

**JOINT BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

9:00 A.M.

**MINUTES**

Place: Board of Education, Fuller Administration Building, Room 307, 511 Cleveland Street, Durham, NC

Present: Board of County Commission Members: Chairman Michael D. Page, Vice Chair Ellen W. Reckhow, and Commissioners Philip R. Cousin, Jr., Brenda A. Howerton, and Pam Karriker

Board of Education Members: Chair Heidi Carter; Vice Chair Minnie Forte-Brown; Board Members Natalie Beyer, Leigh Bordley, Nancy Cox, Frederick, A. Davis, and Omega Curtis Parker

Presiders: Board of Education Chair Heidi Carter and Board of County Commissioner Chair Michael Page

**Opening Remarks**

Chair Carter welcomed the Durham County Board of Commissioners and County staff. She remarked that the purpose of the meeting was to provide space for year round thought, and to increase awareness of strategic initiatives.

Chairman Page remarked that the group was together in the spirit of collaboration.

**2012-2013 Durham Public Schools (DPS) Budget**

Dr. Becoats stated that Carolyn Olivarez, Chief Financial Officer and Paul LeSieur, Executive Director of Budget and Management would present the budget. The following highlights were presented:

- Discretionary funding reduced this year;
- All sales tax is shared with charter schools. No sales tax refund is eligible for charter schools;
- The one-quarter sales tax is shown separately in the budget because it is new;
- The Board of Education will make sure the public knows the sales tax is part of County appropriations;
- Average starting salary for teachers - \$34,000. The state average is \$56,000. Durham County's average is \$49,000-\$50,000 with supplement, including benefits;

- Classroom supply allocation will change depending on enrollment numbers;
- Concerns about cuts to disadvantaged students
- In-house professionals being used for professional development
- \*Conduct a new survey on teachers' salaries;
- \*Clarification of where lottery funds go;
- \*Track lottery funds from inception – and where do they go?
- \*Include Partnership for Children in tracking data;
- Used 10 percent of funding for Strategic Plan;
- \*More detailed budget requested for next year

\*Requests made by members of the Board of County Commissioners

The following items were placed in the “parking lot” for future meetings:

- \$700,000 cut in the area of career and technical planning
- Future bond referendum
- Getting info out to public
- Track More at 4 and NC Pre-K Funding Streams
- Track Lottery Funding From Inception (post on website?)
- Local Supplement Discussion – Survey Local Districts to Compare with DPS
- Title I Spending
- Further Alignment /Discussion Regarding PRC Budgets - Central Office/CTE
- ADM Corporate Tax
- DPS Fund Balance
- Briefing on Family Academy

Dr. Becoats discussed the strategic initiatives and highlighted literacy needs and recruitment of teachers and principals.

County Manager Mike Ruffin stated that capital projects are sent to the Board of County Commissioners every two years. Staff will be working with Durham Public Schools staff on capital projects for 2013-14. He would like the information by November, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am. The next meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2012 at 9:00 am, Commissioners' Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,



V. Michelle Parker-Evans  
Clerk to the Board