

March 5, 2018

Clarke County Board of Supervisors
FY2019 Budget Work Session
Meeting Room AB

7:00 p.m.

At an FY2018 Budget Work Session of the Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, Virginia, held in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, 101 Chalmers Court, 2nd Floor, Berryville, Virginia conducted on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Board Members: Present: Terri T. Catlett, Mary L.C. Daniel, Bev B. McKay, David S. Weiss;
Absent: Barbara J. Byrd

Staff Present: David Ash, Brian Lichty, Lora B. Walburn

School Board Members Present: Thomas Parker, Monica Singh-Smith

CCPS Staff Present: Chuck Bishop, Rick Catlett

Others Present: Robina Rich Bouffault, Tom Judge

Call to Order

Chairman Weiss called the work session to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Supervisor Daniel moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Barbara J. Byrd	- Absent
Terri T. Catlett	- Aye
Mary L.C. Daniel	- Aye
Beverly B. McKay	- Aye
David S. Weiss	- Aye

CCPS FY2018 Budget

Monica Singh-Smith, School Board Chair, addressed the Board and read a prepared statement:

"Mr. Chairman and fellow Board members, I thank you for your time tonight as we present the adopted school board FY19 budget for Clarke County Schools. I wanted to quickly tell you a little bit about myself and how I got here. My family and I moved to Clarke County almost 12 years ago. We knew it to be a Mayberry type of town where everyone knows each other and you wave to people driving down Main Street. We knew immediately this small community feel is what we were looking for and we had heard rumors of a great school system here in Clarke.

My daughters were young when we moved here but I could picture a bright future for both of them. As they were headed to their first day of Kindergarten, I started to hear about the dissatisfaction of the school system. I wanted to come to my own conclusions and as my oldest entered into her first year at Berryville Primary, I decided I would get involved in the schools as much as I can.

I watched the school system endure ebbs and flows as all school systems do. It's my nature to roll up my sleeves and get to work so I was constantly in the schools – vice president of the PTO, teacher's helper, room mom, anything I could do to support our teachers and students. I joined the School Board thinking about how I could make a difference for all the students in Clarke County. I was thinking about how I could help support our administrators and teachers whether it's being a cheerleader for their everyday efforts or advocating for the tools and resources they need in order to give our students the best possible education we have to offer.

As you know, there is a teacher shortage and finding well qualified teachers requires great effort. While this teacher shortage impacts filling open positions, we also need to take care of the teachers we do have. We have teachers who show up every day to help prepare our students and my own daughters for the real world. Sometimes, saying thank you is not always enough to communicate our appreciation. I believe being able to provide a salary increase, when the local economy allows us do so, shows we care about our teachers and value their hard work.

As I mentioned earlier, providing tools and resources to our schools is incredibly important to the success of student achievement. Before Dr. Bishop started with us, there were gaps and holes in our school system that needed much attention. On day one, he hit the ground running, identifying those gaps, and over the past few years he and his team have developed guidance and best practices to avoid further gaps breaching our processes. I know issues will still arise but we are in a far better place in how we manage the potholes than in previous years. You have seen in our past budget presentations as well as the one we present to you tonight, that in order to be more efficient and comply with the many guidelines pushed down to us by the state, we require additional positions and/or monies to

provide the resources our teachers need. In my humble opinion, these requests are essential to the everyday success for the students and the teachers.

I believe it is imperative to support our school system as best we can because the Clarke County students of today are the world's future tomorrow. After being on the school board for two years and getting to know you, I believe you all want to do the best you can to support student achievement. Thankfully, because of the positive working relationship we have as two governing bodies, it is my hope we continue to work together towards our common goals of encouraging, inspiring and empowering our kids to be the best versions of themselves. Thank you –"

Dr. Chuck Bishop, Superintendent Clarke County Public Schools, provided an overview of the School's FY2019 adopted budget. Highlights include:

- Adopted at the School Board's Regular February meeting.
- ADM for FY2019 estimated 1,915
- Local Composite Index changed for the negative and, for the first time, is higher than Loudoun County.
- Received 11 new requests for positions.
- Rises are consistent with Frederick County and City of Winchester.
- In alignment with community budget survey and CCPS Strategic Plan.
- Use school-base funding allocation.
- In FY2017 tweaked salary scale.
- In FY2018 provided a 3% across the board pay increase for all employees.
- Reduced three positions; repurposed two positions; and added one new position of CLM Coach.
- Bachelor scale contains 33 steps with a start salary of \$41,750.
- 2.5% pay raise for employees; employees with 33 plus years receive a flat amount based on 2.5% of step 33 [FY2019 \$63,666]
- City of Winchester proposing a 2.5% increase; Frederick County proposing 2% increase.
- Provides for Chromebook initiative in grades 6 through 12 – approximately 1,114 devices based on projected enrollment.
- Major Changes
 - Salaries and wages- 2.5% increase \$425,736
 - Employee health insurance- 14% increase \$224,710
 - New Position- CLM Coach \$74,744

- New Operating Funds Needed \$734,935
- Food Services increase is mostly in food cost.
- Capital Expense:
 - Total Expense \$732,000
 - Total Revenue \$154,000
 - County Share \$578,000
 - Represents a \$110,000 decrease in funding request from FY18
 - Total Increase of \$557,000

Vice Chair McKay queried the Superintendent about enrollment reductions and whether this should equate staffing reductions.

Superintendent Bishop advised that the budget did cut several positions while adding one new position, CLM Coach.

Vice Chair McKay asked the Superintendent to explain the purpose of the CLM Coach. Supervisor Catlett also asked for further clarification.

Superintendent Bishop advised that this would be a multi-specialty position working across multiple schools.

Supervisor Daniel asked about the Chromebook initiative informing him of concerns brought to her by citizens regarding access to broadband. She stated that a third to half of citizens in the County do not have access to broadband and urged consideration of limitations and caution in implementation.

Superintendent Bishop advised that students could download documents at school and work off line at home or areas without internet access.

Chairman Weiss remarked that at the Joint Administrative Services meeting some persons on the lower end of the pay scale would be seriously, negatively affected by the rise in health insurance.

Chairman Weiss thanked Dr. Bishop, School staff, and the School Board for their efforts and preparing the documents.

Adjournment

Being no further business at 7:37 pm Chairman Weiss adjourned the meeting.

Next Regular Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors is set for Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, Main Meeting Room, 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia.

ATTEST: March 5, 2018

David S. Weiss, Chair

David L. Ash, County Administrator

Minutes Recorded and Transcribed by: Lora B. Walburn, Deputy Clerk, Board of Supervisors