

Mayor's Task Force for Matthews Community Schools

Date: October 3, 2016

Location: Matthews Town Hall

Members Present: Chair Landon Dunn, Kress Query, Sandi Lee, Angie Lee, Mary Ciminelli,  
Garnetta C. Smith, Mayor Taylor

Guests: Lee Teague, ED NC Public Charter Schools, Richard Vinroot, Irving Schwebel, Bolyn McClung

Meeting Called to Order by Chair Dunn: 5:06pm

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."

August 15 minutes approved.

Lee Teague: NC is a single authorize state, meaning in North Carolina, charter schools are authorized only by the State Board of Education.

Reasons for Refusals

- Finances
- Educational Structure
- Governance
- And, now looking at marketing strategies.

Board Training is mandatory. One day per month for five months in Raleigh is often a deterrent.

Charter Lottery

Bill 334 has a weighted lottery but it has never been tested. Example: weighted by family income  
Matthews could test weighted a lottery to include only Matthews students but would need approval.

Charter School can issue bonds based on number of students. They go on Rule of Thumb. "If a Charter makes it three years, they will keep going."

Staffing: Charters are popular because of the self-governance and support for discipline. Salaries are average and staff is allowed to be part of the State pension system. Charters do pay on merit with no tenure.

Charters are typically 10% ahead in pupil to pupil comparisons

Richard Vinroot, Attorney, told the group about the history of Sugar Creek Charter School, a thriving charter school. The school has a successful record of academic progress with bus transportation. He invited the group to visit the school.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2016 at 5:00pm