

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2001, IN THE PUBLIC MEETING  
ROOM OF THE COOKS CORNER OFFICE COMPLEX, SALUDA, VIRGINIA:

Present: Kenneth W. Williams, Pinetop District  
Fred S. Crittenden, Pinetop District  
John D. Miller, Jr., Saluda District  
Lenora O. Weber, Saluda District  
Frank Jessie, Jamaica District

Charles M. Culley, Jr., County Administrator

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman, Mr. Williams, called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Mr. John Moore, Chairman of the Middlesex County School Board, called the School Board to order. All members of the School Board were present: James Goforth, Wayne Jessie, Randy Hester, Richard Shores; also, Superintendent Charles H. Lackey and Assistant Superintendent Michael Myers.

**PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

Mr. Lackey made a presentation of several graphs, including the following: Standards of Learning (SOL) scores, teacher longevity, composite index versus teacher salaries, trends of local support, and challenges to the School District success. Mr. Lackey also presented highlights of the proposed school budget, which included the following:

- 4% raise overall
- 4% + \$1,000 for licensed staff
- Budget based on membership of 1375
- Increased fuel oil and related items
- 2 buses plus mini-bus for day and evening placements
- Increase in capital improvements funds to replace Wyker funds that have been used for several years. These will be used for such items as refurbishing gym and auditorium floors. \$100,000 for new bleachers at the high school has been cut (this has been left from the budget for several years)
- Pay increase for substitute teachers
- Retirement system reduction in rates.
- Fewer state funds due in part to fewer students attending.
- Computer technology replacements
- Positions: special education aid at RCE; one additional part time; math and social studies position at MHS; regular teacher aid at MHS; guidance clerical position increased to full time; K-12 reading specialist (new position division wide; no local money required); technology position (grant and locality funded);

required by State for on-line testing at MHS; driver for out-of-County placements (possibly not needed if mini-bus is purchased); 2 special education bus aides.

The budget reflects an increase of 3.65% (\$376,960) in total general funds, and an increase of 9% in total local funds (\$436,500). Mr. Culley pointed out that there would also be a decrease in debt service of \$140,000 that was not shown, which would make the actual increase in local funds to the school system \$576,500.

Mrs. Weber requested the School Board make it a priority to adjust the scale to reward the longevity for teachers at the top of the scale. Mrs. Weber questioned how the average daily membership (ADM) figure was derived. Mr. Lackey explained that he was anticipating a kindergarten class of 100 students. Mr. Miller questioned the duties of the school social worker.

When questioned if the Governor's School program would remain if State funding were dropped, Mr. Lackey stated he would request continuance of the program, however, he would be surprised if the Governor dropped the funding. Mr. Williams expressed his concern with possible cuts in State funding which would create additional hardships on the locality. Mr. Crittenden requested the administrative cost per student per school and the total cost per student. Mrs. Weber requested this information for the past several years. Mr. Crittenden also requested the percent increase if debt service was added back in to the School's budget. Mr. Lackey estimated the increase to be at 11%.

Mr. Moore reminded the Board that Middlesex has a high number of disabled children, learning and physically, (26%), which require additional operational costs. This needs to be considered.

Mr. Culley provided the total cost/student information for the current year of Middlesex and surrounding counties. The cost ranged from \$7,000 to \$8,200, with Middlesex at \$7,883.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no additional business, the School Board adjourned their meeting. The motion to adjourn the Board of Supervisors meeting was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Crittenden and carried unanimously.

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Kenneth W. Williams, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors