

Combined Education Committee
Wednesday, July 20, 2016 3-5 PM
County Office Building, Reagan Room

Attendance:

Commissioner Richard Weaver

Commissioner Doug Howard

Dr. Paula Singer, Facilitator

Delegate Haven Shoemaker

Delegate April Rose

Senator Justin Ready

Devon Rothschild, member Board of Education

Bob Lord, member Board of Education

Glen Galante, MD State Education Association

Michele Rogers, Parent Representative

Daniel Hoff, Real Estate Representative

The meeting was opened and Committee members introduced themselves. There were 3 new members representing the different constituencies within the county: Mr. Daniel Hoff, representing the real estate industry; Mr. Glen Galante, representing the unions within Carroll County Public Schools; and Ms. Michele Rogers, representing parents to the Committee.

The minutes of the June 30, 2016 at 3:00 P.M. meeting were unanimously adopted, upon motion of Ms. Devon Rothschild, seconded by Commissioner Richard Weaver, with the exception of those who were not in attendance at the meeting. Those members abstained. The minutes will be posted on the Combined Education Committee website.

The discussion progressed to the baseline which the Committee will start from, and the methods the Committee can look at. Ms. Rothschild suggested having presentations from Superintendent Stephen Guthrie regarding school funding issues, and Carroll County Director of Management and Budget Ted Zaleski, to review county revenues.

As the conversation continued, committee members asked for Mr. Guthrie and Mr. Zaleski to provide additional information during their presentations.

Requests were as follows:

1. Have someone from the Board of Education discuss the Carroll County Public Schools Facilities Master Plan and talk about the enrollment projections.
2. How much CCPS is under capacity in their enrollment and how does that compare to other school systems?
3. Look at union negotiations and explore other ways for teachers and unions to negotiate.
4. Compare with other counties with similar size projections. (Mr. Glen Galante will provide the Committee with some of that information to read)
5. Is Carroll County doing more than it is required to do in the different areas of the school system?
6. Are there different ways to do things and to get a very similar result?

The presentations should not be limited to the State of Maryland. There may be another county in another state which has had a similar problem and we should research the path they took to resolve the problem.

The Committee's website is updated with information collected. Members are encouraged to review and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting.

Delegate Rose mentioned the Career and Technology Center and finding ways to address the problem of Carroll County Public Schools turning away students because of the size of the

current facility. Ms. Rothschild stated that a firm has been hired by CCPS to look at space for the Career and Technology School. Dr. Singer suggested looking nationwide for information on how different counties are making it work for them. Delegate Rose offered to research this issue further.

Senator Ready stated that he would like to invite an expert from the Department of Legislative Services to make a presentation regarding education funding, possibly giving us a baseline with the information they provide. He would like to invite someone to the August 24, 2016 meeting to make the presentation.

It was decided to have presentations made during half of the meeting and the other half for group discussion. The Committee discussed what they would like Mr. Guthrie and Mr. Zaleski to include in their presentations at the August 3rd meeting.

The Committee talked about tax increases/decreases and what would have to happen to cause either one.

A draft letter to Governor Hogan was distributed to the Committee members to review, with the letter with their respective Board's for approval and return to the Committee by the next meeting on August 3, 2016 for signature.

Questions were raised regarding the email that is available for citizen input and/or questions, and who should be answering those emails. The emails are being sent to the entire Committee, so anyone on the Committee is welcome to answer the email (with a copy to the whole Committee), but no one should feel that they have to respond.

Ms. Rothschild asked if these Committee meetings could be moved from 3-5 PM to 4-6 PM when school starts in the fall (September, 2016). The Committee agreed to change the meeting time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM. Next meeting of The Combined Education Committee will be held on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 3:00 PM in the Reagan Room, County Office Building.

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