

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12/27/2021 5:42:04 PM
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: State Public School Funding Review Subcommittee Work

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS

Jason,

I hope your holidays are going well. Mine are pretty mild. We have to be very cautious about being exposed to Covid since our son just received a pancreas/kidney transplant in mid-November, and he's very vulnerable to infection.

I am reaching out to you somewhat as a follow up to our previous meeting, but also to ask for some advice about getting insight as to what the rural public schools' priorities are for funding reform. NOAH's priorities tend to be influenced by metro area needs as well as the needs you mentioned about teacher pay and cost of living adjustments. However, we know that a significant number of the legislators are from rural counties. We would like to better understand their needs so we can include their priorities in our lobbying efforts.

You may be able to provide rural priority insight which would be great, but another thought I had was to poll the superintendents across the state. Is there any way we could get access to the TN Organization of School Superintendents to get their feedback? I'm sure we could dig up contact information for most districts, but if a roster was available of the superintendent organization, our research would be simplified.

Feel free to decline my request or offer other suggestions about how we might get rural priorities. I appreciate any help you can provide.

Regards,

Kent Fourman

From: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 8:51 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Lydia Glynn <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: State Public School Funding Review Subcommittee Work

Mr. Fourman,

Thanks for your emails yesterday. The letter you included was also forwarded to our subcommittee's Chair. Thanks for including me in that, too. It appears that the 18 subcommittees are largely having their first meetings this week. The subcommittee I am on has its first meeting this Friday. I'm hoping that the first meeting our subcommittee has will define our role and the expected timeline, but it seems that part of our role is to hear from stakeholders. I'd be happy to find a time if you want to meet and share your thoughts. At a glance, I'm thinking that the middle of next week is my best hope to schedule something with you. I am cc'ing Lydia Glynn, my assistant, to ask her to set something up.

Jason Golden
Superintendent
Williamson County Schools
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:16 AM
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>

Subject: FW: State Public School Funding Review Subcommittee Work

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS

Mr. Golden,

I'm so sorry to hit you with a follow up email, but I forgot to include a letter we are sending to subcommittee chairs, the governor and other community leaders stating our position on the review. I thought reading this letter would help you understand what we're trying to do.

Thanks, Kent

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:11 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: State Public School Funding Review Subcommittee Work

Mr. Golden,

I am a 24 year resident of Brentwood. My three sons attended Brentwood public schools and my wife (late 90s, early 2000s) was the president of the Brentwood HS PTO. We are big supporters of public schools, and we moved to Brentwood because of its public schools. I can't say enough about the great education my sons received in your schools.

I am a retired IT executive (retired two years ago as the CIO of The General Insurance). During my working years, I was heavily involved in all things Metro Schools education including being board chair of Alignment Nashville (support MNPS via alignment with community organizations), one of the original partnership council chairs for the Academies of Nashville and chair of the workforce development and education committee of the Greater Nashville Technology Council. When I retired, I sought out additional opportunities to be engaged in public education activities and particularly education transformation initiatives. That desire connected me with NOAH (Nashville Organized for Action and Hope). NOAH's primary mission is to eliminate systemic racism anywhere it exists. We accomplish our mission via several committees that create change by influencing public policy. One of those committees is the Education Task Force of which I am a member.

Sorry for the long introduction, but I felt you needed to understand my background before telling you why I'm contacting you. Our task force is very engaged in doing whatever we can to influence the outcome of the governor's public education funding review. We see the review as an opportunity to enact change in the state's public education funding that is long overdue. We applaud the governor making funding reform a top of mind initiative, and we want to make sure that issues related to equity and overall funding are addressed.

We know you have been appointed to the Suburban Districts, Municipals, and Fast-Growing Community Subcommittee. I am reaching out to you for two reasons. First, I'm wondering if you would be willing to meet with me to get acquainted and to get your understanding of what you are expected to do in your subcommittee work. Second, once your subcommittee work gets underway, I would like to occasionally check in with you to get an update on your committee work. NOAH believes the more we understand the work of the subcommittees, the more knowledgeable we will be and the more capable we will be to provide feedback and influence outcomes.

Mr. Golden, I would be more than happy to come to your office for a quick introductory meeting or we could meet for coffee if that works better for you. Given my retirement situation, I'm sure my schedule is more flexible than yours, so I'm open to whatever you suggest from a time and place perspective.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent Fourman

[REDACTED]