

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

Monday, July 21, 2014

Minutes

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a work session on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Central Services Boardroom, at the 2222 South Fayetteville Street Office in Asheboro. Board Members in attendance were as follows: Todd Cutler-Vice Chair, Tracy Boyles, Gary Cook, and Tommy McDonald. Also present were Superintendent Stephen Gainey and the leadership team.

The work session began at 4:32 p.m.

Curriculum & Instruction Division

- Update on field trip guidelines

Catherine Berry, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction presented an update on field trips. Board members received procedural guidelines for field trips in the Randolph County School System. These procedures are aligned with current Board Policy 3320, Regulation code 3320-R, 3320-E1, 3320-E2, 6355 and 6355-E1. A checklist for submitting field trip requests, along with guidelines for field trip consideration was presented. An itinerary is also requested in order to review the safety plan first and foremost, student/staff ratio for supervision, and cost. Dr. Berry stated that safety is the most important when reviewing field trip requests, then the amount of time students are away from school.

- 2014-2015 testing waiver

Ms. Berry stated that for the 2014-2015 school year, the state is allowing Randolph County School System to apply for a testing waiver from the requirements in G.S. §115C-174.12(4), which limits the administration of final exams for year-long courses to the final 10 instructional days of the school year and the final five (5) instructional days of semester courses. This waiver request will allow the administration of final exams for year-long courses within the final 15 instructional days of the school year and the final 10 instructional days of the semester for semester courses. Other information presented to the Board for review is as follows: Copy of the RCSS testing waiver memo to North Carolina State Board of Education, House Bill 230-Section 16, RCSS testing calendar for traditional schools (10/5 days), RCSS testing calendar traditional schools (15/10days), RCSS testing calendar for Randolph Early College (5 days), RCSS testing calendar for Early College (10 days). In conclusion, the superintendent stated the testing waiver is something that is needed. The testing waiver will be brought to the Board as an action item at the 8/18/14 Board of Education meeting.

Finance & Budget Division

- Quarterly budget update

Finance Officer Todd Lowe presented the fourth quarter update on state allotments, low wealth funding, transportation, teacher assistants, limited English proficiency, current expense revenue and budget, and capital outlay revenue and budget as follows:

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State Allotments

- Final 2013-2014 state allotments totaled \$96.4 mil
- 29 specific state programs
- 3 additional programs in 2013-2014 = \$437,842:
 - Summer Reading Camp = \$227,764
 - Digital Learning = \$197,834
 - Panic Alarms = \$12,244
- Additional funding was specific to the program and could not be used in other areas
- \$4.1 mil total decrease compared to 2012-2013
- Enrollment factors:
 - Initial allotment of 129 less students = \$700,000
 - Charter school growth = \$491,000
 - ADM reversion = \$238,000
- Additional factors:
 - Low Wealth, Transportation, Teacher Asst, LEP

Low Wealth Funding

- 2010-2011 = \$6,436,737
- 2011-2012 = \$7,204,493
- 2012-2013 = \$7,518,978
- 2013-2014 = \$6,964,516
- Steady increases in previous years helped to offset other state reductions
- Additional \$236,681 decrease expected 2014-2015

Transportation Funding

- Final 2013-2014 allotment totaled \$4.3 mil
- \$195,046 decrease from 2012-2013
- \$56,703 less than planning allotment
- 2012-2013 final allotment was \$470,687 more than planning
- In short, we did not receive 2nd semester revenues comparable to previous years

Teacher Assistant Funding

- 2013-2014 TA allotment totaled \$4.9 mil
- \$1.49 mil decrease from 2012-2013
- Reduced regular-ed positions to 94%
- Transferred \$600,000 to Classroom Teacher funding, compared to \$1.9 mil in 2012-2013
- Therefore, TA cut has direct impact on Teacher funding

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Limited English Proficiency

- 2013-2014 allotment totaled \$798,692
- \$164,082 less than 2012-2013
- Resulted in approximately 3 additional LEP teachers funded from classroom teacher allotment

Current Expense Revenue & Budget

- Final 13-14 revenues totaled \$19.5 mil
- \$450,000 less than anticipated
- Key factors:
 - Fines & Forfeitures – It was shared that school systems are showing a decrease in fines and forfeitures
 - Indirect Costs
 - Miscellaneous Local and State
- Final expenses totaled \$20.7 mil
- Combination resulted in approximately \$1.2 mil negative impact on local cash

Capital Outlay Revenue & Budget

- Final 13-14 revenues totaled \$2.9 mil
- \$38,000 less than anticipated
- Final expenses totaled \$2.7 mil
- Combination resulted in approximately \$200,000 positive impact on capital outlay cash

Summary

- As 13-14 progressed, negative factors in state funding and local revenues combined, were more than could be absorbed
- Some components were foreseen.....low wealth, teacher assistants, and LEP allotments
- Others were not.....transportation, enrollment shortage, charter school impact, and local revenues
- All factors are currently being addressed with regard to the 14-15 budget

Operations Division

- Quarterly student assignment update

Marty Trotter, Assistant Superintendent for Operations presented the fourth quarter student assignment report including student numbers, percentage of capacity at each school, along with assignments/transfers.

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- 2013-2014 data update

Marty Trotter presented the 2013-2014 attendance and discipline data for the system and each individual school including a five year history. The superintendent spoke of the importance of the visibility of staff in the schools and how proud he is of all our principals.

After reviewing the student attendance (95.97%), the board made a request for RCSS staff attendance.

Board member Gary Mason entered the meeting.

Superintendent's Office

- Goal 2019

Dr. Gainey presented Goal 2019, that states the following: By the end of the 2018-2019 school year, at least 75% of the students taking End-of-Grade (EOG) tests and End-of-Course (EOC) tests in the Randolph County School System will perform at or above "Level 3" and all subgroups of students will perform at the "Expected Growth" Level or higher. He also shared that the same three steps from the 2013-2014 goals would continue. After review, the superintendent welcomed conversation and thoughts from the board members.

Board member Matthew Lambeth entered the meeting.

- Overview of upcoming Board of Education and staff events/issues

1) Board Work Session/Meeting Schedule for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year:

- a) August 18
- a) September 15
- b) October 20
- c) November 17
- d) December 15
- e) January 13
- f) February 16
- g) March 16
- h) April 20
- i) May 18
- j) June 1 (Board meeting only---no work session)

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k) June 15

Note: The start time for each Board Work Session is 4:30 p.m. Also, the start time for each Board Meeting is 6:30 p.m. Each meeting will be held at the school system's Fayetteville Street Office.

- 2) Teachers return to work for 2014-2015 school year---August 15
- 3) 1st day of students for 2014-2015 school year---August 25
- 4) "NCSBA District 5" meeting---September 17 (4:00-8:00; Chatham County Schools)
- 5) 45th Annual NCSBA Conference---November 17-19 (Koury Convention Center in Greensboro)

The work session ended at 5:50 p.m.

Board Chair

Board Secretary