

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JOINT MEETING with WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD of EDUCATION**

**Thursday, March 14, 2019  
6:30 P.M.**

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Southeastern Community College, located at 4564 Chadbourn Highway, Whiteville, North Carolina, T-Building, Room 120, for the purpose of conducting a joint meeting with the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Trent Burroughs, **Chairman**  
P. Edwin Russ, **Vice Chairman**  
Jerome McMillian  
James E. Prevatte  
Giles E. Byrd  
Ricky Bullard  
Charles T. McDowell

**APPOINTEES PRESENT:**

Mike Stephens, **County Manager**  
Amanda B. Prince, **County Attorney**  
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**  
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

**WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS BOARD of EDUCATION and STAFF PRESENT:**

Coleman Barbour, **Chairman**  
Kandle M. Rogers, **Vice Chair**  
Anna Richardson  
David Flowers  
Greg Merritt

**STAFF:**

Kenny Garland, **Superintendent**  
Annette Hamilton, **Finance Officer**  
Allen Turner, **The News Reporter**  
Meredith Lee, **Teacher/NCAE Representative**  
Marlando D. Pridgen, **Community Volunteer**

**Agenda Item #1: MEETING CALLED to ORDER:**

At 6:30 P.M., Chairman Trent Burroughs called the March 14, 2019 Joint Meeting with the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education to order.

**Agenda Item #3: INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES (NAME and TITLE):**

Chairman Burroughs requested the attendees to introduce themselves in a counter clockwise fashion. Introductions were orally stated by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners and Staff Members, and the Whiteville City Schools Board of Education and Staff Members.

**Agenda Item #2: INVOCATION:**

Commissioner Charles T. McDowell delivered the invocation.

**EVENING MEAL:**

A delicious meal was provided by Gwen's Catering, buffet style.

**Agenda Item's #4 and #5: PURPOSE of JOINT MEETING and RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE:**

Chairman Burroughs stated the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the needs of Whiteville City Schools. The recommended procedure is to give each member an opportunity to provide information.

**Agenda Item #6: DISCUSSION:**

Charles K. Garland, Ed.S, Superintendent of Whiteville City Schools, presented the following letter and presentation.

March 14, 2019

To: Columbus County Commissioners

From: Coleman D. Barbour, Board Chairman / Charles K. Garland Ed.S., Superintendent

**RE:** Local Budget Appropriations

I realize all of you are very busy in finalizing plans for the upcoming fiscal year (2019-2020). I would like to thank you for your efforts of establishing a strong communication line with each school district and the community college. Collaboration is a key component to progress and your invitation for dialogue will make Columbus County a better community.

According to the North Carolina Public Schools Planning Allotment, Whiteville City Schools will serve 2,229 enrolled students in the 2019-2020 school year. Columbus County Schools will serve 5,545 enrolled students in the 2019-2020 school year. If both populations are combined, Columbus County Commissioners will fund 7,774 enrolled students in the 2019-2020 school year. The Whiteville City Schools will comprise, according to these planning allotments, 28.67% of the total public school population in the 2019-2020 school year.

During the 2018-2019 current fiscal year, the Columbus County Commissioners awarded \$204,832 in capital outlay and \$2,155,936 in current expense. I respectfully request your consideration for the 2019-2020 total budget amounts be allocated to Whiteville City Schools in the **total amount of \$2,538,580 (\$2,273,580 in current expense and \$265,000 in capital outlay)**. The overall budget request for 2019-2020 shows an **overall increase in current expense by \$117,614 and capital outlay by \$60,168**. The amount requested demonstrates an overall increased budget request of 7.5%.

**The amount requested by Whiteville City Schools demonstrates a current expense per pupil expenditure of \$1,020. The request is still well below the North Carolina state average of \$1,652 per pupil as defined by the 2019 Public Schools Forum Local Finance Study.**

Whiteville City Schools is committed to the success of all students and your commitment to our budgetary request for FY 2019-2020 would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, I leave you with wise words from Randi Weingarten, “**A rich, robust, well-resourced public education is one of the best routes out of poverty and a pathway to prosperity**”. Let us all work together to build the pathway to prosperity for our greatest resource in Columbus County, the children.

Cc; Mike Stephens, Columbus County Manager  
Bobbie Faircloth, Columbus County Finance Officer  
Whiteville City Schools Board of Education

**Whiteville City Schools**  
2019-2010 Budget Request  
Presentation

1. Whiteville City Schools is fully accredited by AdvancED
2. 2017-2018 Academic Accolades:
  - Whiteville City Schools academic achievement demonstrated student growth at ALL schools in ALL grades with ALL subgroups.
  - Whiteville City Schools attained the highest graduation rate in system history 91.3%.
3. Capital Improvements 2018-2019:
  - Camera Systems Added at CMS/NWA
  - Security Door System Added at EES/NWA
  - Purchased new activity bus
  - Purchased new van; **and**
  - Purchased new operations truck.

4. 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Goals:
  - Goal 1: Complete two (2) roofing projects - Whiteville Primary School, estimated cost: \$160,000
  - Goal #2: New doors at WPS, estimated costs \$30,000
  - Goal #3: Construct storage areas at CMS, estimated cost: \$45,000
  - Goal #4: Install security doors/keyless entry at WPS (finish) and EES, estimated cost \$60,000
  - Goal #5: Contracted Services/Equipment/Furniture, estimated cost: \$95,000:
    - Items for Contracted Services:
      - Furniture \$20,000
      - Painting \$13,000
      - Pressure Washing \$5,000
      - Gym Floor Rescreening \$5,000
      - Parking Lot Lease Agreement \$2,000
      - Electrical \$10,000
      - General Maintenance \$25,000
      - Landscaping \$5,000
      - Lawn/Floor Equipment Replacement \$10,000
  - Goal #6: HVAC Repair/Replacement, estimated cost: \$75,000
  - Goal #7: Fencing at WPS, estimated cost \$10,000
  - Goal #8: Resurface HS Track, estimated cost \$150,000
  - Goal #9: Equipment Lease Agreements, estimated cost: \$165,000
  - Goal #10: Floor Replacement at EES (4<sup>th</sup> Grade Hall), estimated cost: \$50,000
5. Total Capital Outlay Budget:
  - Sales Tax \$541,000
  - County Appropriation \$265,000
  - NWA Lease Funding \$33,600
6. County Capital Outlay Increase Request: **\$60,168**
7. Current Expense Request 2019-2010:
  - Highlights of Current Expense Request:
    - 2018-2019 Appropriation
      - \$2,155,966
      - \$937 Per Pupil
      - 2,301 Student
    - 2019-2020 Current Expense Request:
      - \$2,273,580
      - \$1,020 Per Pupil
      - 2,229 Students
8. Current Expense Overview:
  - SRO Services (Columbus County Sheriff's Department) \$85,512
  - Provide 3 fully equipped SRO at our 5 schools
  - WHS
  - CMS/NWA
  - WPS/EES
9. Local Amount for Supplies and Materials - \$44,580:
  - Required as part of Federal Programs \$20 Per Pupil (\$2 Per Month)
10. Comparison:
 

-\$2,155,966	\$2,273,580
-2,301 Students	\$117,614 Increase (5.2%)
\$937 Per Student	2,229 Students
	\$1,020 Per Student

State Average Per Pupil is: \$1,652
11. Summary:
  - Capital outlay increase: \$60,168
  - Current Expense Increase: \$117,614
12. TOTAL INCREASE: \$177,782 (7.5%)

#### **EXPRESSIONS of APPRECIATION:**

The Columbus County Board of Commissioners stated the following expressions of appreciation to Charles K. Garland, Whiteville City Schools Superintendent:

1. We are glad you spent five (5) years with us;

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2. You delivered a good presentation, thank you for what you have done for our children, and you have done a good job;
3. We will miss you;
4. You have done an excellent job; **and**
5. We appreciate all of your efforts and we wish you good luck with your new endeavor.

**Agenda Item #7: ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:38 P.M., Chairman Burroughs stated the meeting was closed.

**APPROVED:**

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**JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to the Board**

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**TRENT BURROUGHS, Chairman**