

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 30, 2011
Fuller Bldg, Board Room

Attending: Wendy Jacobs, Page McCullough, Ellen Reckhow, Steve Unruhe, Micah Copeland, Bob Wheless, Kristy Moore, Stephanie Humphrey, Terry Bell, Eric J. Becoats, Lewis, Ferebee, Carolyn Olivarez, Paul LeSieur, Jeff Nash, Denise Johnson-Moore.

Others in attendance: BOE members Natalie Beyer and Leigh Bordley. Hugh Osteen, Assistant Superintendent of Operational Services and Dr. Tina Hester, Chief of Human Resource Services. Citizen, Eric Boven and Melody Butts of the Herald Sun.

Carolyn Olivarez, Chief Financial Officer, opened the meeting at 4:45 pm with a special welcome to the new PTA representative, Terry Bell of the Durham PTA Council and each of the returning members introduced themselves. Carolyn continued to provide an overview of today's meeting and resubmitted the group norms that were created from last year's meeting to be used as guidelines to help the committee work together. The following suggestions were submitted to help the committee be better prepared for the monthly meeting in preparing the 2012-2013 districts budget.

- Request information be mailed out to the committee prior to the scheduled meetings.
- Need more representation from the business sector.
- Recommendation to cancel the December 14th meeting.
- Request moving the January 25th earlier in the month to January 18th
- Scheduled an additional meeting March 28th.
- The timeframe when the committee meets in May and the timeframe when the budget goes to county, is presented at the public hearing and is adopted by the BOE raised some concerns for the committee. The May 9 date pushed up to May 3rd to help the committee tweak the final budget package.

Paul LeSieur, Executive Director of Budget & Management Services, presented information in preparation for the FY 2012-13 budget cycle. This information was included in a power-point presentation which included:

1. State Economic Outlook – what the current revenue analysis reflects.
2. State Funding Historical Perspective – the state general fund is slated to be \$19.96 billion. K-12 percent of the state general fund budget in FY12-13 is 37.3%.
3. Current state of the State budget concerns.
4. State budget development for FY 2012-13 process.
5. Local budget development for FY 2012-13 process.
6. Strategies used in FY11-12 to prepare for FY12-13 – utilization of funding.
7. Projected budget deficit (\$14m)
8. ¼ cent sales tax – approved by the voters in November – the committee commented on the passing of the sales tax and its implication on the upcoming budget.

The complete presentation is posted on the DPS website. (link to About DPS/Budget)

The group was interested in discussing information on the following items in future meetings:

- It was recommended that the Transportation Executive Director attend the next meeting to discuss transportation issues and to provide an explanation of the transportation efficiency state formula. A question was asked if the age of the student was a factor when eliminating some bus stops for safety and efficiency reasons.
- A report on energy usage was requested as well as an update on efficiencies.
- It was also recommended that we challenge schools to create energy saving tips and offer incentives to them.
- A request was made for an analysis of non-teaching positions to include the following:
 - Number of positions
 - Title of position
 - Position description
 - Money used

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.