

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

10:05 A.M. Budget Worksession

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Room, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow, Vice-Chairman Becky M. Heron (arrived at 10:10 a.m.), and Commissioners Lewis A. Cheek, Philip R. Cousin Jr., and Michael D. Page (arrived at 10:15 a.m.)

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Reckhow

Durham Public Schools (DPS)

Gail Heath, DPS Board of Education Chairman, gave a brief introduction to the FY 2006-2007 Durham Public Schools' proposed budget.

The Durham Public Schools' budget was presented as follows:

- Introductory Remarks (Dr. Ann Denlinger, Superintendent)
- Budget Overview (Dr. Carl Harris, Deputy Superintendent)
 - Budget Priorities
 - Continuation Budget
 - Increase Capital Outlay Funding
 - Employee Salaries & Benefits
 - Classified Salary Study Recommendations
 - Teacher Salary Supplements
 - Recruitment & Retention Incentives for Hillside and Southern High Schools
 - DPS Student Growth—Average Daily Membership (ADM)
 - Personnel
- Additional Local Funds Requested (Hank Hurd, Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services)
 - Continuation Budget Request
 - Increase from Original Continuation Budget Proposal
 - Expansion Budget Request
 - Capital Outlay
 - Personnel

- Closing Remarks (Dr. Denlinger)
 - ESL Growth
 - Average 17% growth per year
 - At-Risk Students
 - DSSF 23.9%—over 7,300 students
 - Fund Balance

Discussions

1. Teacher Retention Incentives
 - a. teacher transfers within DPS
2. Central Office Administration
 - a. additional locally-paid positions
3. Local Funds Increases
 - a. Central Office Administration
 - b. Non-Instructional Support
 - c. School Building Administration
4. Supplemental Budget Request vs. FY06-07 Budget Proposal
 - a. Teacher Assistants (requested positions)
 - b. # of teachers for ESL students
5. FY 2000-2001 Hillside High School Initiative
 - a. Literacy Center
6. State Resources for Low-Performing Schools
 - a. discretionary cuts
 - b. deletion of sales tax refund
 - c. House Bill 2385—charter schools to receive lottery proceeds
7. Revised Budget
 - a. Continuation Budget—10.3% increase
 - b. Expansion Budget—14.3% increase
8. Teacher Supplements
 - a. Durham County—14.5% vs. Wake County—16%
 - b. Durham County vs. neighboring counties
 - c. Variable supplements based upon certification
9. Classroom Teachers
 - a. decrease in State funding
10. Locally Paid Staff
 - a. Durham County vs. Other Counties

Directives

1. DPS staff to provide additional information to the Board on Discussion Nos. 3 and 4.
2. Staff to provide an update to the Board about funding for Hillside Literacy Center and its operational status.
3. BOCC and Board of Education to communicate to the Durham Delegation the importance of concurring with the Senate's budget, by restoring school districts as it relates to deletion of the discretionary cut and inclusion of the sales tax refund.

4. Joint meeting with the Board of Education about the fund balance.
5. Staff to supply teacher supplement percentages for other North Carolina counties (per Discussion No. 8).
6. To compare Durham County to other major urban districts, staff will look into differentials for teachers with Bachelor's Degree vs. Master's Degree [to help attract the best teachers for DPS]; and consider variable supplements for teachers based on certification.
7. County Manager to consider DPS' budget revisions when finalizing his FY 2006-2007 recommended budget.

Commissioner Cheek moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Heron, to communicate the Board's support of the following to the Durham Delegation: 1) deletion of the discretionary cut as proposed in the Senate Budget; 2) restoration of the sales tax refund; and 3) opposition of charter schools receiving lottery proceeds.

The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Reckhow adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne R. Gordon
Deputy Clerk to the Board