

**PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MAY 7, 2018**

The Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners met today in a budget work session on Monday, May 7, 2018 in the Community Room at the W.C. Witherspoon Memorial Library.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cecil Perry, Chairman  
Dr. William R. Sterritt, Vice-Chairman  
Jeff Dixon  
Lloyd E. Griffin, III  
Joseph S. Winslow, Jr.,  
Frankie Meads  
Charles H. Jordan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sparty Hammett, County Manager  
R. Michael Cox, County Attorney  
Sheri Small, Finance Officer  
Lynn Scott, Clerk to the Board

The work session was called to order at 3:00 PM by Chairman Cecil Perry. He welcomed members of the Board of Education, as well as school staff and thanked them for all they do for the children and citizens of the County.

**1. BUDGET WORK SESSION:**

Chairman Perry called on Dr. Larry Cartner, Superintendent of the Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public Schools, to present the Board of Education's budget request for 2018-19. Dr. Cartner thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the school system's proposed budget.

Dr. Cartner stated that the school system now has 13 schools; last year there were 12. Out of those 13 schools, six are in low performing status and four are in the restart model. Six schools met their growth standard. He noted that poverty levels are inching upward. He said this is important to note because it takes a different approach to educate children of poverty.

Dr. Cartner provided an overview of current expense. He reported that they are on year three of 1:1. This will bring grades 3-8 and all state tested areas in high school online. Year four will bring K-2 and the remainder of high school online. He said the school board has worked to create a "hold the line" budget in current expense, because they knew they had significant capital needs. Much of the increase in current expense is beyond their control. He stated that the overall increase in current expense is \$795,000. He added that they have significant capital needs totaling \$3.8 million.

Dr. Cartner said key drivers in the current expense request includes: projected state salary/benefit/supplement increases at \$265,000, projected increase in Charter School payments from \$120,000 to \$575,000, continued reduction in E-Rate funding, and required bus diagnostic software at \$10,000. He said the Board cut its original current expense request by \$3,139,837 down to \$11,959,166 (including Charter School), a difference from last year's budget of \$675,166. When the projected funds to the Charter School are subtracted, it puts the net operating current expense for the public schools at \$11,384,166.

Dr. Cartner reviewed the school's capital request in order of priority.

Improve Campus Lighting	\$ 209,500
Phase 3 of Chromebooks 1:1 (Grades 5-6 & High School Math)	\$ 318,000
Replace HVAC at Northside	\$2,000,000
Roof Replacement at HL Trigg, PW Moore, & Central Elementary	\$ 575,000
HVAC at Northeastern High School & Sheep Harney Elementary	\$ 162,630
Upgrade Emergency Lighting at Northeastern High School	\$ 25,000
Interior Painting at JC Sawyer Elementary & River Road Middle	\$ 373,357
Replacement of Track at Pasquotank County High School	\$ 220,000
<b>Total Capital Request</b>	<b>\$3,883,487</b>

He said current expense last year was \$11.1 million and this year they are asking for \$11.9 million, which includes \$575,000 for the Charter School. Capital last year was \$1.3 million and they are requesting \$3.8 this year. Overall, the difference is \$3.3 million.

The Board asked questions and discussed items such as early college, career pathways, parent involvement, capital projects and poverty levels. The school board members encouraged the Board to volunteer in the public schools and see the great things that are going on in them.

Dr. Cartner reported that this week ECPPS is recognizing students who have maintained a 90 or better average through the first three quarters of school and are performing at or above grade level. This year 879 students will be recognized.

Chairman Perry thanked the school board and said it is his hope that the ¼ of a cent sales tax referendum passes so that the Board can help the schools with their needs.

Motion was made by Lloyd Griffin, seconded by Frankie Meads to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK TO THE BOARD