

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

Monday, March 24, 2014

Minutes

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a work session on Monday, March 24, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Trinity High School. Board Members in attendance were as follows: Emily Coltrane-Board Chair, Todd Cutler-Vice Chair, Gary Cook, Matthew Lambeth, Tommy McDonald and Gary Mason. Board member, Tracy Boyles was absent from the meeting. Also present, Superintendent, Stephen Gainey, and the Leadership Team.

The work session began at 4:08 p.m.

Superintendent Gainey gave an overview of the Proposed 2014-2015 Budget. The superintendent turned it over to Todd Lowe, Finance Officer, to present the proposed budget.

Finance & Budget Division

- Proposed 2014-2015 Budget

Todd Lowe presented the 2014-2015 budget requests for current expense and capital outlay as follows:

Current Expense

1. Continuation Costs = \$400,000
 - Matching insurance increase
 - Matching retirement increase
 - Potential salary increase
 - Charter school growth
 - Gas/Fuel/Energy
2. RMS 5th Grade Academy = \$185,000
3. Technology replacements and upgrades = \$250,000
 - Recurring funding necessary to replace older computers
 - To be used in conjunction with state and federal funding when available
 - Continue to meet needs of students and DPI requirements
4. Supplement Increase (.5%) = \$500,000
 - Increase for all employee classifications
 - No increases since 2007
 - Attempt to stay competitive with surrounding systems

Total Current Expense = \$1,335,000

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Capital Outlay

1. Facility Repairs and Upgrades = \$736,080
 - Year 1 of additional funding request
 - Multi-year plan to address necessary building repairs

Total Capital Outlay = \$736,080
Total Current + Capital = \$2,071,080
5th Grade Academy = \$185,000

Mr. Lowe then presented the proposed budget including current expense, capital outlay, child nutrition, Archdale-Trinity budget, and fund 8. The board had review and discussion of the information presented. Upon conclusion, board members were ask to contact the superintendent or the finance officer prior to the April board meeting if they had any additional questions. A public hearing on the budget and a recommendation for approval is scheduled for April 21, 2014 at the regular monthly Board of Education meeting.

Operations Division

- Recommended revisions to the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 calendars

Marty Trotter, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, presented the following revisions to the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 calendars related to days that may be impacted by inclement weather. A schedule of make-up days and number of days that can be absorbed are listed below.

2014-2015 Calendar

Summary

- 180 student days x 6.25 hrs per day = 1,125 hours
- 1,125 hours minus 6 hours (for 3 scheduled 2-hr early releases) = 1,119 instructional hours
- 1,119 instructional hours – 1,025 required instructional hours = 94 hours (46 hrs 1st/48 hrs 2nd)

Recommendations

- Absorb first 2 missed days per semester before making up student days
- Inclement weather make up days:

<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>2nd Semester</u>
October 31 st	February 16 th
November 26 th	April 8 th
December 22 nd	April 9 th
January 2 nd	April 10 th
January 21 st	

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2015-2016 Calendar

Summary

- 180 student days x 6.25 hrs per day = 1,125 hours
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Recommendations

- Absorb first 2 missed days per semester before making up student days
- Inclement weather make up days:

<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>2nd Semester</u>
October 30 th	February 15 th
November 25 th	March 30 st
December 21 st	March 31 st
January 20 th	April 1 st

Curriculum & Instruction Division

Catherine Berry, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, informed the board members on behalf of Brooke Moser, Director of the Exception Children's Program, that April is Autism month. Ms. Berry distributed blue ribbons to each of the board members to wear in support of autism awareness.

- Update on “Read to Achieve” since mid-February
Catherine Berry thanked the board for their support. Randolph County School System’s request for approval to use an alternate assessment was sent to the North Carolina State Board of Education in February. The request was approved and RCSS was notified of the approval on February 25, 2014. Principals and curriculum staff continue to monitor student progress in reading. The summer camp program plans are in progress for regional sites. Reading portfolios can be used if they believe it is the best measure to determine comprehension. This flexibility has been left to the discretion of the teacher to discuss with the principal/parent(s).
- Update on supplemental curriculum resources over and above core instruction
Catherine Berry presented updated information on supplemental curriculum resources being used in K-12. These digital (web-based) resources such as Discovery Streaming, Achieve 3000 and APEX Learning are over and above core instruction. All resources provide enrichment and intervention for students. RCSS is working with the consultants to expand opportunities for students and teachers to access the information before, during,

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and after the school day. We are continuing to collect data to determine the impact on student learning. Additional resources are being reviewed and compared with the current programs in place. Ms. Berry thanked the technology department.

- End-of-Grade/End-of-Course academic achievement level changes
Catherine Berry stated where academic achievement levels were Level 1 through Level 4, they are now Level 1 through Level 5. The levels were reviewed as follows:

*Level 5 denotes Superior Command and College and Career Readiness

*Level 4 denotes Solid Command and College and Career Readiness

*Level 3 denotes Sufficient Command

*Level 2 denotes Partial Command

*Level 1 denotes Limited Command

Sharon Johnson, Director for Testing and Accountability, reviewed the number of students from the fall EOC that moved up in achievement levels. The superintendent spoke of the positives with this change, will give students confidence and success. Notifications of this change went immediately to the principals and the students/parents were notified.

- Update on ACT/SAT plans
Catherine Berry presented an update based on earlier request from the board addressing ACT/SAT. Kim Johnson has worked with principals and drafted plans last spring that began fall of 2013. ACT/SAT information is discussed at quarterly reviews and all high school principals review at their job alike sessions. Principals have completed a survey for feedback. A summary of the surveys from each school were presented for the board's review. Ms. Berry stated most of the dollars have been spent or encumbered. She expressed appreciation to Kim Johnson for her efforts during this process. The board then had a time of discussion and any questions. In discussion, some members stated that some plans presented seem stronger than others. Ms. Berry shared this was a temperature check to show us what the schools have been doing, with more concrete information being provided at the end of the year once the data becomes available.

Superintendent's Office

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

The superintendent shared the following information:

- 1) 2014-2015 budget proposal presented to Board of Education for approval---April 21
- 2) Copies of 2014-2015 budget proposal presented to county staff---April 22
- 3) Establishment/recognition of "Community Partners"

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- 4) Board Work Session/Meeting Schedule for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year:
- a) April 21
 - b) May 19
 - c) June 2
 - d) June 16

Note: The start time for each Board Work Session is 4:00 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.

- 5) RCSS Employee Recognition Night---May 19 at 5:30 p.m. (Board of Education Room)
- 6) Teacher of the Year Banquet---May 21 at 6:30 p.m. (Pinewood Country Club)
- 7) Presentation of 2014-2015 budget proposal to County Commissioners---May 27 at 7:00 p.m. (Historic Courthouse Meeting Room)
- 8) RCSS Retirement Dinner---May 29 at 6:00 p.m. (AVS Banquet Center)
- 9) Public Hearing on County Budget---June 9 at 6:30 p.m. (Historic Courthouse Meeting Room)
- 10) Adoption of County Budget---June 16 at 6:00 p.m. (Historic Courthouse Meeting Room)

A map of Randleman Middle School was distributed to board members to present an area as an option to explore for the "Randleman 5th Grade Academy."

The work session ended at 5:55 p.m.

Board Chair

Board Secretary