

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

The Orange County Board of Supervisors held a Joint Worksession with the Orange County School Board on Thursday, September 27, 2012, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Orange County Airport, 11275 Aviation Way, Orange, Virginia 22960. Board of Supervisors Members Present: S. Teel Goodwin, Chairman; Lee H. Frame, Vice-Chairman; Shannon C. Abbs; James (Jim) K. White; and Grover C. Wilson. School Board Members Present: Lou Thompson\*; Sherrie Page; Judy Carter; Jerry Bledsoe; and Jim Hopkins. Also present: Julie G. Summs, County Administrator; Alyson Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk; Dr. Robert E. Grimesey, Superintendent of Schools; and Laura Byram, Clerk.

\* Mr. Thompson arrived at 4:40 p.m.

### RE: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Frame moved, seconded by Mrs. Abbs and carried, to adopt the agenda as presented. Ayes: Abbs, Goodwin, Wilson, Frame, White. Nays: None.

### RE: OVERCROWDING AND CTE PROGRAMS AT ORANGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

#### RE: GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE "CURRENT STATUS" OF THE ORANGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY

Dr. Robert Grimesey, Superintendent of Schools, presented a general description of the "current status" at the Orange County High School. He directed the Boards to a document he had prepared and provided information on the most updated capacity study performed by Ballou, Justice, Upton (BJU) Architects in March, 2012. He noted that at 90% efficiency, which was the maximum allowable "industry standard," the capacity of the High School was 1,531.

Discussion ensued among the Boards regarding: student/teacher ratios; capacity figures at the High School; efficiency at the High School; overcrowding at the High School; and the application of State standards in the classroom.

\* Mr. Thompson arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Dr. Grimesey noted that there was an urgent and immediate need for modern science classrooms that were capable of accommodating larger numbers of students and that could facilitate more direct student exposure to laboratory experiences. He explained that the safety issue relative to science classes could not be ignored.

Dr. Grimesey further explained that career and technical education facilities also needed to be modernized. He noted that according to the CTE Feasibility Study developed by the Workforce Orange Task Force, the CTE facilities should support ever-changing employment demands as well as accommodate adult education needs.

Dr. Grimesey concluded by reviewing enrollment projections for Orange County High School from the current year out to 2018-2019.

Ms. Carter shared information regarding the current status of the High School, and discussed a recent visit she had there. She noted the overcrowding of students during lunch time, and added that she took an explicit look at the CTE classrooms. She reported that teachers often requested more room to work with to accommodate more children.

Discussion ensued among the Boards regarding: CTE classes and programs at the High School; student/teacher ratios in CTE classes; student enrollment in CTE classes; and whether or not the same number of teachers could accommodate additional students.

RE: CURRENT RECOMMENDATION TO ADDRESS MOST IMMEDIATE AND URGENT NEED AT OCHS

Dr. Grimesey presented information regarding the remodel plan at the High School to convert several classrooms into modern science labs. He explained that four internal classrooms would be demolished and converted into science labs that would facilitate instruction required to meet Virginia's revised science standards of learning. Dr. Grimesey noted that an additional part of this project included purchasing and installing modular classroom units that would accommodate the demolition of the four internal classrooms. He provided a total preliminary cost of \$610,657.

Discussion ensued among the Boards regarding: whether or not the remodel would provide enough space; proper ventilation in the science labs; the 90% efficiency rating; long-term planning versus short-term planning of the projects; timeline for the remodel project; staffing levels: whether or not expenditures would be Capital only or Capital and Operating; location of the remodeled science labs; and the physical location of the proposed modular units.

RE: LONGER-TERM OPTIONS TO ADDRESS OVERCROWDING AND MODERNIZATION NEEDS AT OCHS

Discussion ensued among the Boards regarding: construction of a stand-alone CTE Center versus a CTE expansion at the High School; adult CTE needs; placement of schools and additions for growth; lunch overcrowding and scheduling with an addition at the High School; and code and regulation compliance.

RE: NEXT STEPS

The Board of Supervisors expressed interest in supporting the remodel project with the inclusion of the modular units, and requested that the School Board provide updated prices at the October 9, 2012, meeting at which time the Board could discuss financing scenarios.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Frame moved, seconded by Mr. White and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Ayes: Abbs, Goodwin, Wilson, Frame, White. Nays: None.

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S. Teel Goodwin, Chairman

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Julie G. Summs, County Administrator