

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA  
February 16, 2017

A special meeting of the Prince George School Board was called to order on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at the School Board Office at 6:30 P.M.

Members present:

Mr. Reeve Ashcraft, Board Member  
Mr. Robert E. Cox, Jr., Board Member  
Mr. Roger E. Franklin, Jr., Board Member  
Mr. Lewis E. Stevenson, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Renee P. Williams, Superintendent  
Dr. Patrick Bingham, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, Assistant Superintendent  
Mrs. Rebecca B. Kirk, Clerk of the Board

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Stevenson, Vice Chairman, called the special meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the following Board Members present:

Present: Ashcraft, Cox, Franklin, Stevenson  
Absent: Foster

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Ashcraft made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Cox, Franklin, Stevenson  
Absent: Foster

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Stevenson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **V. FY2017-18 BUDGET WORK SESSION**

Mr. Stevenson thanked all in attendance at the budget work session. He turned the meeting over to Mrs. Williams.

Mrs. Williams indicated that the Board has been provided with the first draft of the 2017-18 budget binders. She thanked Becky Hicks and staff for working diligently to put the budget binders together and asked her to go through the sections in the binder.

Ms. Hicks stated she has tried to simplify the binder from years' past. The first section is the Superintendent's Memo 040-17 describing the amendments to the Governor's 2016-2018 Biennial Budget, including the Governor's projected budget, the Senate's version of the budget and the House of Delegate's projected budget. She described the differences in each version. The major difference in the three versions is the Governor's version allows for 1.5% bonus payment effective December 1, 2017 for funded SOQ instructional and support positions with restrictions. The House version adds the funding for the lottery proceeds without any restrictions on where the money is used and the Senate version stipulates a 3% bonus for salaries.

She proceeded to go through the tabs in the binder. The first tab described the Highlights of the FY2018 Budget (see attached) and Superintendent's proposed budget presented at the February 7, 2017 meeting.

Tab 2 is the revenue breakdown by category (\$66,263,197). State revenues are based upon the House version of the budget. General Assembly approval of the budget is anticipated March 10, 2017. The school board may have to modify the budget upon receipt of any new information.

Tab 3 shows the expenditures by category. Also included was a comparison for FY2016-17 (\$64,715,963) vs. FY2017-18 (\$66,263,197), the difference being \$1,547,234 (or 2.39%).

Tab 4 included military student enrollment numbers, Impact Aid revenues, and historical data on Impact Aid collections from 2000 to the present.

Tab 5 included new staff requests by location, costs associated, step scale, and supplement pay scale.

Tab 6 describes current federal grants by category and historical data.

Tab 7 is the Food and Nutrition Services account also by category and historical data.

Tab 8 is reserved for Capital Improvement Budget data. Mr. Stevenson shared that the CIP committee approved construction of new schools to replace Walton and Beazley Elementary Schools. Walton to be replaced first and Beazley two years later.

Tab 9 is reserved for School Vehicle Inventory. Information will be forthcoming.

Tab 10 is a working document with detailed worksheets.

During the presentation it was discussed why North, our newest school, has the largest water and sewer usage. The usage has continued to go up in the last few years and the Board has asked staff to research why usage is so high. Some questions were whether there was a leak, or is someone tapping into our services, it just does not make sense why usage continues to grow and our expenses are greater in the newer school.

Mr. Ashcraft said that while information may be positive and ambitious, it is not good enough. Our students and employees deserve better. We need to improve our technology, maintain teachers, and give students a quality education.

Mr. Stevenson said the state continues to add unfunded mandates on the school divisions (i.e. special education), costs are still on the rise, and he asked staff to communicate with the school board attorney regarding recourse for action on how school divisions can file a class action lawsuit against the state for negligence in redirecting VRS funds to other projects and now requiring school divisions to absorb the costs with acceleration of VRS replacement of funding schedules.

Schools have been operating in crisis mode for a long time. Employees have been great working with what they have but we can't stretch anymore. We have to have the funds to retain our employees, keep our buildings in good condition, and maintain or improve our educational program.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Mr. Ashcraft seconded the motion.

VOTE:       Ayes: Ashcraft, Cox, Franklin, Stevenson  
              Absent: Foster

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we set our signatures this 13th day of March, 2017.

Approved:

/s/ Lewis E. Stevenson – Vice Chairman

Attest:

/s/ Rebecca B. Kirk – Clerk