



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

April 19, 2016

BUDGET WORK SESSION AND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

5:30 p.m.

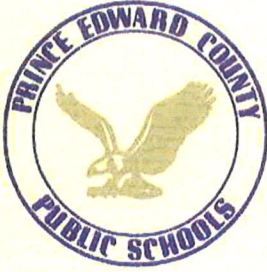
1. Chairman Simpson will call the reconvened meeting to order.
2. Amended Roofing Contract
3. Discussion of FY 17 County Budget

Recess: Until Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

1. Chairman Simpson will call the reconvened meeting to order.
2. Presentation by School Board of Revised Budget Request. 1
3. PUBLIC HEARING: FY 17 County Budget 5

Recess: Until Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.



Prince Edward County Public Schools

35 Eagle Drive
Farmville, Virginia 23901

Telephone 434-315-2150
Fax 434-392-1911

K. David Smith, Ed.D.
Division Superintendent

April 15, 2016

Mr. Wade Bartlett
County Administrator
Prince Edward County
Board of Supervisors
P. O. Box 382
Farmville, VA 23901

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

The Prince Edward County School Board held a budget work session on April 13, 2016 to review the requested 2016-2017 School Budget. Based on the original funding request of March 16, 2016, and after a lengthy discussion of the improvement needs of the school division, the School Board approved the enclosed revision of the requested funding level for FY 2017 (vote: 4 yes, 2 no).


While taking into account the budget constraints faced by the governing body and the needs of the school division, the local funding request has been reduced to \$8,752,402, which is \$752,402, above the advertised funding level. This is a reduction of \$1,164,001 from the original request.

The attached documents provide the specific information for the revised request, as well as the list of previously requested items which were removed from the original request.

The requested funding from the governing body is \$8,752,402, placing the School Operating Budget at \$25,322,405. The total 2016-2017 requested School Division budget becomes \$27,015,832, which includes \$25,322,405 School Operations, \$1,088,427 Food Service, and \$605,000 first year of the Capital Improvement Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of the revisions made to the requested school budget for FY 2016-17.

Sincerely,


K. David Smith, Ed.D.
Division Superintendent

Enclosures: Revisions to 2016-2017 Local Funding Request
Reductions from March 16, 2016 Budget Request

pc: School Board Members

**PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS
REVISED 2016-2017 LOCAL FUNDING REQUEST
April 13, 2016**

Revisions to the 2016-2017 Local Funding Request

Above the advertised \$8M

Approved Signing Bonus for Math, Science, Spec. Educ.	\$20,000
One teacher Elementary School for K-3 ratio The proposed state funding reduction of 101 to 71 Pre-K students, provides 1 teacher to be reassigned	68,880
Health Insurance Premium Increase, 15% Calculated on current enrollment	224,324
2% Salary Increase, December 1, all employees Includes the VRS rate increase	344,698
Three elementary aides, K-1 Reduced from seven based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two funded through Title I• The reduction of PK state funding to 71 students provides one aide to be reassigned to K-1• Eliminating one aide request	94,500
Total additions to the advertised 2016-2017 Local Funding	\$752,402
2016-2017 Revised Local Funding Request for the School Operating Budget	\$8,752,402

**PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS
REVISED 2016-2017 LOCAL FUNDING REQUEST
April 13, 2016**

Reductions from March 16, 2016 Budget Request

Required:

Virginia Retirement System projected 0.71% increase (80,590)
Included in the 2% salary increase

Health Insurance Premium Increase, projected 15% (257,200)

School Board Goals:

Community Engagement Coordinator part-time (37,731)
Two Foreign Language Teachers (137,760)
Two Virtual Virginia on-line course replacements (137,760)
One High School Physics Teacher (68,880)
Transportation Requested Increase (103,000)

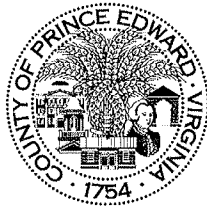
Additional Requests:

Seven Elementary School Instructional Aides, K-1 (220,500)
Elementary School Requested Increase (10,955)
Middle School Requested Increase (3,244)
Chorus Teacher part-time (37,731)
High School Requested Increase (4,648)
Biology Teacher (68,880)
Coaching Stipend Increase (35,000)
Athletic Trainer middle school football (800)
Maintenance Requested Increase (12,500)
Facilities (Site Improvement) Requested Increase (100,000)

Total Reductions from Original 2016-2017 Budget Request

(\$1,317,179)

Ad



An Ordinance to Impose Tax Levies For Calendar Year 2016

Whereas, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors establishes the levies for the County of Prince Edward, Virginia; and

Whereas, for calendar year 2016, beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016, the Board of Supervisors has duly advertised and on April 19, 2016 held a public hearing on the subject tax levies;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince Edward that the following tax levies be, and hereby are, imposed for the calendar year 2016:

Levy	Nominal Tax Rate (per \$100 of assessed valuation)	Value Used for Assessment Purposes	Effective Tax Rate (per \$100 of assessed valuation)
Real Estate	\$0.51	Fair Market Value	\$0.51
Mobile Homes	\$0.51	Fair Market Value	\$0.51
Merchant's Capital	\$0.70	100% of Original Cost	\$0.70
Tangible Personal Property – Motor Vehicles	\$4.50	N.A.D.A. Guide, Loan Value	\$4.50
Tangible Personal Property – Business Furniture & Fixtures	\$4.50	20% of Original Cost	\$0.90
Tangible Personal Property – Heavy Equipment	\$4.50	20% of Original Cost	\$0.90
Machinery & Tools	\$4.20	10% of Original Cost	\$0.42
Farm Machinery & Equipment	\$0.00	----	\$0.00
Additional Special Levy – Poplar Hill CDA District Only			
Levy	Nominal Tax Rate (per \$100 of assessed valuation)	Value Used for Assessment Purposes	Effective Tax Rate (per \$100 of assessed valuation)
Poplar Hill CDA Real Estate Special Levy	\$1.00	Fair Market Value	\$1.00

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince Edward, Virginia at a regular board meeting in Prince Edward County, Virginia, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of ___ in favor and ___ opposed, this ___ day of _____, 2016.

Howard F. Simpson, Chairman

ATTEST:

W.W. Bartlett, County Administrator

PE Board

From: Rita Anema <ritakanema@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 11:06 AM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Subject: Election of a Prince Edward County School Board Member

Dear Mr. C. Robert Timmons, Jr., Alix Fink, Maurice Finney, Sarah Hardy, Melanie Holman, Marshall Thackston,

I am writing to express my thoughts about Patricia A. Bobenrieth becoming a Prince Edward County School Board Member. I have know Mrs. Bobenrieth for most of my career at Prince Edward County Elementary School (about 12 years). She has always been an asset to our School System, trying to help our students to succeed, especially the SPED students that she has worked with. She has a heart to make sure that all students needs are met and also to help other teachers to find ways to help their students. I think that Mrs. Bobenrieth would be an asset to the School Board as she is in this (the bottom line) for our students, and to help our students get what they need and deserve. Her being a teacher also gives her an advantage, as she knows how the School System works and what the teachers and our schools need to succeed and do what is best for our students and community. I hope you will consider Mrs. Bobenrieth for the School Board Member position she is applying for. Our School System could really use someone with the knowledge and experience that she has.

Thank you for listening,

Rita Anema

PE Board

From: khbiggers@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 1:40 PM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Cc: khbiggers@gmail.com
Subject: School Board member for district 501

Dear Board Members,

I am a teacher at PECES. I know that the board has two nominations for this district. I would like to say that I know Patricia Bobenrieth is the perfect candidate for our school board. She has taught in our school and continues to volunteer her time, energy, and resources even though she is retired. She is always in the school working with students and teachers.

She has the knowledge and passion for all areas of the school district. She has the qualities to help our school system to get back to being the great school that we were when Dr. Anderson was here.

Please nominate Patricia Bobenrieth for the School Board district 501 and help our system be great again.

Thank you,
Kathy Biggers
Sent from my iPhone

From: Edwards, Heather <edwardshm@longwood.edu>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 1:36 PM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Subject: budget process concerns

Dear members of the Board of Supervisors,

After attending both your budget work session and the School Board's budget work session, I have a better handle on concerns from both perspectives.

First, I must ask: why is there no sense of collaboration? Why is this a battle instead of a conversation? It is as if the two governing bodies speak different languages entirely. Mr. Wilck's suggestion that representatives from the BOS and SB form an ongoing "task force" is a good one. Please consider implementing it.

Second, considering the poor communications involved, is the Board of Supervisors even aware that the School Board has been given unfunded mandates by the VA DOE, including the addition of a First Grade teacher, and pay raises for various personnel, in order to stay in compliance with the state "SOQ" (= Standards of Quality. You probably knew that, but I had to look it up.)?

In other words, the School Board is required by the state of Virginia to hire one teacher simply to satisfy student : teacher ratio standards, and is required by the state to give a 2% increase to SOQ personnel. If their budget is reduced from last year by \$317,182, and they have to spend several hundred thousand more in state-mandated (but unfunded) increases, how will they do this without cutting programs and personnel?

[And when will the conversation head in the direction of capital improvements – our facilities are an embarrassment – and re-integration of all the programs that have been lost over the last 5 years: K-6 Spanish instruction, elementary advanced math instruction, elementary computer literacy instruction, the Middle School Chorus instruction, school-hours gifted instruction, the entire German and Latin programs, multiple AP offerings, adequate transportation so that 5 year olds are not on the busses with 18 year olds?]

I see in the FY 2017 PEC Budget that tax rates are slated to increase by \$.02, but local funds to the schools are slated to decrease by 3.8%. Can the best answer to the question, "How do we help our struggling schools?" ever be, "Let's give them fewer resources."?

I appreciate your time, and the work you do for our county.
Heather Edwards
Farmville District

From: Rebecca Rider <reb.rider62@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 8:54 AM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Subject: Funding the schools

To all Board Members,

Please fund our schools and don't cut funding as you seem to be planning to do. If the school budget is stripped of \$300,000+ and not given any of the additional monetary support it needs to fund the state-mandated raises, it will cause irreparable harm to the school system.

Be proud of our kids and show it. We were represented by many of these talented kids at the regional 4H Public Speaking/Presentation/Science Fair in Appomattox over the weekend. I know of at least four kids who got the highest award possible for their category. We should be proud of such achievements and reward these kids and their teachers and all the others who try hard all day every day, not penalize them and take away funding--this would just show them that our community just doesn't care. To quote Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

We've been funded at roughly 2008 levels for ten years. Costs go up. If you think about your own personal budgets, you know this. You can't expect a school system to keep up with the cost of providing their service to the public at the same level as they did ten years ago any more than you can expect to follow a strict budget that you created for your family ten years ago.

This year, as you know, the state is mandating raises for some employees. All employees deserve a raise, not just some of them. For the sake of fairness, the school board needs to give everyone a raise, not just part of their workforce. The amount of money it will take to fund these raises can not come only out of the school budget, especially when you are already asking them to cut \$300, 000+ even before these raises are considered.out. It is our duty as the community that supports the public schools to help them meet these mandatory raises and to make sure that all employees get it. I'm willing to pay more in taxes to make this happen.

You ask why kids are leaving the school system. Perhaps you should ask. I know at least one of the reasons is parents are frustrated with the lack of support and seeming lack of vested interest our community has in the schools. If you signal how little you care by cutting funding every year, you can't expect the parents who have a choice to continue sending their students here.

You ask why we spend more per student. Take a look at the services we provide to students who have nowhere else to go. We educate, to the best of our ability, many, many kids with special needs. To do so costs a lot more per student. The reason some of these students come to Prince Edward is because we provide these services, which these students can't get elsewhere. It is our duty to provide all students with the best education we can--that is what public education is all about. To do so costs money. Similarly, we also provide some special services to kids who don't even attend our schools. Students who attend private school or are homeschooled can still come to the public school for necessary special needs help because they can't receive these services at their places of learning.

Let's step up and fund our schools.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Rider

PE Board

From: Elizabeth Hall Magill <elizabeth.hallmagill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 7:09 PM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Subject: School Funding

Dear Board Members,

I have been a resident of Farmville with two children in Prince Edward County schools for nearly seven years. I am now familiar enough with the educational issues--and the tension between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board--to expect that you will attempt to cut funding to the schools for the eight remaining years my children have in secondary education. I have written to you before, eloquently and passionately. This time--and in future years--I will simply be concise.

Don't cut funding to the schools because you think money is the stick that will finally get the School Board to behave, or the carrot you can give them as a reward.

Don't cut funding to the schools because the test scores are low, and less money will motivate hungry children to learn faster.

Don't cut funding to the schools because you think the state or federal governments should spend more than they do on education. Indeed they should--but if I know this is a national problem with a local solution, you do too.

Don't cut funding to the schools just as we hire a new superintendent. That sends a harsh message, an expectation of scarcity and failure. It is a message this school district has heard for long enough.

Don't cut funding to the schools while so many parents and teachers and administrators and concerned citizens are working so hard to do too much with too little.

Don't cut funding to the schools if your own mission means anything to you. Here it is:

"The mission of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince Edward is to represent all citizens, provide leadership, create vision and set policy to accomplish effective change, planned growth and provide essential service, while maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in Prince Edward County."

To deprive the schools of the funds they need to operate undermines each of the principles in your mission.

If you have a problem with how the School Board is spending its money, find a way to work with them that enhances, rather than sabotages, your mission.

Thank you for your time and attention. I sincerely hope I don't have to write this letter next year.

Best Regards,

Elizabeth Hall Magill

PE Board

From: McElfresh Family <sskemcelfresh@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2016 7:07 AM
To: board@co.prince-edward.va.us
Subject: Please reconsider cutting the school budget

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I know that you are thinking of cutting the school budget by over \$300,000. If the budget is cut, some classes that are not required, but are still useful may be cut, such as elective classes. These include foreign language, art, computers, work and family, band and music appreciation. Many students look forward to their elective class as it their class they get to choose to take. Elective classes are important because they can teach some skills that we may not be able to learn anywhere else, but will need or find useful when the students leave school.

I would like for you to reconsider the decision to cut the school budget.

Kathryn McElfresh
Farmville
6th grade student at Prince Edward County Middle School