



Ronnie N. Terry, Chair – Blue Ridge District
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Kandy Burnett – Dan River District
Michelle Day – Mayo River District
Annie H. Hylton – Peters Creek District
Dr. William D. Sroufe, Division Superintendent

December 15, 2017

Mrs. Carlson,


I wanted to clarify a few points from your public comment yesterday. As members of the Comprehensive Instructional Program (CIP), our teachers have the opportunity to work alongside teachers from the 30 other divisions to develop and enhance both the pacing guides and benchmark tests. We require teachers to use the CIP pacing guides and benchmark tests throughout the school year. The lesson plans and other items are not required to be utilized, but they serve as resources. In contrast to your public comment, many PC educators utilize CIP resources on a daily basis and find them very beneficial for their students.

In reference to your lesson plan comment, teachers are required to include 5 essential elements in their lesson plans as outlined by the VDOE school improvement contractor. They have flexibility with the format and design of their plans. Teachers are not required to write 8 page lesson plans as you stated during public comment.

I wanted to also clarify your comment regarding the central office ratios of administrators to students. Currently, we have 15 employees at the school board office: 7 are administrators and 8 are support personnel. This makes our ratio 1 to 350 (not a ratio 1 to 182 as you stated in public comment). We budgeted on 2,450 brick and mortar students last year. In addition, Sara Vernon was hired as an academic coach, not a school administrator. She travels from school to school supporting teachers and students each day. She does not have an office at the SBO as you stated during public comment.

In reference to your textbook comments, PCPS is currently reviewing math and history textbooks. The VDOE textbook review cycle occurs every seven years. As stated at the textbook committee meeting in October 2017, a variety of options will be considered from hardback books to online textbooks, class sets to individual textbooks. Teachers at each school review book samples, provide feedback to their school representative, and provide input in a Google survey. In March, the division committee which is comprised of school representatives and school administrators will meet, make a decision, and propose a new textbook adoption to the Patrick County School Board. In contrast to your public comments, teachers do have multiple opportunities to provide feedback and give input related to textbook adoptions.

I hope this clarifies the misinformation that you shared during public comment.



William D. Sroufe, Ed. D.
Division Superintendent