting to order, Dr. Fitch asked for an amendment to the agenda to change Reassignment of Students from Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle Schools from an information item to an action item. Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer, that the items listed on the agenda as discussion/information be moved to action. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0. Dr. Fitch asked for approval of the agenda. Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer, that the Board approve the amended agenda for the Special Meeting of the Wilson County Board of Education. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

The meeting is being livestreamed through the Wilson County Schools (WCS) YouTube Channel. The public can also view the meeting through links on the WCS Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and the WCS website.

Dr. Fitch led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Under Chairman's Comments, Dr. Fitch shared that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss and take action on the reassignment of students from Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle Schools; and to consider extending the deadline for the 2022-2023 reassignments to June 17, 2022.

Under Reassignment of Students from Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle Schools, at the May 16, 2022, Wilson County Board of Education meeting, the Board voted to permanently close Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle. Based on the school closures, students attending these schools will need to be reassigned to other schools in the district. The Board will need to discuss this process. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Williams presented the Board with four models (Winstead Elementary Model 1, Winstead Elementary Model 2, Toisnot Middle Model 1 and Toisnot Middle Model 2) which included grade level breakdowns of student enrollments; projected enrollments for all schools and school capacity

percentages. See attached presentation. He shared that this is not a redistricting process, this is a student assignment process that extends the attendance boundaries of the receiving schools. The Administration is recommending Model 1 for Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle.

Ms. Boyette left the meeting at 3:46 p.m. and returned at 3:49 p.m.

The Administration shared with the Board that once students are reassigned based on the permanent closures, their new assigned school will become their base school. Students wishing to be reassigned to another school outside of their base school will need to complete a reassignment request form each year. Students who are reassigned to a school outside of their base school will be required to provide their own transportation. Staff at Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle will be reassigned to another school within the district. The public may contact the WCS Transportation Department at 252.399.7839 to find out which school their child will be reassigned to based on the permanent closures. This information will also be shared on the WCS website, social media, in school report cards and available in multiple languages. Mr. Boykin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer and Mr. Breen, that the Board approve Model 1 for both Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle School Student Reassignment. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Under Consideration of the 2022-2023 Reassignment Deadline Extension, Board Policy 4150, *School Assignment*, states that the parents or guardians may request reassignment to a school outside of their regular attendance area in writing by June 1st. The Administration is requesting the Board consider extending the June 1st deadline to June 17th to allow parents who are affected by the permanent school closures to submit their applications for reassignment outside of their base school. The Board will need to discuss and approve an extension to the deadline for the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Ms. Barnes and Ms. Powell, that the student reassignment deadline for the 2022-2023 school year be extended to June 17th, with latitude and flexibility on a case-by-case basis for those students affected by the closure of Winstead Elementary and Toisnot Middle Schools. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

There being no further business at 4:19 p.m., Mr. Breen made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Christine L. Fitch

Dr. Christine L. Fitch, Chairman

Lane B. Mills

Dr. Lane B. Mills, Secretary