

Randolph County Board of Education  
Budget Hearing  
April 18, 2011

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a Budget Hearing on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 5 p.m. in the Auditorium of Randleman.

Call to Order

G. Cook, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order. Board members in attendance are as follows: E. Coltrane, J. Johnson, M. Lambeth, G. Mason, T. McDonald. (B. Coltrane – Absent)

The Board observed a Moment of Silence before beginning the meeting.

G. Cook, Vice Chair shared that B. Coltrane, Chair, was unable to attend the meeting due to her mother being hospitalized after her home was destroyed in a recent tornado. G. Cook turned the meeting over to Mr. Andrews, Superintendent.

Mr. Andrews reviewed the guidelines for public comments.

The following gave public comments:

Tracy Boyles, Farmer PTO, spoke regarding a supplement cut of 1% to reinstate next year (Will this be able to happen?), middle school technology teachers, teacher assistants, and lead teachers.

Chris McGee spoke in support of the importance of teachers and his experience as a sub teacher.

Leonore Haney, Media Specialist at Liberty Elementary, spoke on behalf of media assistants and distributed information to the Board regarding responsibilities of media assistants.

Chris Tuft, President of Randolph County Association of Educators, thanked the Board for their openness and discussed a recent survey taken regarding supplements and furlough days.

Donna Coco, RCAE President Elect and Teacher, spoke of how difficult it would be for teachers and teacher assistants to take supplement cuts.

Todd Cutler asked if supplement reductions would really be able to be reinstated next year. Mr. Cutler stated the shortfalls would not come from Raleigh or Washington. He spoke of local tax increases.

Lynn Routh, Media Specialist at Randleman Elementary, spoke of the need for her media assistant.

John Zomberg – opposes salary cuts. He asked to consider the non classroom positions in the budget. Take a look at central office personnel, and lead teachers in schools.

Sheriff Reid – Budget for SRO's. He stated a contract for SRO's will not work. The RCS proposal of \$200,000 (25% cut) is more than the state. We are willing to work with the school system and would like to discuss.

Leslie Zimmerman – Teacher at Tabernacle (ESL and Spanish) also serves UMS and Farmer spoke as a parent / community member. She stated she was in favor of cutting supplements instead of jobs. Cutting jobs affects our community. We as a community need to band together to save these jobs for our community.

Bob Youngblood, Vice Chair of the Randolph County Tea Party, stated the problem is we fail to think outside the box. He mentioned the price per student that is spent was over \$9000 along with the top paid positions.

Lauren Rudd, a second grade teacher at Hopewell, stated teachers do not take the job for the money, but rather a passion for kids. Ms. Rudd spoke of her support of teacher assistants. We work for a data driven school where students are pushed with the help of her teacher assistant. It will be hard with supplement cuts and hard to get supplements back. We would love to see the four day week and would rather have the furlough days than supplement cuts.

Carol Melton spoke in favor of keeping career-technical education programs. She thanked the SRO's.

Trena Cox, Media Specialist at Tabernacle Elementary, spoke in support of the media assistants. She requested to reconsider 2% supplement cuts and saving jobs. Cutting media in half will cut the services to our kids.

Billy Hardie – related comments to his position at Thomas Built Bus – we need the structure.

Mr. Andrews, Superintendent, thanked everyone for attending and to those who spoke. He assured everyone the Superintendent and the Board takes this very seriously. A preliminary budget will be presented to the Board in order to move forward based on the Governor and House Budget. He expressed thanks to those who took the time to attend and to those who spoke.

The budget hearing was adjourned followed by the regular monthly Board meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary