

**IREDELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING WITH THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE IREDELL-STATESVILLE
SCHOOL SYSTEM & THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR
THE MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL SYSTEM
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2002**

The Iredell County Board of Commissioners met for a dinner meeting with the Iredell-Statesville Board of Education and the Mooresville Graded Board of Education on September 23, 2002, 6:30 p.m., at the Agricultural Resource Center, located at 444 Bristol Drive, Statesville, NC.

The following individuals were in attendance.

Iredell County Board of Commissioners

Sara Haire Tice, Chairman
Karen B. Ray, Vice Chairman
Tommy E. Bowles
Steve D. Johnson
R. Godfrey Williams

Iredell County Staff

Joel Mashburn, Iredell County Manager
Susan Blumenstein, Director of Finance & Administrative Services
Ron Smith, Planning Supervisor
Jean Moore, Clerk to the Board

Iredell-Statesville Board of Education

Vaughn Sprinkle, Chairman
David Cash
Tara Cashion
Jim Head
Mary Bruce Serene
Keith Williams

David Parker, Board member-elect
Ken Wilson, Board member-elect

Iredell-Statesville Staff

Julia Williams, Interim Superintendent
Bedford Cannon, School System Attorney

Terry Holliday – Superintendent effective November 1, 2002
Denise Holliday, spouse of new superintendent

Mooresville Graded Schools Board of Education

Frank P. Fields, Chairman
Karen M. Hart
Bill Thunberg

Mooresville Graded Schools Staff

Bruce Boyles, Superintendent
Roger Hyatt
Barry Shepherd
David Dutton

Media

Michelle Harrison, *Record & Landmark*
Michael Roessler, *Mooresville Tribune*
Jim Wrinn, *Charlotte Observer/Iredell Neighbors*

Guest

Chris Roberts, SWBR Architects

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Dr. Julia Williams said the meeting had been scheduled to remind everyone about the school needs of both systems. She said information would be provided to show the effect of growth and development on the schools. Williams said no formal request for funds would be presented at the meeting.

(A booklet containing information about student population and growth was then presented and discussed. The booklet concluded by saying:

- The student population is growing at a fast rate, approximately 800/yr. or the equivalent of one new school per year countywide.
- The ability to provide for growth and to replace/renovate aging facilities continues to be a problem.
- Available space (classrooms, land for expansion/mobiles, special programs, state initiatives, etc.) can limit our ability to provide an adequate education environment.
- Good Schools are essential to strong economic development and continual progress in our county.

Some comments made were:

Dr. Williams: Harmony and Ebenezer Schools need major renovations.
Work has been done at Union Grove, but additional work is needed.
Statesville High needs major renovations and more space.
Troutman schools are at capacity.
New elementary school is needed to alleviate space problems at Lake Norman Elementary.
Commuter rail in the southern end, along with the new Lowes facility will affect the schools.
Just because a school was built for 800, this doesn't necessarily mean 800 students will fit. e.g., exceptional children's classes have space guidelines ("as-built" capacity is affected by size, special classes, exceptional classes and Pre-K classes).
Pre-K classes do not count in a school's ADM (average daily membership).
Fifty percent (50%) of the new enrollees this year were from outside North Carolina & five percent (5%) were from out of the country.

Dr. Boyles: Mooresville schools have doubled in the number of students since 1986.
The doubling will probably occur again in the next 15 years.
Most significant needs are in the elementary schools.
Presently has a site selected for a new intermediate school.
State mandates offer challenges, e.g., "More at Four" program & the classroom sizes for the lower grades.
One school has to begin lunch at 10:30 a.m., & it concludes at 1:30 p.m.
The same zoning and permitting factors are faced by the schools as are faced by the private sector.
85% of the student population in Iredell County is housed in brick/mortar classrooms. The other 15% is in mobile classrooms (441 in the Mooresville System and 2,850 in Iredell-Statesville).

Dr. Boyles and Dr. Williams stressed the need to continually renovate the older schools.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting concluded at approximately 8 p.m.

Approval: _____

Clerk to the Board