



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 14.

DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2009

REQUESTED BY: David Smith & Allison Sholar, Pender County Schools

SHORT TITLE: Request to Authorize FY 08/09 School System Funding for the Topsail School Project US 17 Highway Access Improvements, Not to Exceed the Amount of \$174,000; with the \$240,731.98 in bond funds to remain with the Penderlea School Bond Project.

BACKGROUND: This item was tabled at the May 4 meeting to allow an opportunity for Chairman Tate and School Board Chairman Tom Roper to further explore and recommend funding options.

The School System has requested to use funds from projects that have been completed to pay for the access and road improvements required by the North Carolina Department of Transportation at Topsail High School. The bond had passed and the Topsail School project was under construction before the extent of improvements required by DOT was known. It was in the fall of 2008 before the System learned the cost would be about \$1,000,000.

The System indicates that on all past bond projects money saved during construction was moved to other projects or used to buy furniture and other capital items. The projects identified by the Pender County Board of Education for the Penderlea School have been completed. To cover the access and road improvements at Topsail High, the system has previously moved the bond balance from Burgaw Middle, and now requests the balance from the Penderlea project be moved also. There is a balance at West Pender and the System will request that be moved at a later date. As noted, this is a practice the system has used to cover unforeseen items and buy capital fixtures.

There are no legal issues that would prohibit the approval and transfer of these bond monies as requested.

Subsequent to the Board meeting on May 4, Chairman Tate met Superintendent Sholar and Chairman Roper to discuss funding options. Superintendent Sholar requested and recommended the Board of Commissioners consider in lieu of transferring the bond funds from Penderlea School Project, that the Board of Commissioners consider approving the use of up to \$174,000 in FY 08/09 funds appropriated to the System, but were deferred for expenditure as part of an overall budget reduction instituted by the County last fall. The request is to use these funds already appropriated to assist in the cost of the highway access improvements.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To adopt a resolution authorizing the use of up to \$174,000 in FY 08/09 county appropriated funds to the School System to be used for the Topsail School Project highway access improvements; with the \$240,731.98 in bond funds to remain with the Penderlea School Project.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

RB

Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the expenditure of up to \$174,000 in FY 08/09 funds appropriated to the School System to be used for the Topsail School Project highway access improvements; with the \$240,731.98 in bond funds to remain with the Penderlea School Bond Project.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Tate ___ Brown ___ Blanchard ___ Rivenbark ___ Williams ___

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman

Date

ATTEST

Date