

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD A JOINT MEETING WITH THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013 @ 6:00 P.M., AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, 25 BERNARD ROAD, ROCKY MOUNT, VIRGINIA..

THERE WERE PRESENT: David Cundiff, Chairman
Cline Brubaker, Vice-Chairman
Leland Mitchell
Bob Camicia
Charles Wagner
Bobby Thompson
Ronnie Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard E. Huff, II, County Administrator
Sharon K. Tudor, MMC, Clerk

David Cundiff, Chairman, called the joint meeting with the School Board to order.

Chairperson, Sarah Alexander, Rocky Mount District, School Board, called the School Board to order and thanked the Board for accepting the School Board's invitation to the joint meeting to discuss Developing a Better Budget Process.

Sarah Alexander, Chairperson, School Board called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Alexander requested the Board to have a moment of silence for David Leffue, Director of Purchasing, School System.

Bill Brush, Gills Creek District, School Board stated the School Board had formed a budget committee and it consisted of G. B. Washburn and himself. Mr. Brush stated the School Board would welcome the Board of Supervisors to appoint two (2) of their members to serve on the budget committee.

Lee Cheatham, Finance Director, gave a breakdown on what Title I & II Funds, and the Standards of Quality for Education.

General discussion ensued regarding Title I funding allocations.

Bill Brush stated he felt an open dialogue between the two Boards is needed before the budget process actually begins in March and April. He urged the Board to begin the budget process earlier than previous budget years.

G. B. Washburn, Snow Creek District, School Board Member and Sarah Alexander, Rocky Mount District, School Board member expressed the crucial need for an open line of communication should be open during the budget process as well as other times from both Boards.

Chairman Cundiff stated the County has approved the purchase and implementation of a new financial software system during their September 18th Board meeting. Mr. Cundiff stated the new software will be utilized by the School System and the County therefore, allowing the finances to improve funding estimates.

Dr. Mark Church, Superintendent of Schools, expressed concern with regards to the potential for a decline in education quality, pointing out lagging graduation rates and a shortage of alternative education programs geared toward helping disadvantage students.

Bill Brush stated our school has the largest drop-out in the region. Mr. Brush felt like the School Board's 6-Year Plan should align with the County's Strategic Plan, recently adopted.

Bill Brush stated there were over 400 home schooled students and this is a large number and sum of money being lost within the school system.

Bobby Thomson, Blue Ridge District Supervisor, felt like the budget committee is a good idea. Mr. Thompson stated he felt like carry-over funds should be a more reliable calculation along with a full explanation and less surprises. Mr. Thompson stated the more the Boards communicate "the more we can trust each other and the numbers".

Chairman Cundiff stated during the Board Retreat they will discuss Board appointments to the School Board Budget Committees.

Crystal Naff, Boone District, School Board stated there is a need to work on the drop-out rate, acknowledging that 20% of foster care students drop out of school.

G. B. Washburn, Snow Creek District, School Board requested the Board to follow-up on a proposal made by the Virginia School Board Association to request the Virginia General Assembly to consider the changing of the composite index formula to take into account the reduction in real estate values as a result of land use taxation.

Chairman Cundiff recessed the meeting until Wednesday, October 2, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

DAVID CUNDIFF
CHAIRMAN

SHARON K. TUDOR, MMC
COUNTY CLERK