

JOINT MEETING MINUTES
DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
and
DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 7, 2000

The Durham Public Schools Board of Education hosted a joint breakfast meeting with the Durham County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, December 7, 2000 at 7:30 a.m. at the Durham Marriott Civic Center.

School Board Members in attendance:

Kathryn Meyers, Chair
Gail Heath, Vice-Chair
Regina George-Bowden
Michael Page
Mozell Robinson
Phillis Scott
Arnold Spell

Staff in attendance:

Ann T. Denlinger, Superintendent
Calvin Dobbins
Bert L'Homme
Nancy Hester
Nancy Dominick
Donna Smith
Janice Davis
Hugh Osteen

County Commissioners in attendance:

MaryAnn E. Black, Chair
Ellen Reckhow, Vice-Chair
Joe Bowser
Phil Cousin
Becky Heron

Staff in attendance:

Mike Ruffin, County Manager
Carolyn Titus
Susan Fox-Kirk
Keith Lane
Deborah Craig-Ray
Chuck Kitchen, Attorney

Board of Education Chairman Kathryn Meyers and County Commissioner Chairman MaryAnn Black welcomed everyone to the meeting. Persons in attendance introduced themselves. The agenda was reviewed.

There was discussion on the following topics:

- Durham Public Schools' Eight-Year Long Range Facilities Plan
- Bond Referenda for Durham Public Schools
- Durham County Capital Needs
- Revenue Sources to Fund Bond Referenda
- December 12 Meeting with Durham County Board of Commissioners, City Council, Board of Education and Durham Delegation of Legislators

Associate Superintendent Calvin Dobbins and Director for Facilities Hugh Osteen gave a brief overview of Durham Public Schools Eight-Year Long Range Facilities Plan.

There was discussion of local taxing options that included a one-cent sales tax increase and a one-cent tax on restaurant meals and other prepared foods. The taxes would require legislative approval. Commissioner Chairman MaryAnn Black said that it was critical the school board and the county commissioners be on the same page on the tax options. Interim County Budget Director, Keith Lane, explained that local sales taxes are divided between the city and county according to the state formula. Legislation would be required to change the state formula.

In the 10-year \$533 million building plan recently approved by the County, the needs of Durham Public Schools would be financed through bond referenda to be approved or rejected by the voters. Without tax alternatives, property taxes would have to be raised up to 12 cents to pay for the plan. County commissioners voiced their support of the school district's facilities plan regardless of whether the legislators approved the tax options.

Topics for discussion at the December 12, 2000 breakfast meeting with the Durham Delegation of Legislators, Durham County Commissioners, Durham City Council and Durham Public Schools Board of Education were agreed upon.

Approved by the Durham Public Schools Board of Education

January 25, 2001

Approved by the Durham County Board of Commissioners
