

Tuesday, May 3 BOE: After turning back an amendment by Anne McLaurin to ask the Wake County Commissioners for increased funding to maintain current per pupil spending, the Board of Education voted 5-2 to approve [Supt. Tata's proposed budget](#). (Last year, member Debra Goldman was the only vote against that budget, which she opposed without comment.) This evening, members Keith Sutton and Dr. McLaurin voted against the budget, which will be based on flat funding from the County, resulting in a decline in per pupil spending for the third year in a row. Funding will stay flat, while the district expects to grow by about 4,000 students next year.

Five Year-Rounds to Go Single-Track: The Board also voted unanimously to convert five under-enrolled year-round schools from multi-track to single-track schedules. Staff consulted principals, examined capacity estimates, and surveyed parents, and the schools approved for the change are **Alston Ridge, Highcroft, Lake Myra, Rand Road and Timber Drive** elementary schools. Initially, [fourteen schools were considered](#) for conversions. The remaining nine under-enrolled year-round schools will maintain a multi-track schedule because of potential crowding and/or because accommodations could not be made for students with siblings in year-round middle schools. The savings are expected to be about \$403,000, in months of employment of staff. Two parents from Highcroft spoke in favor of the change, while two Highcroft parents spoke opposing the change from multi-track year-round, citing concerns for future overcrowding. Two additional speakers asked the Board to delay acting on any year-round changes until Supt. Tata announces his comprehensive Student Assignment plan, expected by early June.

No PTA Input into BACs: In a 6-1 vote, the Board approved changes to the selection process for Board Advisory Councils. These councils are in each district and have parent, community and principal representatives. The Board originally sought to limit community and parent membership to only those who live in each Board member district. At the Committee of the Whole, the policy was altered to allow parents with students in District BAC schools to serve, but, in addition, the newly revised policy removes previous links between the school's PTA and the District BAC. The revised policy approved today removed the PTA as a nominating group, and struck out this sentence: "It is recommended that Board Advisory Council members from each school should be placed on the board of their local Parent Teacher Association." Only member Keith Sutton voted against these changes.

Delaying Suspension Policy: The Board delayed action on policies governing student disciplinary suspensions, promising to refine and conduct more research before finalizing proposed changes.

Instructional Calendars: The Board approved the calendars for the 2012-13 school year, marking election day, Tuesday, November 6, 2012, as a student holiday for the traditional and modified calendars and as a 2-hour delay for the year-round calendar. The calendars will soon be posted to the district website.

Upcoming meetings:

Wednesday, May 4, 7 pm: Public forum by **Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education**, at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh. OCR investigators have met with

the School board members, as well as staff and students, and this forum is designed for the community to voice their opinions.

Thursday, May 5, 4:30 pm: The [Economically Disadvantaged Student Performance Task Force](#) meets at Fox Road Elementary School, 7101 Fox Road.

Tuesday, May 10, 6 pm: public hearing on the Board's [redistricting proposal](#), drafted by attorney Kieran Shanahan. The public can [register online comments](#) as well as attend the public hearing. The Board plans to vote on the proposal at a specially called meeting on Tuesday, May 17.