



## MEETING MINUTES

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### Attendees

#### **Voting Members Present**

Ms. Deborah Napper, Chair, District 5  
Ms. Linda Welborn, District 4  
Ms. Khem Irby, District 6

#### **Others Present**

Mr. Marshall Matson, Chief of Schools, Staff Liaison  
Mr. Gregory Newlin, Principal, Western Guilford High School  
Mr. Weaver Walden, Principal Supervisor, Learning Area 1  
Ms. Lisa Nolen, Director of Board Relations

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### Call to Order

Chairperson Deborah Napper called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

### Approval of December 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

*Motion was made by Khem Irby to approve the December 14, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*

### Nomination to Name the Baseball Field at Western Guilford High School's Brett Stell Stadium

Chairperson Napper stated that a nomination has been received to name the baseball field at Western Guilford High School's (WGHS) Brett Stell Stadium in honor of former coach Chris Causey.

WGHS Principal Gregory Newlin spoke in favor of the naming nomination. Principal Newlin stated that Mr. Causey was a student-athlete when he attended WGHS before serving as a teacher, assistant football coach, head baseball coach, and athletics director at the school. He said Mr. Causey is well regarded by the school community, and served as a positive role model to many WGHS students.

Committee Member Welborn expressed concern that Mr. Causey is still living, but acknowledge that he has retired from the district after serving nearly 30 years at WGHS which complies with Board policy.

*Motion was made by Khem Irby to forward the nomination to name the baseball field at Western Guilford High School's Brett Stell Stadium the "Chris Causey Field" to the Board of Education for its consideration. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*

### Consideration of Nominations to Name the New Visual and Performing Arts K-5 School

Chairperson Napper called on Principal Supervisor Weaver Walden to present three nominations to name the new visual and performing arts K-5 school.

Mr. Walden stated that he facilitated a community meeting to garner nominations to name the new visual and performing arts K-5 school being built on the former Peeler Open

Elementary School site. Participants used ranked choice voting to forward the following three names to the Committee for its consideration:

- **Eleanor Gwynn School for Visual and Performing Arts** – Dr. Eleanor Gwynn is a nationally renowned dancer and dance instructor. She received her Master's Degree from UNC-Greensboro. She started the E. Gwynn Dance Company while a dance professor at N.C. A&T State University, a position she held for over 40 years.
- **Alma Adams School for Visual and Performing Arts** – U.S. Representative Alma Adams she was the first African-American female to be elected to the Greensboro City Board of Education, and served in the North Carolina House of Representatives representing most of southeast Greensboro. She has served in the U.S House of Representatives since 2014. She received her Bachelor's Degree from N.C. A&T State University, and taught art history at Bennett College.
- **Malvin Gray Johnson School for Visual and Performing Arts** – Malvin Gray Johnson (1896 - 1934) was born and raised in Greensboro. He attended Percy Street School, which was located on the current site of Swann Middle School. He rose to prominence as an artist during the Harlem Renaissance, and some of his works can be viewed in the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

*Motion was made by Khem Irby to forward the nomination to name the new visual and performing arts K-5 school the "Eleanor Gwynn School for Visual and Performing Arts" to the Board of Education for its consideration.*

*Substitute motion was made by Deborah Napper to forward the nominations to name the new visual and performing arts K-5 school the "Eleanor Gwynn School for Visual and Performing Arts" and "Malvin Gray Johnson School for Visual and Performing Arts" to the Board of Education for its consideration. The motion failed by a vote of 1 to 2 as follows: Ayes -- Deborah Napper; Nays -- Khem Irby, Linda Welborn.*

The Committee next considered Ms. Irby's primary motion to *forward the nomination to name the new visual and performing arts K-5 school the "Eleanor Gwynn School for Visual and Performing Arts" to the Board of Education for its consideration. The motion passed upon unanimous voice vote.*

### **Other Business**

None.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 3:49 p.m., the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.