

**DICKENSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Budget Hearing for FY 2017-2018**  
**March 14, 2017**  
**5 p.m. – School Board Office**

**PRESENT: Susan Mullins, Chairman; Rocky Barton, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Rick Mullins; Shanghai Nickles; Reba McCowan, Clerk; and Haydee Robinson, Superintendent.**

**ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, SUSAN MULLINS:**

**Chairman, Susan Mullins:** I would like to call this meeting to order and note for the record that all Board Members are present with the exception of Mr. Shanghai Nickles. As well as, our Superintendent, Mrs. Haydee Robinson and Board Clerk, Reba McCowan is present.

We have an agenda before us if someone would like to make the motion to adopt the agenda?

***Mr. Rocky Barton: I make a motion that we adopt the Agenda. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.***

**Chairman, Susan Mullins:** We will now stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Thank you and please be seated.

**DISCUSSION OF THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:**

**Superintendent Robinson:** Good evening Madame Chair and Board Members. Thank you for those who attended the Budget Workshop with the Board of Supervisors.

Just a couple of things and we will be very brief this evening so we can allow the public to speak. There was a question about the 42 positions, staff members that were eliminated. With Mr. Mullins' and Mr. Barton's help, we went through the positions that were eliminated in June 2016 and identified them; 13 full-time positions were eliminated, 16 part-time positions were eliminated and 13 non-professional and professional staff who retired was not replaced for a total of 42 positions. We also identified 5 employees that were recommended for employment to the Board after August 1, 2017, and you will see that 4 of them are full-time professional staff; one of those positions was part-time staff and non-professional employee. So, out of the 42 positions that were eliminated, there were 5 that were recommended back to the Board and that is because we've had 10 resignations since August 2016. If we had not had those we could have not have replaced them. The other issue is that usually when we have employees retire we replace them and in this instance we did not. I wanted to share this with you and our Board of Supervisors members. I emailed it to them. There seemed to be some confusion and I just wanted to make sure that I was correct in the information that I was giving them and sharing with them what we are doing. I wanted to make everybody aware.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** How many resignations and retirements were there? Ten?

**Superintendent Robinson:** Yes, since August 1, 2016 we've had ten resignations of full-time positions.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** I wasn't able to think when that was asked and said there was only 3, but I knew was 5 or 6 at my backdoor. People had called me and I got chewed out over losing their jobs.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** I guess in my mind I was thinking of the ones that we let go that didn't come back, not counting the part-time positions. I was thinking of the teachers and it looks like there's 8 out of the 13; 5 were hired back.

**Superintendent Robinson:** Correct.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** But they wouldn't have been if we had not had the resignations.

**Superintendent Robinson:** Correct, if we didn't have the resignations since August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** Right, but I'm just thinking about the people we actually laid off that didn't get to work. That might be the confusion.

**Superintendent Robinson:** I think the confusion is, and we've heard this quite often, when these 42 positions were eliminated it was just a show. It was just a show and we met with all these people and then we turned around and hired them all back. As you see that is not correct. We could not have hired anyone back unless we had those retirements after school started. So, that was some confusion there. The other confusion is; well you've had all these retirements and that's true. We had 13 to retire but the issue is that we usually turn around and hire someone to replace that position and that wasn't done either.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** I think that's what it is because that's what I had in my mind, I was thinking how many people did we actually put out of work because the retired people wasn't coming back to work. The ones that really didn't come back were the 8 not counting part-time aides.

**Superintendent Robinson:** I think for me those 13 retirees; those positions were actually eliminated because we didn't hire back. I guess there are different ways of looking at it. But wanted to accountable and transparent, I just thought if they saw on paper maybe that would help them were I failed to communicate appropriately; any questions or comments on that? We'll see and you may get some questions but we will go from there. Hopefully, that will take care of that.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** So, Mr. Barton is going to read bottom line totals today?

**Superintendent Robinson:** Yes, Mr. Barton is going review briefly.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** Bottom line and answer any questions if we have them.

**Superintendent Robinson:** We are having public comment after the short presentation to comment during this public hearing.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** And right now, no one has signed up. Mr. Kennedy are you speaking?

**Mr. Benny Kennedy:** No, not until I hear what's going on.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** You may, so we will re-visit for anyone who wants to speak.

**2017-2018 SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:**

**Mr. Larry Barton:** Good afternoon. This is the same budget that was presented last week. Nothing has changes since then and so we will flip over to page 14 and begin. If anyone has any questions then we can go back to any section that we need to.

Mr. Barton reviewed the FY 2018 Proposed Budget – Summary for Operations and FY 2018 Proposed Capital Outlay Budget. (See Attached)

***Attachment #1: DCPS – Proposed Budget FY 2018 (July 2017 – June 2018)***

Mr. Barton also provided the following comparison with SOQ funded positions and positions at the Central Office.

	<b>SOQ Funds</b>		<b>Dickenson County Schools</b>	
<b>Administrative</b>	8.37 Positions @ \$677,611		8.6 Positions @ \$557,400	
<b>Technical/Clerical</b>	6.68 Positions @ \$232,460		5.0 Positions @ \$197,738	
<b>Technology</b>	3.03 Positions @ \$166,790		3.0 Positions @ \$161,501	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.08</b>	<b>\$1,076,861</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>\$916,639</b>

**Mr. Larry Barton:** Do you have any questions on either of these?

**Superintendent Robinson:** That concludes our short summary of the budget unless there are any questions from the Board.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** I don't have any questions but I would like to say that I understand the budget and the way it's presented and laid out in front of us. I understand it a lot better. Thank you.

**Mr. Larry Barton:** Breaking it down helps a lot more and Monica helped me with that.

**Dr. Lurton Lyle:** I think this will help the Board of Supervisors to understand it a little better.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** I hope so.

**Mr. Rick Mullins:** You can really compare the costs associated with it. It's a very good job that has been done.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** Ok, we will re-visit to see if any one wishes to speak at Public Comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no comments.

If not, that brings us down to Item IV, which is Board Comment.

**BOARD COMMENT:**

**Dr. Lurton Lyle:** I would like to commend Mr. Larry Barton for his presentation today at the Board of Supervisors. I think he answered a lot of their questions and responded to a lot of their questions; great job.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** I agree with that.

**Mr. Rocky Barton:** Really good Larry. I've said before that I had never seen budgets like this and I really didn't understand them and had to ask a lot of questions. I can understand a lot more about this one Larry. You've done a really good job with this.

**Mr. Rick Mullins:** We are just blessed to have Larry Barton.

**Chairman Susan Mullins:** I think that's the general consensus. If all minds are clear I need a motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Mr. Rocky Barton: I make the motion to adjourn. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Adjourned: 5:20 p.m.

**Susan Mullins**

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CHAIRMAN

**Approved: April 27, 2017**

**Reba McCowan**

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CLERK