MINUTES OF
THE WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MAY 19, 2025

The Wilson County Board of Education held its regular meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Administrative Office, 113 N. Tarboro Street. Chairman Blake Boykin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Blake Boykin, Board Chair
Rhyan Breen, Board Vice-Chair
David Batts
Beverly Boyette
Dr. Christine L. Fitch
John Kyle
Debora Powell

The meeting was televised on Spectrum and Greenlight Channel 22; and livestreamed through the Wilson County Schools (WCS) YouTube Channel. The public could also view the meeting by downloading the WCSTV22 app and through links on the WCS Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and the WCS website.

Others present were Associate Superintendent Dr. Cheryl Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Robin May, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services Dr. Ben Williams, Chief Finance Officer Shannon Collins, Director of Public Relations Amber Lynch and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Clerk Linda Horrison, as well as Board Attorney Katie Cornetto. There were 87 citizens in attendance. Dr. Mills did not attend the meeting due to illness.

I. After calling the meeting to order, Mr. Boykin asked for approval of the agenda. Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board amend the agenda to make Roman Numeral XI, Revised Date for the June 2025 Board of Education meeting, and make Roman Numeral XII, the agenda item for Adjournment. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0. Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Dr. Fitch, that the Board approve the agenda as modified. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

II. At Mr. Boykin's request, Dr. Fitch led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

III. Mr. Boykin presented for approval the minutes of the April 14, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Mr. Boykin asked for approval of the minutes. Dr. Fitch made the motion, seconded by Ms. Powell and Mr. Batts, that the minutes for the April 14, 2025, Regular Board meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

IV. Under Good News Presentations, Dr. Wilson, on behalf of Dr. Mills, recognized the following with the assistance of Dr. Fitch:

- Elementary Battle of the Books Competition Winner - The Board recognized the New Hope Elementary Battle of the Books Team for winning 1st place in

the Elementary Battle of the Books Competition held on March 4. The team members were: Takailyn Atkinson, Micah Criswell, Bailey Daniels, Keagan Durham, Lillian Harper, Declan High, King Isaacs, Francisco Ortiz, Nistha Patel, Brooklynn Raynor, Allison Robles and Sarah Singh. The team was coached by Media Coordinator Tamara Arizpe. The students did a great job working as a team to answer questions about the books they have read this year. The program is voluntary for students, but those who participate are required to read and become experts on 10 books. Being a part of the team is a huge commitment. We are so proud of these students for their hard work, collaboration and love of reading.

- Middle School Battle of the Books Competition Winner - The Board recognized the Forest Hills Middle Battle of the Books Team for winning 1st place in the Middle School Battle of the Books Competition held on March 4. The team members were: Sanjana Bala Suthagar, Ava Morris, Katrien Berenji, Azlynn Speck and London Holden. The team was coached by Media Coordinator Angie Morgan. The students voluntarily read 20 books and then competed against other middle school teams to answer questions about those books. This is the third year in a row that Ms. Morgan's team has won the event. Three of the students are returning champs and two are new to the team this year. We are so proud of these students for their teamwork and enthusiasm for reading. The team also placed 4th out of 10 teams in the North Central Regional Competition on March 22. We also want to thank District Media and Technology Coordinator Natalie Mercer for her leadership in planning the event, as well as all the media coordinators and teachers who serve as coaches, the many volunteers who assisted and the WCS Digital Teaching & Learning staff for their support.
- Elementary School STEM/Robotics Competition Winners - The Board recognized New Hope Elementary's Natural Disasters Team for winning the Elementary School STEM/Robotics Competition held on March 21. The team members were: Carlos Herrera, Karter Cone, Zayden Hawkins, Charlotte Long, Mariah Harris-Taylor and Aubri Overman. The team was coached by STEM Teacher Assistant Debbie Bunn, with assistance from Media Coordinator Tamara Arizpe and Digital Teaching & Learning Specialist Kristi Allen. During the competition, the 17 teams in the event worked collaboratively on various challenges based on the book *The Magnificent Makers - Storm Chasers*. Students had a secret STEM design challenge where they had to engineer a storm chaser vehicle that could withstand a storm and terrain. They also had robotics challenges where they had to code their robot to visit different weather stations and complete tasks. It was a fun day of STEM, teamwork, critical thinking and hands-on learning. We are so proud of the Natural Disasters and want to thank all of the teachers, mentors and families for supporting the next generation of engineers, scientists and innovators.
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Model Bridge Building Competition Winners - The Board recognized the students from Elm City Middle who won 1st place in the North Carolina Department of Transportation Model Bridge Building Competition. The team members were: Dylan Boyette, Hayden Walston, Jesse Brantley and Akshat Sharma.

The team was coached by 8th Grade Science Teacher/Coach John Pietryk. The North Carolina Department of Transportation has hosted this competition for the past 25 years. This statewide event challenges students to apply real-world STEM skills in engineering, design and presentation. But it's not just about building a bridge - it's about brainstorming ideas, solving problems and working as a team. We are so proud of these 8th graders for winning the competition. This is a remarkable achievement that reflects months of hard work, creativity and perseverance. We also appreciate Mr. Pietryk working tirelessly over the past few months to guide the team - he even held extra practices and traveled with the team to the state competition in Raleigh during Spring Break. Special thanks also go to Ms. Driver and Mr. Blanton at Elm City Middle for their support throughout this journey. Congratulations once again on this incredible achievement.

V. Under Chairman's Report, Mr. Boykin:

- Congratulated Dr. Fitch and her family for the recognition of Milton F. Fitch, Sr., on the naming of the U.S. Post Office on Mercer Street in his honor.
- Congratulated Lucama and Vick Elementary Music Teacher Jana Winders for receiving the North Carolina Symphony's Maxine Swalin Award for Outstanding Music Educator. She was recognized today as one of the top music educators in the state.
- Congratulated Annette Faison, Principal at Vick Elementary, for being named WCS 2025-2026 Principal of the Year; and Shannon Campbell, Teacher at Wilson Early College Academy (WECA), for being named WCS 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year.
- Shared that as testing begins this week, we are cheering for our students and wish them the best of luck.
- Extended well wishes to Ms. Powell's mother, who is celebrating her birthday today.

VI. Under Superintendent's Report, Dr. Wilson, on behalf of Dr. Mills:

- Shared that it's hard to believe that the school year is ending for the early colleges and that their graduation ceremonies are scheduled for tomorrow night - May 20, 2025. She wished the graduates all the best and applauded the underclassmen and staff on a great school year.
- Advised that the end of the school year is quickly approaching for our traditional schools. The high schools are in the midst of Awards Day ceremonies - Beddingfield High held Awards Day on May 15, 2025, and Awards Day for Hunt High is scheduled for May 20, 2025, and Fike High is May 23, 2025. The last day of school for all traditional schools is June 5, 2025.
- Shared that since the last regular Board meeting, we held Teacher Appreciation Week, and we truly appreciate the hard work and commitment of our teachers. She thanked staff, PTOs, families, business partners and churches for going above and beyond to celebrate our teachers and make them feel special. During the month of May, we also celebrate nurses, administrative professionals, principals, school nutrition staff and

public relations staff. Dr. Wilson recognized the important role these staff members play in the success of students and the district.

- Recognized that May is also Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and WCS is proud to celebrate the contributions and influence of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture and achievements of our nation, which includes one of our very own Board Members - Vice-Chair Mr. Breen.
- Congratulated the WCS 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year Shannon Campbell, Principal of the Year Annette Faison and Career & Technical Education Teacher of the Year Tiffany Ellis. Dr. Wilson added that they will represent us well and will be recognized at an upcoming Board meeting.
- Congratulated Lucama and Vick Elementary Music Teacher Jana Winders for being selected as the North Carolina Symphony's 2025 Maxine Swalin Award for Outstanding Music Educator. She was surprised with the news at Lucama Elementary this morning. Ms. Winders is an exceptional educator, and we are thrilled to see her receive this well-deserved honor.

VII. Under Public Input, at 6:51 p.m., six people from the public began addressing the Board during this portion of the meeting. Public Input ended at 7:08 p.m. It was the Board's consensus to have the Administration respond to the speakers.

VIII. Under Committee Reports/Human Resource Services – Committee Chair Debora Powell shared that the committee met today to discuss an information and action item.

Information Item

A. Under Human Resource Services Update, the Administration shared the following:
    - Beginning Teacher Support Program, WCS has three Beginning Teacher Coordinators, one for each grade span (elementary, middle and high). During the 2024-2025 school year, the Coordinators supported 146 Beginning Teachers across all three levels. The district has seven teachers who started after January and are in year zero of teaching. They will begin their first year in the Beginning Teacher Support Program at the start of the 2025-2026 school year. Recently, 36 Beginning Teachers completed their third year of teaching in 2025. Beginning Teacher Support Sessions are offered and collaborated with other departments, such as Instructional Services and Technology. The district has 106 mentors supporting the 146 Beginning Teachers. The mentors are trained each year and receive a yearly stipend for their work. Some mentors support more than one Beginning Teacher at a time. Fifty-seven teachers started this school year and as of May 1, our retention rate was 96%. Last year there were a total of 67 teachers that started and the retention rate was 70%. WCS has a Beginning Teacher Store where teachers can choose classroom items for free. The items are donated or provided by other organizations. WCS was highlighted by Rhonda Holmes at the state level for the Beginning Teacher Store.

- National Board Certified Teachers, WCS has 56 National Board Certified Teachers. Teachers earning this certification participate in the program due to increasing student learning. Once they receive their certification, they also receive a 12% National Board pay increase. Their certification is renewable every five years. This year, the district had two newly certified teachers and five maintenance of certification. The district offers a $1900 reimbursement upon completion of components for National Board Certification. Educators must agree to remain with WCS for two years beyond certification to receive the reimbursement. Support sessions are offered throughout the year for teachers to join and receive help with their writing.
- Gentlemen's Agreement and Her P.R.I.D.E., there are a total of 148 male students participating in Gentlemen's Agreement from Vick Elementary, Wells Elementary, Darden Middle, Elm City Middle, Speight Middle, Beddingfield High, Fike High and Hunt High. The district is looking to add more schools to the program in the upcoming year. In 2024-2025, all the students participated in a football game and cookout at Barton College; the elementary school students visited the Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro, NC; the middle school students visited the monuments, National Museum of African History, the Capital and Howard University in Washington D.C.; and the high school students visited the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park, College Football Hall of Fame, Mercedes Benz Stadium and the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, GA.; in addition to more activities planned for the upcoming year.

  There are a total of 109 female students participating in Her P.R.I.D.E. from Vick Elementary, Wells Elementary, Darden Middle, Speight Middle, Beddingfield High, Fike High and Hunt High. The district is looking to add another middle school, as well as increase the number of participants in the program at Hunt High. In 2024-2025, all the students attended the Nutcracker performance and received a pearl necklace; the elementary school students visited the Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro, N.C.; the middle school students made and distributed personal hygiene bags, participated in an etiquette lesson, Mentor/Mentee dinner and Read Across America; the high school students participated in a Food Drive, provided a meal at Thanksgiving for a family, Dress for Success and read to younger students. Gentlemen's Agreement and Her P.R.I.D.E. programs are managed by Executive Director of Human Resources Claudia Spencer.
- Recruitment Plan, this past year the district held a WCS Career Fair that was attended by 96 people and joined by certified and classified staff. The Administration has participated in traditional and non-traditional career fairs at North Carolina State University, East Carolina University, North Carolina Central University, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Barton College, Shaw University, Wake Technical (skills trade) and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. In cooperation with Public Relations Director Amber Lynch, the district has created reels and short video commercials to share the different jobs available in WCS.

- Substitute Training, the district has transitioned to a new substitute training program that will save money. Substitutes are no longer required to pay $49 for training. The training is easy to update and substitutes will complete it every year. The training will focus on substitute roles and duties; safety; technology, Board policies; and up-to-date information.

Action Item

A. Contract Requiring Board Approval – Human Resource Services, Board Policy 6520, *Contracts with the Board*, states that any contract for materials, equipment, or service involving expenditures in excess of $90,000 must be reviewed by the Board attorney and approved in advance by the Board unless provided otherwise in Board Policy. The following contract exceeds $90,000 and requires Board approval: Amtrust Financial, for Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage Renewal, in the amount of $177,789. Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Ms. Boyette, that the Board approve the Amtrust Financial Worker's Compensation Insurance Renewal, for $177,789. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Under Committee Reports/Administrative Services – Committee Chair Rhyan Breen shared that the committee met today to discuss an action item.

Action Item

A. Under Contracts Requiring Board Approval – Administrative Services, Board Policy 6520, *Contracts with the Board*, states that any contract for materials, equipment, or service involving expenditures in excess of $90,000 must be reviewed by the Board attorney and approved in advance by the Board unless provided otherwise in Board Policy. The following contracts exceed $90,000 and require Board approval, pending attorney review:
    - Dewberry Engineers Inc., for a Facility Condition Assessment for all WCS Middle and High School Athletic and Career and Technical (CTE) outdoor facilities, in the amount of $108,128 (local funds)
    - Universal Equipment Company, for dining room seating for Beddingfield High, Fike High, Hunt High, WECA and Daniels Learning Center, in the amount of $323,477.69 (School Nutrition funds)
    - Smart Mouth Pizza, to provide personal pizzas and conveyor pizza ovens for Beddingfield High, Fike High and Hunt High, in the amount of $133,935.50, which equals 80,000 pizzas, (School Nutrition funds)

Mr. Breen made the motion, seconded by Mr. Batts and Dr. Fitch, that the Board approve the contracts with Dewberry Engineers Inc, for a Facility Condition Assessment for all WCS Middle and High School Athletic and CTE facilities, in the amount of $108,128; Universal Equipment Company, dining room seating for Beddingfield High, Fike High, Hunt High, WECA and Daniels Learning Center, in the amount of $323,477.69; and Smart Mouth Pizza, to provide personal pizzas for Beddingfield High, Fike High and Hunt High, in the amount of $133,935.50. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Under Committee Reports/Instructional Services – Committee Chair Beverly Boyette shared that the committee met today to discuss information and action items.

Information Items:

A. Under Contracts Requiring Board Notification – Instructional Services, Board Policy 6420, *Contracts with the Board*, states that the Superintendent is authorized to enter into contracts involving amounts up to $90,000 and the Superintendent shall report such contracts exceeding $30,000 to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The following contracts are less than $90,000 and have been approved by the Superintendent:
   - AVID Health at Home, for Exceptional Children (EC) contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $50,000
   - Behavioral Framework NC, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $80,000
   - ClassLink, to provide annual licenses, in the amount of $41,862.60
   - Covenant Education Services, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $40,000
   - Imagine Learning, to provide four Edgenuity 9-12 Comprehensive site licenses, WCS Academic Integrity, eDynamic Electives, and Support, in the amount of $66,970.40
   - IntelliChoice Staffing, LLC, for EC contracted Personnel, in an amount not to exceed $50,000
   - Learning-Focused, for professional development - Administrative Coaching/Walkthroughs, in the amount of $88,200
   - Maxim Health Care Services, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $70,000
   - Panorama Education, for student surveys, check-ins, and Foundations Teaching & Learning package (virtual), in the amount of $39,465
   - SHI International Corp., to provide a Cyber Security course at Wilson Academy of Applied Technology (WAAT), and updating of Forest Hills' computer lab, in the amount of $48,815.49
   - John E. Sexton & Associates, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $45,000
   - Speaking Matters (2025-2026), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $85,000

B. Under Consolidated Programs Application Overview (Titles I, II, III, and IV), WCS targets Title I funds to schools with the highest percentage of children from low-income families. Schools with a poverty percentage of 75 or higher must be served as Title I. Schools with a poverty percentage between 40 and 74 are eligible for Title I funding. Currently, WCS schools with a poverty percentage of 55 and higher are served as Title I. Schools must be served in rank order by grade span. Schools with the highest percentage of poverty receive more funding per student.

Based on direct certified data the district will serve the following schools for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Elementary Schools
    - Barnes
    - Frederick Douglass
    - Gardners
    - Hearne
    - Jones
    - Lee Woodard
    - Lucama
    - Stantonsburg
    - Vick
    - Vinson-Bynum
    - Wells
- Middle Schools
    - Darden
    - Forest Hills
    - Speight
- High Schools
    - Beddingfield

WCS receives Title I, II, III and IV funds. The Administration provided an overview of how the funds will be utilized during the 2025-2026 school year:

- Title I - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
    - School Budgets
        - Opportunity Culture Stipends (all Title I schools)
        - Class Size Reduction Teachers
        - Support Staff (Additional Counselor, Additional Teacher Assistants and Restorative Justice Facilitators)
        - Professional Development
        - Interventionists/Tutors
    - District Budget Set Asides
        - Pre-K – Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Instructional Supplies, Daily Snacks and Field Trips
        - Homeless – Transportation, Supplies, Liaison and Social Worker
        - Foster Care Support – Transportation
        - District Federal Programs – Staff, Software and Supplies
        - Elementary Curriculum Coordinators (80%)
        - District Family Engagement Events
        - Professional Development – Services and Workshop Expenses
- Title II – Teacher and Leadership Development
    - District Priorities
        - Secondary Curriculum Coordinator (100%)
        - Secondary Beginning Teacher Support Coordinator (100%)
        - Elementary Curriculum Coordinators (20%)
        - English Learner (EL) Coordinator (90%)

        - Beginning Teacher Support Activities
        - Staff Reimbursements for Assessments and Coursework
        - Professional Development – Contracted Services, Substitutes, Travel and Supplies
        - Leadership Development Cohorts
- Title III - English Language Acquisition
    - District Priorities
        - EL Family Liaison
        - EL Teacher Supplies
        - EL Teacher Professional Development
        - Talking Points Software
        - Tutors
        - EL Family Engagement Events
- Title IV - Student Support and Academic Enrichments
    - District Budget Priorities
        - Safe and Healthy Students
            - Three Social Worker Positions
            - Mental Health/Social Emotional Professional Development
        - Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities
            - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Materials/Competitions
            - Professional Development
        - Effective Use of Technology
            - Technology Professional Development

The district is required to provide Equitable Services to private schools who wish to participate. For 2025-2026, the following private schools have opted-in for Equitable Services:

- Level Up Academy (Title I, II, III and IV)
- First United Methodist Church Day School (Title I, II, III and IV)
- Community Christian School (Title II and IV)

C. Under Revised Policy 3400, *Evaluation of Student Progress* – First Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general statutes and align with the North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) policies.

D. Under Revised Policy 3420, *Student Promotion and Accountability* – First Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general statutes and align with the NCSBA policies.

E. Under Revised Administrative Regulation 3420A-R, *Student Promotion and Accountability (Standards)*, WCS Board Policy 3240, *Student Promotion and Accountability*, establishes promotion standards and processes to be used in determining a student's readiness to progress to the next level of study. WCS Administrative Regulation 3420A-R, Student Promotion and Accountability

(Standards), establishes the WCS academic standards for students in specific grade levels.

F. Under Revised Administrative Regulation 3420B-R, *Student Promotion and Accountability (Credit Recovery)*, WCS Board Policy 3240, *Student Promotion and Accountability*, establishes promotion standards and processes to be used in determining a student's readiness to progress to the next level of study. WCS Administrative Regulation 3420B-R, Student Promotion and Accountability (Credit Recovery), provides an additional learning opportunity for students who have previously been unsuccessful in mastering content or skills required to receive course credit.

G. Under Revised Policy 3620, *Extracurricular Activities and Student Organization* - First Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general statutes and align with the NCSBA policies.

H. Under Revised Policy 4400, *Attendance* – First Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general statutes and align with the NCSBA policies.

Action Items

A. Under Contracts Requiring Board Approval – Instructional Services, Board Policy 6520, *Contracts with the Board*, states that any contract for materials, equipment, or service involving expenditures in excess of $90,000 must be reviewed by the Board attorney and approved in advance by the Board unless provided otherwise in Board Policy. The following contracts exceed $90,000 and require Board approval:
    - 95 Percent Group, for a Phonic Care Program, in the amount of $111,323.37
    - AB Staffing Solutions (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $80,000 to $95,000
    - AB Staffing Solutions (2025-2026), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $300,000
    - Allied Instructional Services, EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $100,000
    - Ambergris, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $150,000
    - AMN Healthcare, Inc., for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $150,000
    - Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities, for Vocational Rehab Services, in the amount of $108,090
    - Focal Point Medical Staffing, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $130,000
    - The Interpreter Network, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $150,000
    - Kinetic Pediatric Therapy, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $1,500,000

- Public Consulting Group (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $50,000 to $100,000
- Presence (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $80,000 to $300,000
- Presence (2025-2026), for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $300,000
- Solient Health, LLC, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $150,000
- Sunbelt Staffing, LLC, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount not to exceed $150,000
- Venture Rehabilitation Group, for EC contracted personnel, in an amount increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $150,000 to $200,000

Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Dr. Fitch, that the Board move forward with the following contracts: 95 Percent Group, for a Phonic Care Program, for $111,323.37; AB Staffing Solutions (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $80,000 to $95,000; AB Staffing Solutions (2025-2026), for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $300,000; Allied Instructional Services, EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $100,000; Ambergris, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $150,000; AMN Healthcare, Inc., for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $150,000; Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities, for Vocational Rehab Services, for $108,090; Focal Point Medical Staffing, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $130,000; The Interpreter Network, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $150,000; Kinetic Pediatric Therapy, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $1,500,000; Public Consulting Group (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $50,000 to $100,000; Presence (2024-2025), for EC contracted personnel, increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $80,000 to $300,000; Presence (2025-2026), for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $300,000; Solient Health, LLC, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $150,000; Sunbelt Staffing, LLC, for EC contracted personnel, not to exceed $150,000; Venture Rehabilitation Group, for EC contracted personnel, increased from the previous submission of not to exceed $150,000 to $200,000. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

B. Under Revised Policy 4334/5053/7345, *Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)* – Second Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general statutes and align with the NCSBA policies. Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Ms. Powell, that the Board approve Revised Policy 4334/5053/7345, *Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)*. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

C. Under Revised Policy 4342, *Student Searches* – Second Reading, this policy is being revised by the law firm of Poyner Spruill, LLC, to comply with general

statutes and align with the NCSBA policies. Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Ms. Powell, that the Board approve Revised Policy 4342, *Student Searches*, as a second reading with the grammatical change on line 45. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Mr. Batts asked for a discussion item to be added to the agenda on public input so that a response is provided to the speakers within a 15-day period instead of a 30-day period. Mr. Batts made the motion to amend the agenda to discuss Public Input and Discussion. Mr. Breen seconded the motion. Mr. Batts made the motion, seconded by Mr. Breen, to amend the agenda to make Roman Numeral XII, Time Response, and Roman Numeral XIII, Adjournment. Ms. Boyette asked for clarity on the motion. Mr. Breen clarified that the motion was to amend the agenda to discuss whether or not to change the timeframe of responses. The motion passed 4-3, with Ms. Powell, Ms. Boyette and Dr. Fitch casting the dissenting votes.

Mr. Breen then asked for the discussion to occur prior to Closed Session. Mr. Breen made the motion, seconded by Mr. Batts, that the Board make this item Roman Numeral IX on the agenda. The motion passed 5-2, with Ms. Powell and Dr. Fitch casting the dissenting votes.

IX. Under Timely Response for Public Input, Mr. Batts asked the Administration to provide a response to public input speakers before a 30-day period and not the day of the next Board meeting. He asked for the Administration to respond within a 15- to 20-day period so that the public input speaker will have time to prepare a rebuttal. Mr. Breen, Ms. Boyette, Ms. Powell and Dr. Fitch shared that time restraints should not be placed on the Administration because they do respond in a timely manner, the Administration needs time to research and prepare these responses. Dr. Fitch also addressed concerns shared earlier in the meeting during the public input portion. She shared that decisions regarding personnel issues requires the Administration to work within the funds they are given and the decisions that are made are not easy. She added that through the years, the Board has worked extremely hard to avoid employee layoffs and with the cuts that are currently being made, the employees have an opportunity to transfer to another school. She shared that it may not be the school of their choice, but their contracts state that they are placed at the direction of the Administration. Dr. Fitch also added that WCS has been fortunate to not have massive layoffs, which many other districts are facing, and that is due to the efforts of our Administration. Dr. Fitch made a motion, seconded by Ms. Powell, that the Board leave the public input response as it was earlier in the night. The motion passed 6-1, with Mr. Batts casting the dissenting vote.

X. At 8:09 p.m., Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Ms. Boyette and Dr. Fitch, that the Wilson County Board of Education go into Closed Session to consider confidential personnel matters as provided in N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and (6) and 115C-319 through 321; to consider confidential student matters as provided in N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and N.C.G.S. 115C-402 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; and to consult with the Board of Education attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege as provided in N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3). The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

At 8:57 p.m., Dr. Fitch made the motion to reconvene to Open Session. The motion, seconded by Mr. Breen, passed unanimously, 7-0.

XI. Reporting from Closed Session, Dr. Fitch made the motion, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board approve the Inter-District Reassignment Requests, but do not release for public inspection due to confidential student records. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Ms. Boyette made the motion, seconded by Ms. Powell and Mr. Batts, that the Board approve the Closed Session minutes of the April 14, 2025, meeting, but do not release the minutes for public inspection because of confidential personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Ms. Powell made the motion, seconded by Ms. Boyette, that the Board approve personnel recommendations as amended by the Administration. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0. Mr. Breen recused himself from voting due to his name being listed on the personnel recommendations as a Coach. The list of personnel recommendations is attached.

XII. Under Revised Date for the June 2025 Board of Education Meeting, Policy 2300, *Board Meetings*, state that the regular meetings will be held at predetermined time and place to conduct business of the Board. The Superintendent shall keep on file the schedule of regular meetings with the predetermined time and place. The schedule will be revised only in accordance with legal requirements for notice. At a previous Board meeting, the Board approved the 2024-2025 Schedule of Board meetings. The June meeting is scheduled on June 2, 2025. The Administration is recommending the Board change the meeting date to June 9, 2025 (2nd Monday), to allow more time between the May and June meetings and to close out the school year. The Board was asked to take formal action to approve the revised June regular Board meeting date. Dr. Fitch made the motion, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board move the June Board meeting to June 9, 2025. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

XIII. There being no further business at 9:01 p.m., Mr. Breen made the motion, seconded by Ms. Boyette and Mr. Batts, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

William B. Boykin, Chairman

Lane B. Mills, Ph.D., Secretary

RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL ACTIONS
May 19, 2025

Classified

Recommendation	Site	Position
Lynch, Alayisa	Barnes ES	Exceptional Children (EC) Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver
Moore, Angela	Forest Hills MS	Custodian
Rhudy, Ciera	Jones ES	After School Care Enrichment Program (ASCEP) Student Assistant
Rogers, Isabella	New Hope ES	ASCEP Assistant
Singletary, Donetta	School Nutrition	School Nutrition Assistant Substitute

Substitute Teachers

Recommendation	Position
Blackley, Brett	Non-Certified
Steinert, Caroline	Non-Certified

Coaches

Recommendation	Site	Position
Lyons, Eric	Darden MS	Athletic Director (Fall and Spring), Baseball, Boys Soccer
Autry, Jeffrey	Elm City MS	Boys Soccer, Asst. Girls Soccer
Barbrey, Krista	Elm City MS	Volleyball
Breen, Rhyan	Elm City MS	Asst. Football
Harper, Edward	Elm City MS	Asst. Football, Asst. Boys Basketball
Massey, Jeffrey	Elm City MS	Asst. Baseball
Pearson, Brent	Elm City MS	Athletic Director (Fall and Spring), Girls Basketball
Wheeler, Mitchell	Elm City MS	Baseball
Alphin, Katherine	Springfield MS	Volleyball

NON-RENEWALS

Employee	Site	Position	Action	Effective Date
Mantsourani, Michael Jr.	Forest Hills MS	8th Grade English Language Arts (ELA) Teacher	Contract Non-Renewal	6/30/2025

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

Certified

Employee	Site	Position	Action	Effective Date
Avery, Cameron	Hunt HS	PE Teacher	Resignation	6/7/2025
Beale, Camille	Darden MS	7th Grade ELA Teacher	Resignation	5/7/2025
Bonner, Cyera	Barnes ES	1st Grade Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Boone, Trina	Elm City MS	7th Grade Social Studies Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Bridgers, Angelica	Vick ES	3rd Grade Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025

Resignations/Retirements - Certified (Continued)

Employee	Site	Position	Action	Effective Date
Bushby, Michele	Gardners ES	4th Grade Teacher	Resignation	8/1/2025
Frazier, Joan	Beddingfield HS	Chorus Teacher	Retirement	6/30/2025
Goings, Shannon	Fike HS	EC Adapted Curriculum Teacher	Resignation	6/17/2025
Gufford, Benjamin	New Hope/Vick ES	Art Teacher	Resignation	5/29/2025
Holden, Tammy	Forest Hills MS	EC Adapted Curriculum Teacher	Resignation	5/1/2025
Holmes, Mark	Beddingfield HS	English Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Isom, Kristen	Hearne ES	3rd Grade Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Johnson, Cheryl	Darden MS	8th Grade Math Teacher	Resignation	5/28/2025
Joyner, Misty	WAAT	Social Studies Teacher	Resignation	5/16/2025
Lawson, Hannah	Beddingfield HS	Science Teacher	Resignation	6/18/2025
Lee, Ronicha	Darden MS	EC Resource Teacher	Resignation	5/30/2025
McBride, Peyton	Hunt HS	Math Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Mitchell, Randy	Darden MS	School Counselor	Retirement	6/30/2025
Newton, Tereasa	Jones ES	5th Grade Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Pettaway, Tatiana	Hearne ES	4th Grade Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025
Taylor, Latarsha	Student Services	School Nurse	Resignation	5/9/2025
Warren, Vicky	Fike HS	EC Occupational Course of Study Teacher	Retirement	6/30/2025
Webb, Tywanna	Darden MS	8th Grade ELA Teacher	Resignation	6/30/2025

Classified

Employee	Site	Position	Action	Effective Date
Petersen, Jason	Facility Services	Carpenter I	Resignation	4/15/2025
Pierce, Tanya	Vinson-Bynum ES	Custodian	Resignation	5/2/2025
Williams, Shannon	Lucama ES	Custodian	Resignation	4/17/2025
Woodard, Penelope	Transportation Services	Bus Driver	Resignation	5/8/2025

Administrator Contract Renewals

Administrator	Site	Position	Action	Contract Dates
Dublin, Brittany	Vinson Bynum ES	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Grice, Sonya	Lucama ES	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Hardy-Belfield, Luretta	Speight MS	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Hinton-Sellers, Shannon	Forest Hills MS	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Huneycutt, Sharon	Jones ES	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Kickligher, Emily	Stantonsburg ES	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Thomas, Kelly	Springfield MS	Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Farmer, Willie	Darden MS	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Swartz, Michelle	Darden MS	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Sessoms, Hasan	Fike HS	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Orr, Leigh Ann	Frederick Douglass ES	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029

Administrator Contract Renewals (Continued)

Administrator	Site	Position	Action	Contract Dates
Laviner, Brittany	New Hope ES	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Austin, Carla	Vinson Bynum ES	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
McMillian, Tineta	Hunt HS	Assistant Principal	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Daniel, Wendy	Human Resource Services	Director of Benefits and Classified Personnel	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Sharpe, Joyce Amber	Administrative Services	Executive Director of School Nutrition	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Spencer, Claudia	Human Resource Services	Executive Director of Human Resource Services	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Woodard, Daryl	Administrative Services	Director of Facility Services	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029
Woodard, Greg	Administrative Services	Executive Director of Facility Services	Contract Renewal	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2029