MINUTES OF
THE WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
September 30, 2020

The Wilson County Board of Education held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in the Administrative Offices, 113 N. Tarboro Street. The meeting was conducted virtually using the Zoom video conferencing platform. Chairman Dr. Christine Fitch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Dr. Fitch, Mr. Mercer, Ms. Boyette and Mr. Breen participated in the meeting at the Administrative Offices. The other Board members participated in the meeting offsite.

Others present or participating virtually were Associate Superintendent Dr. Cheryl Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. Norris Parker, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services Dr. Ben Williams, Executive Director of Elementary Education Jennifer Lewis, Executive Director of Secondary Education David Lyndon, Executive Director of Technology Matthew Mayo, Executive Director of Finance Art Stanley, Director of School Nutrition Mary-Catherine Talton, Director of Transportation Robert Harvey, Director of Maintenance Mark Letchworth, Director of Public Relations Amber Lynch, Principals (Annette Faison, Crystal Whitley, Jennifer Parker and Nelson Johnston), Wilson County Health Department Director Teresa Ellen, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Clerk Linda Horrison, as well as Board Attorney Brandon McPherson and *The Wilson Times* Reporter Drew Wilson.

After calling the meeting to order, Dr. Fitch asked for approval of the agenda. Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer, that the agenda for the Special Meeting of the Wilson County Board of Education for Wednesday, September 30, 2020, be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

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

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Wilson County Schools (WCS) 2020-2021 Re-Entry Plan.

Under WCS 2020-2021 Re-Entry Plan, at the July 20 meeting, the Board voted to participate in Plan C, Remote Learning, for PreK-12 students during the first nine weeks of school. After the first nine weeks, if conditions improved, the district may transition into Plan B, Option F – Hybrid or alternating weeks for grades PreK-8; continue with remote learning for grades 9-12, and Virtual Academy, including EXTEND 1 / Adapted Curriculum being face-

to-face. The Administration requested that the Board review this decision near the end of the first nine weeks of school, which ends October 21 for traditional students.

The Administration presented a Student Re-Entry Plan with details about students returning to school, staffing and administrative services. The plan was developed based on the Governor's announcement; guidance documents from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS); principals, family and staff input; and updates from the local Health Department. The Student Re-Entry Plan is attached. The Board will need to decide on the Student Re-Entry Plan in order for the Administration to prepare for the October 22 deadline for students to return to school. The option selected by the Board will be through the first semester of school, which is December 22nd, to allow for re-evaluation of the circumstances as the district moves forward.

The following options were presented to the Board:

- Option 1:
    - All students will continue in remote learning or the Virtual Academy Monday - Friday.
- Option 2:
    - Plan A - All elementary school students will attend school in person on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays or participate in the Virtual Academy on Mondays through Fridays. Remote learning for elementary school students, professional learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays.
    - Plan C - Middle and high school students will participate in remote learning or the Virtual Academy Monday - Friday.
- Option 3:
    - Plan B - Elementary school students will attend school on an alternating schedule and be assigned to either the Green Group, or the Blue Group or students can also choose the Virtual Academy.
        - Green Group – Students will attend school in person on Mondays and Tuesdays. Remote learning for elementary school students, professional learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays. The students also will participate in remote learning on Thursdays and Fridays.
        - Blue Group – Students will participate in remote learning on Mondays and Tuesdays. Remote learning for elementary school students, professional learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays. Students will attend school in person on Thursdays and Fridays.
        - Virtual Academy – Elementary school students will attend the Virtual Academy Monday – Friday.
    - Plan C – Middle and high school students will participate in remote learning or the Virtual Academy Monday - Friday.
- Option 4
    - Plan A - All elementary school students will attend school in person on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays or participate in the Virtual Academy. Remote learning for elementary school students, professional

learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays.

- Plan B – Middle school students will attend school on an alternating schedule and be assigned to either the Green Group, or the Blue Group or students can also choose the Virtual Academy.
  - Green Group – Students will attend school in person on Mondays and Tuesdays. Remote learning for middle school students, professional learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays. The students will participate in remote learning on Thursdays and Fridays.
  - Blue Group – Students will participate in remote learning on Mondays and Tuesdays. Remote learning for middle school students, professional learning for staff and thorough cleaning at the schools will occur on Wednesdays. Students will attend school in person on Thursdays and Fridays.
  - Virtual Academy – Middle school students will attend the Virtual Academy Monday – Friday.
- Plan C – High school students will participate in remote learning or the Virtual Academy Monday – Friday.

Mr. Breen made the motion, seconded by Ms. Boyette, that the Board select Option 4, which will put the elementary students in 4 days a week; the middle school students in 2 days a week; and the high school students to remain in remote and this would be until the end of the 2020 calendar year with further discussion as we proceed and get closer to the end of the semester. The motion passed 5:2, with Ms. Powell and Dr. Fitch casting the dissenting votes.

There being no further business at 6:22 p.m., Mr. Farmer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mercer, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Christine L. Fitch

Dr. Christine L. Fitch, Chairman

Dr. Lane B. Mills, Secretary