

Mayor's Task Force for Matthews Community Schools

Date: August 15, 2016

Location: Matthews Town Hall

Members Present

Chair Landon Dunn, Kress Query, Sandi Lee, Angie Lee, Mary Ciminelli, Ray Eschert

Garnetta C. Smith, Ray Eschert, Hazen Blodgett, Garnetta Smith, Mayor Taylor

Guests

Senator Jeff Tart, Eddie Goodall (Charter School Consultant), Susan Castro(Charter Schools USA),

Richard Kutty (Charter School Teacher), , Irving Schwebel

Meeting Called to Order by Chair Dunn: 5:01pm

Vision Statement

“The vision of the Mayor’s Task Force on Education is to create a high performing school system responsive to the needs of families within our community.”

Two Charter possibilities: Municipal or Community(driven by a group of parents or citizens.)

Or

Forming our own public school system.

Mayor Taylor

- Huntersville is beginning to organize because due to CMS talk of busing.
- Our project has some Senate and some House support in Raleigh.
- Our school will have to serve all Matthews children.

SenatorTart

- Raleigh will want to know what the Matthews community wants so they will lean toward a referendum.
- Money will follow if referendum is successful.

A long discussion ensued regarding:

- If we went the public school route, would it just be Matthews or include the surrounding towns of Huntersville, Pineville, Mint Hill
- How a Charter School is set up legally, financially etc.
- Finances
- Serving children with special needs
- Real estate needs
- When would we need additional advisors or an advisory board.
- Requirement for Municipal Charter School that the Town form a 501 c 3 and a Board of Education that would include area business people, parents, financial and marketing experts, and educators.
- Check out House Bill 589 and the Dillion Rule.

Next Meeting: TBD