

**Directors' Meeting Agenda  
6.7.16 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Present:**

Cartner  
Sanders  
Hale  
Meiggs (arrived 10:40 a.m.)  
Lassiter (arrived 10:40 a.m.)

Austin  
Cowell  
Davenport  
Godfrey

Heath  
James-Davis  
Lane  
Parker

Pauley  
Sawyer  
Thompson  
Whitehurst

<b>Leader</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Cartner	<p>Dr. Cartner opened the meeting and reported on a productive meeting (6.6.16) with the Board of Commissioners regarding budget. He shared that Commissioners Dixon and Parker were very much in favor of increasing school funding but the majority were not in favor. He indicated that he left the meeting with the understanding that County staff will try to find an additional \$200,000-\$250,00 but he is not certain of the outcome.</p> <p>Dr. Cartner briefed directors on the budget process to date and discussed next steps. He shared that the district has averaged spending \$10.7 million in Current Expense funds over the last five years and to remain “even” for 2016-17 would require \$11 million. The County has only funded \$10 million at this point. The Board of Education will make decisions on 6.13.16 regarding recommended cuts and use of Fund Balance to “balance the budget.” He and his cabinet met with individual board members last week to review recommended cuts and funding scenarios.</p> <p>Dr. Cartner discussed the 1:1 initiative and indicated there is strong sentiment from</p>

Board members to move forward, but they are wrestling with how low they can take Fund Balance. He indicated that the Local Government Commission does not require a minimum percentage Fund Balance for school districts, however, they do require cities and counties to maintain 8%.

Dr. Cartner discussed the common platform (laptop, cart, document camera) for core classrooms that will get everybody on a level playing field and indicated he is optimistic that the Board will proceed with funding for this.

Dr. Cartner discussed the need to fill the gap in the current budget and the need to implement new initiatives. He also discussed the fact that Current Expense and Capital Outlay budgets are two distinct budgets.

Dr. Cartner discussed Capital Outlay Funds that the Commissioners will provide for 2016-17 (new phone system at Sheep, painting of two schools, NHS roof phase VI, HVAC at RRMS, Chiller at PCHS, etc.). Hale inquired about the status of funding for a tow truck and Dr. Cartner responded that the Commissioners would not fund a new tow truck.

Dr. Cartner concluded that the budget news is not all bad and we have reason to be optimistic.

Dr. Cartner indicated that Medicaid Reimbursement Funds will be used to move forward with installing AEDs in schools and offices. Each high school will have 3, each middle school will have two and one will be installed at each elementary school, Central Services, Edgewood, Maintenance, Transportation and H. L. Trigg.

Dr. Cartner discussed student achievement and indicated:

- based on preliminary test data there are some causes for celebration and some

disappointments

- it is time to look at folks that did not grow and have not grown for some time
- have to be honest and look at sites where kids are going backwards (one school has gone backwards significantly)
- need to know this year's data but also need to focus on 3 year cohort trend
- if students in grades 3-8 can succeed in science there is no reason they cannot succeed in reading and math – science should be much more hands on and the same practices could be used in reading and math
- have to get folks to understand that student engagement is not where it needs to be
- have to say to certain teachers & administrators that if the scores were below 30%, then the standards just were not taught (same for those in mid- to low-30s)

Dr. Cartner discussed an activity that can be done with principals and teachers involving bringing exemplars of work at their school/in their classroom and having the group review the exemplars. It is a way to drive home for them that they are inflating grade level work. Sanders indicated the PST had done this for science and it showed that they could not pick out which standard was for which grade level.

Dr. Cartner discussed the need to demonstrate hands on instruction to principals so they can see grade level work and engagement. He also discussed providing “look fors” for them on what they should be seeking out in order to understand standards.

Dr. Cartner indicated that Northside Elementary had a 100% score on the science exam. Sanders indicated that they did not departmentalize and all four teachers taught science and they did well.

Dr. Cartner also shared that Sheep-Harney had a couple in the 80s and it was really good for that school to see their hard work paid off.

Dr. Cartner discussed benchmarks of 60% and 50% and that when you compare the scores there is not a lot of difference in the number scoring 60% and the number scoring 50%. He discussed the folks at 60% are doing a better job than those in the void that fall into the 30s and 40s.

Sanders indicated the PST was initially worried about 3<sup>rd</sup> grade scores because of all the “new” 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers for 2015-16, however they did better because they were forced to look at the standards.

Dr. Cartner indicated that a session on “Best Practices” should be built in for the Summer Conference (July 19-21). Sanders indicated that PST is already looking at the data and it shows that those using best practices across the board are seeing the best results.

Godfrey shared that the Technology Department is in the process of collecting equipment for summer maintenance.

Davenport reported that the Title I plan was place on public review and received no community feedback. The Plan will go to the Board on June 13<sup>th</sup>. At the present time, school allocations have not been made – additional information regarding state and local budgets (salaries, benefits, etc.) is needed prior to making the allocations.

Dr. Cartner reminded everyone to get information in that needs action for the June meeting and also reminded everyone that there is only one Board meeting in July.

He encouraged everyone to plan accordingly.

Lane reported on the RRMS STEM Camp that begins next week. 38 students have registered and there are 2 open slots. A teacher has been trained in robotics and is very enthusiastic. Lane is excited about the partnership with ECSU (3 year grant) to provide STEM instruction.

James-Davis reported that Sheila Hughes (Nursing Fundamentals at NHS) was able to give the CNA Assessment for the first time. She shared that a pinning ceremony will be held on 6.8.16 and invited everyone to attend.

Dr. Cartner indicated that a meeting with Dr. Eddie West (Masonboro Group) is scheduled for 2 p.m. today and the purpose of the meeting is to provide Dr. West with information on the types of grant funding needed in the district. Dr. West will then research grants and provide information on what is available.

Dr. Cartner introduced Mr. Steve Lassiter, new Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources/Auxiliary Services. Mr. Lassiter will be working with Ms. Meiggs until her retirement.

Dr. Cartner asked everyone to remember how it is in a school this time of year and to excuse any “shortness” from school folks.

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.