

Randolph County Board of Education
Work Session Minutes
October 16, 2017

The Randolph County Board of Education met for a work session on Monday, October 16, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Central Services Board Room, located at the 2222-C South Fayetteville Street Office in Asheboro. The following were present: Gary Cook (Chairman), Emily T. Coltrane (Vice-Chair), Fred Burgess, Sharon P. Farlow, Brian Biggs, Dr. Gainey, Leadership Team members, and Legislators Pat Hurley and Allen McNeill.

The work session started at 4:30 p.m. Dr. Gainey presented an overview of the meeting. The Superintendent distributed a list of the “Randolph County School System budget concerns for Legislators for the Spring/Summer 2018 Legislative Session for 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.” The following is list of the items discussed among the Board members, Leadership, and Legislators.

- 1) K-3 Class Size Allotment Ratios – If requirements for the 2018-2019 school year were implemented during the 2017-2018 school year, our school system would need 36 additional teacher positions in grades K-3. More importantly, our school system would need nine (9) new classrooms. Dr. Gainey shared that currently our system has 35 vacant elementary school classrooms, but these vacant classrooms would not be in the schools in need of additional classrooms if the new class size requirements were implemented.
- 2) Textbook funding is needed – The increased funding received in 2016-2017 combined with carryover dollars from previous years was used to cover our Spring 2017 adoption of Social Studies textbooks and Health textbooks. The increase would help cover textbook adoptions for Arts Education, K-8 Second Languages, and ESL during the Spring 2018. Dr. Gainey shared that the cost of a textbook adoption ranges from \$800,000-\$1,000,000.
- 3) Technology Funding is needed – An increase is needed as the state moves to more online testing. Dr. Gainey shared that currently our funding level is \$345,198 less than the amount allotted for the 2016-2017 school year. Also, the amount of this reduction does not include the annual \$100,000 State Connectivity.
- 4) Special Education Funding – RCSS received an increase of \$602,239 for the 2017-2018 school year. Over the past few years, non-personnel costs in Special Education have decreased and personnel costs have continued to increase each year in order to provide the required services for students. In the discussion, a request was made to the legislators to continue assisting in this area in order for our school system to make sure our students are taken care of.
- 5) Principal Salary Schedules and Principal Bonus Plans – The Superintendent shared appreciation to the legislators for all of the work and efforts toward the Principal Salary Schedule and the Principal Bonus Plans. Concerns were expressed regarding possible salary reductions for principals during the 2018-2019 school year. The Superintendent shared that the principals need to be held harmless to prevent salary reductions and the loss of veteran principals due to retirement.
- 6) mCLASS: Reading 3D Diagnostic Instrument – Since 2013-2014, our teachers have bought into this program and continue to work hard to help new staff members. Our school system has invested

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a lot of time and dollars for the last five years and would not want to lose what has been gained with the implementation of a new program.

7) Regular Education Teacher Assistants – Continue to support these staff members. They provide great support for our students and teachers.

8) Salaries of Veteran Employees – Continue to increase. Our school system can not afford to lose our veteran employees due to their high level of experience and expertise.

After review and discussion, Chairman Cook thanked everyone in attendance.

Superintendent’s Office

1. Overview of upcoming Board of Education and staff events/issues

Dr. Gainey reviewed the list of events and referenced that all dates were set for the end of the year.

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

Board Chair

Board Secretary