



Education Relations Committee Minutes
Town of Farragut/Knox County Schools
December 9, 2010

Attending: Margaret Johns, Carol Littlejohn, Russell Barber, Carla Lyle, David Smoak (Town Administrator), Valerie Millsapps, (Assistant to Town Administrator), Kay Wellons (Principal of FIS), Lorraine Furtner (FIS Teacher), Debbie Adorante (FIS Teacher), Heather Mays (Farragut Press)

- I. Roll call (Johns) 8:30 AM
- II. Approval of November minutes. Passed by committee (Barber motioned; Lyle seconded motion.)
- III. Call for additions on agenda. Lyle motioned that discussion occur on the current vacancies in the committee. Johns added this item to the agenda.
- IV. Roundtable Discussions with School Principals. Speaker, Kay Wellons, Principal of Farragut Intermediate School.
 - a. Current FIS statistics:
 - Currently 1,079 students
 - 2 or 3 transfers this year
 - Increase in 3rd grade enrollment expected next school year
 - Increase in lunches and free programs.
 - Diverse school population
 - No Title I funding
 - FIS used Farragut's annual donation to retain a computer lab assistant and to provide SmartBoards for every teacher
 - Vols4STEM is used more in high school, although science and social science is now being studied. Adorante, a teacher at FIS, coordinates science lab with volunteers of scientific background.
 - Mathematic scores in Knox County usually dip in 4th grade. FIS is working on fast math, problem-solving. "Inquiry is the new word. Start with material and investigate. How do you clean up an oil spill?"

Needs of FIS:

- Professional development. Food and professional development are on same budget line. Some funds are acquired by a tradition of yearly donations from businesses contacted.
- Additional computer lab.

Considered essential with additional software like Study Island that tests children monthly on specific skills, offering tutorials to children.

- V. Vacancies in Farragut School Committee.
 - a. Johns suggested advertising to fill available positions. Smoak states he will look into this and have board approval in January.
- VI. FHS Foundation
 - a. Johns and Barber attended FHS Foundation's meeting in November. Johns spoke to the Foundation about the committee's desire to have an "ongoing dialogue" with FHS. Jerry Martin, President of the Foundation, stated the need for a full-time person to initiate the FHS alumnae database.
- VII. KeepAndShare Document Group-Sharing Website.
 - a. Discussion concluded that not all committee members are using the website for storage of committee documents; some members have trouble getting into the site. Committee agreed to discontinue use of KeepAndShare; instead, the committee will email our discussions to all participants.
- VIII. Other items.
 - a. Johns will meet Guy DeMarco, FHS teacher, to discuss Supply Our Schools, initiated by the committee to supply Farragut schools through donations.
 - b. Traffic light study at Campbell Station Road is to be discussed at the Town Hall meeting on December 11 at 7:00 PM. Barber suggested members should attend.
- IX. Meeting adjourned 10:00 PM.
Next meeting: January 10, 2011 at 8:30 AM. Place is to be announced by email.