

March 16, 2016

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Prince Edward County High School Library, 1482 Zion Hill Road, Farmville, VA, thereof, on Thursday, the 16th day of March, 2016; at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Board of Supervisors

Pattie Cooper-Jones
Calvin L. Gray
Odessa H. Pride
Howard F. Simpson
C. Robert Timmons, Jr.
Jerry R. Townsend
Jim R. Wilck

School Board

Sherry Honeycutt, Chairman
Wilkie Chaffin, Ph.D.
Dr. Timothy W. Corbett, Sr.
Chapman Hood Frazier
Dr. Peter Gur
Darin Thomas
Lawrence C. Varner
Beulah M. Womack

Absent: Robert M. Jones, Chairman

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Dr. Barbara A. Johnson, Superintendent; and Cindy Wahrman, Division Director of Finance.

Vice-Chairman Cooper-Jones called the meeting to order.

Dr. Barbara Johnson, Superintendent, presented a review of the proposed School Budget for 2017-2018. She stated building quality programming, taking care of staff members and students, and having an open environment are all reasons to come to Prince Edward County. She said it is her role and commitment to the County to provide an A-1 school system.

Supervisor Wilck asked if Longwood University can assist. Dr. Johnson stated she has had conversations with Longwood University; they are committed to assisting Prince Edward County Schools. She said she has interns assisting with public relations and spoke recently with President Reveley, who is helping brainstorm. She said she will also be in touch with Hampden-Sydney President Stimpert regarding options and alternatives because of the awareness of the funding level that the Board of Supervisors provides. Dr. Johnson said they are both helping to the extent that they can, and that she must be thoughtful about the requests for assistance.

Dr. Johnson stated the next steps are to have the approval of the requested budget by the Prince Edward County School Board on March 20 [2017], and then to present the School Budget to the Board of Supervisors on March 30.

Dr. Johnson reviewed the turnover-trend, adding that they were able to get new hires, many from Longwood University. She said many did their student teaching with Prince Edward County Schools and stay. She reviewed enrollment by grade, and where the students are coming from. She pointed out the grade levels that have increased or decreased in size from the end of the year last year.

Dr. Johnson stated the School's Finance Committee met with the Board's Finance Committee twice; initially, discussion was held on options and choices based on the House and Senate and the Governor's Budgets. During the second meeting, numbers were discussed and changes were made to the budget, recognizing the goal is level funding and that the school still needs support. She reviewed budget adjustments made. She said STEM materials were moved to Title I funding; a grant coordinator was removed from funding but can be provided using another staff member or community sources to address that need. She stated Virtual Virginia slots can be used for free, but if a large number of students sign up for the online learning, the school loses \$75 if that student decides not to use the resource. She said Comprehensive Instructional Program (CIP) materials can be covered with Title I; Achieve 3000, a remediation program for reading for high school students, was taken out and moved to FY17. Coaching stipend increases were added. Total deductions after the first round were \$111,000.

Supervisor Gray requested clarification regarding the cost of textbooks. Dr. Johnson stated it is driven by ADM; with the increase in enrollment, the cost increased.

Dr. Johnson introduced Cindy Wahrman and commended her for her hard work and assistance.

Ms. Wahrman stated the lottery funds were used for textbooks previously; it was taken from Lottery and moved to the SOQ categories.

Mr. Chaffin asked the reasoning for the decrease in the state grants. Ms. Wahrman stated the Security Equipment Grant was listed under "Other" and a number of state grants were listed for potential revenue and they were never received, so they were removed.

Supervisor Gray commented that he appreciated the more detailed layout of the funding, making it easier to follow.

Dr. Johnson stated that if a member of the Board of Supervisors has a question, they are welcome to call her, but it may be easier to funnel questions through Mr. Bartlett; he can collect them and forward them to her.

Chairman Honeycutt thanked everyone for coming and thanked the Board of Supervisors for all that they have done in the past.

Dr. Johnson announced a newsletter that the Board members will be receiving in the mail. She said this is one of the ways the School is reaching out, along with posts to social media, to ensure that everyone knows something great about Prince Edward County Schools.

Chairman Honeycutt said the Farmville Herald has provided better coverage lately; she said it is greatly appreciated.

Chairman Honeycutt recessed until their next meeting.

On motion of Supervisor Wilck, seconded by Supervisor Townsend, and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones Calvin L. Gray Odessa H. Pride Howard F. Simpson C. Robert Timmons, Jr. Jerry R. Townsend Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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Absent: Robert M. Jones

the meeting was recessed at 6:45 p.m. until Tuesday, March 28, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.