

MINUTES OF THE MANSFIELD ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING  
January 20, 2011

The Mansfield School Council met in regular session on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00am. The meeting was held at 45 Third Street, Mansfield, GA 30055.

School Council members present: 7

G.W. Davis – school principal  
Rachel McCoy – teacher representative  
Lisa Perkins – teacher representative  
Becky Morgan – parent representative  
Lisa Holmes – parent representative  
Shelia Massey – parent/business representative  
Whitney Woodward – parent/business representative

Seven members were present representing a quorum.

Sheila Massey called the meeting to order at 7:00am.

Lisa Perkins gave the inspiration.

Shelia Massey led council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes from the last meeting, November 18, 2010, were approved.

There were no visitors.

Mr. Davis reviewed the Stakeholder Budget Survey. After discussion, the council voted on each item to reach consensus on cutting \$9,000,000 from the budget. The council voted as follows:

- 1) Change high school scheduling to a seven period day to include remediation/enrichment for students. (Savings = \$2,820,000) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 2) Contract with Ombudsman to provide a new – and potentially more educationally effective – delivery model for alternative education in NCSS. (Savings = \$1,941,962) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 3) Implement a three-tier student transportation system. (Savings = \$1,477,441) – UNDECIDED – SEE NOTE BELOW 13).
- 4) Eliminate 70 six-hour per day regular education instructional paraprofessional positions at the elementary schools. (Savings = \$1,127,000) – STRONGLY DISAGREE

- 5) Reorganize and reduce maintenance and custodial staffs. (Savings = \$954,000) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 6) Reduce the school year by one day for students and reduce employee work days (non-school days) by one additional day. (Savings = \$950,000) – AGREE
- 7) Change to one of the following school schedules:
  - Option A: Four day school week (156 school days) (Savings = \$820,000) – STRONGLY DISAGREE
  - Option B: 158 School days and the day would be lengthened by approximately 42 minutes for elementary and 52 minutes for secondary (Savings = \$750,000) – STRONGLY DISAGREE
  - Option C: 169 School days and the day would be lengthened by approximately 20 minutes for elementary and 28 minutes for secondary (Savings = \$375,000) – DISAGREE
- 8) Eliminate 28 eight-hour per day regular education instructional paraprofessional positions at the elementary schools. (Savings = \$582,400) – STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 9) Reduce the 1% Board contribution to the 403b retirement plan for Teachers Retirement System employees to .5%. (Savings = \$422,000) – AGREE
- 10) Eliminate two Assistant Principal positions. (Savings = \$215,000) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 11) Reduce the number of school resource officers (security) from 18 to 14. (Savings = \$171,428) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 12) Require a 10% cut in all Central Office budgets. (Savings = \$160,000) – STRONGLY AGREE
- 13) Combine Newton College and Career Academy CEO and Director of Career, Technical, and Agriculture Education (CTAE) positions. (Savings = \$65,000) – STRONGLY AGREE

OTHER SUGGESTED BUDGET REDUCTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION: While we fully support trying to reduce costs in transportation, we are concerned about the staggered start and end times for students, especially in middle school. Is it possible to look at other methods of saving money such as fewer stops, more common stops, putting more students on each bus, and not transporting students who are closer to school, etc.?

Parents and community members are encouraged to visit the Newton County Board of Education website and submit input as well. Input will be received through February 8, 2011. [www.newtoncountyschools.org](http://www.newtoncountyschools.org)

Upcoming events are:

- Feb. 16 & 17 – make up days for those missed during the snow storm (Jan. 10-14)
- Mar. 7 – Chili Supper/Curriculum Fair

Next Meeting – March 17 in library