

Resolution Supporting Energy Efficient and Sustainable Facility Design

WHEREAS, the Durham voters and taxpayers have been very supportive of building new and improving existing facilities due to both growth and current conditions, and

WHEREAS, the Board has supported the administration's efforts to incorporate sustainable design, energy efficiency and environmentally friendly practices into school facilities, and

WHEREAS, all occupants – students and staff – will be healthier and teach and learn better in such facilities, and

WHEREAS, Durham Public Schools faces challenging and often daunting budget conditions every fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, shrewd investment strategy and fiscal responsibility are a value of all energy decisions at DPS, and

WHEREAS, a diversified energy portfolio reduces our vulnerability to price and supply fluctuations, and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Durham County made a commitment to reduce carbon emissions, and

WHEREAS, more energy efficient school facilities are less costly to operate, allowing limited funding to be focused on teaching and learning, and

WHEREAS, DPS has already designed several LEED certified buildings and consistently exhibits its commitment to teaching and learning environmental stewardship through inclusion in programs and curricula, and

WHEREAS, the Board does recognize that current legal restrictions unique to the State of North Carolina limit the financial viability of utilizing solar energy and other renewable sources, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that Durham Public Schools Board of Education expresses its support for legislative changes that improve the financial viability of utilizing solar energy and other renewable resources, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education encourages administrators at every level throughout our system to support a culture of energy conservation, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Durham Public Schools Board of Education expresses its commitment to seek all achievable, practical and reasonable measures to reduce its dependence on and use of high-carbon fossil fuel energy sources to the maximum extent possible, and

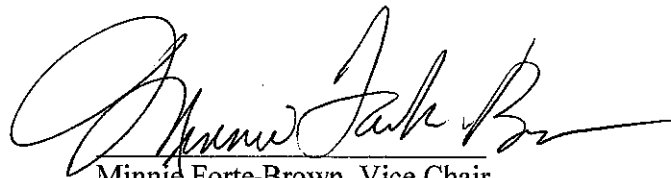
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board is committed to design new buildings and major renovations to achieve high performance building standards based on the most current industry opportunities and guidelines available at the time, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board seeks this standard as a partnership with the Board of County Commissioners related to funding available for school construction and renovation.

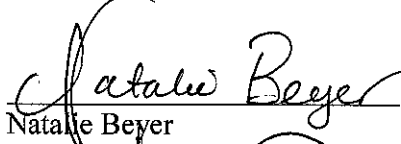
This the 23rd day of April, 2015.



Heidi Carter, Chair

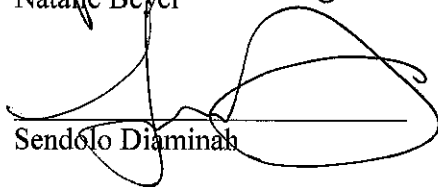


Minnie Forte-Brown, Vice Chair

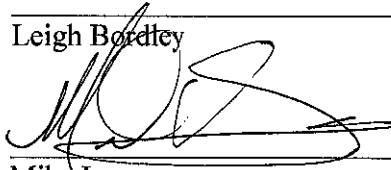


Natalie Beyer


Leigh Bordley



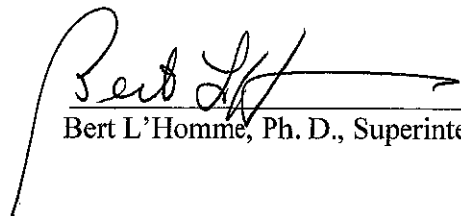
Sendolo Diaminah



Mike Lee



Matt Sears



Bert L'Homme, Ph. D., Superintendent