

RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

Monday, November 21, 2016

Minutes

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a work session on Monday, November 21, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. in the Central Services Boardroom, located at the 2222 South Fayetteville Street Office in Asheboro. The following board members were present: Todd Cutler (Board Chair), Gary Cook (Vice Chair), Brian Biggs, Tracy Boyles, Fred Burgess, Emily T. Coltrane, and Matthew Lambeth. Also present, Dr. Stephen Gainey, Superintendent, Leadership Team members, and Legislators, Rick Gunn, Pat Hurley, and Jerry Tillman.

The work session started at 4:30 p.m.

The superintendent shared special thanks and appreciation to the legislators for their attendance at the work session and for all they do for the Randolph County School System. Specially, the superintendent expressed appreciation for their assistance and work with the Drivers Education program and the Regular Education Teacher Assistants.

Dr. Gainey distributed a list of the “Randolph County School System budget concerns for Legislators for the Spring/Summer 2017 Legislative Session for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.” The Board of Education members, Leadership, and Legislators reviewed and discussed the following list of budget concerns.

- 1) Requirements of the K-3 class size allotment ratios to be implemented during the 2017-2018 school year are major areas of concern. The Randolph County School System currently has a total of 16 vacant classrooms in all 17 elementary schools. There was discussion regarding the concern of the cost and how the school system does not have the facilities to support this legislation.
- 2) Increase in textbook funding is needed – Dr. Gainey shared that the Randolph County School System implemented the first Science textbook adoption last year which was the first adoption in eleven years. The increased funding from 2016-2017 combined with carryover dollars from previous years will be needed to cover the adoption of the Social Studies textbooks in the Spring of 2017 which will be the first adoption in 9 years. Following will be a Math textbook adoption since the school system has not adopted new Math textbooks since 2009-2010.
- 3) Increase in technology funding is needed as the state moves to more online testing.
- 4) Increase in Special Education funding is needed in order to meet the needs within our school system. There are 3 categories including personnel, contract personnel, and supplies/technology. Personnel cost have continued to increase each year.
- 5) Salaries of our veteran employees – The Randolph County School System need our veteran employees due to their experience and expertise. The superintendent shared the number of retirements per year as follows: 76 in 2010-2011, 62 in 2011-2012, 74 in 2012-2013, 82 in 2013-2014, 102 in 2014-2015, and 62 in 2015-2016.

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- 6) Improvement is needed in the Principal Salary Schedule in order to recruit and retain high-quality personnel.
- 7) Continue conversations about changes to access to the State Retirement System which is a positive factor for recruiting.
- 8) Continue conversations about changes to access to the State Health Insurance which is a positive factor for recruiting.
- 9) Continue to support funding of Regular Education Teacher Assistants due to the support they give our students and teachers.

In the final comments, the legislators expressed their appreciation for the professionalism of the RCSS staff and for the opportunity to come together to discuss concerns/issues.

Superintendent's Office

- 1) Overview of upcoming Board of Education and staff events/issues
Board members received a list of events.

The work session ended at 6:05p.m.

Board Chair

Board Secretary