

So Much To Say And So Little Time to Say It

posted – April 28, 2016

Martha Mugler, when asked about the payment to the family whose daughter was molested at Kecoughtan High School, stated that the payment wasn't our business and that it had been paid by an insurance company. Not our money.

Let's look at the budget. What does the budget have to do with this lawsuit? Listen my fellow citizens and you shall hear. It seems, if Mugler had read "the school board budget" – though the law doesn't require her to – that she would have seen that Hampton is self-insured. We pay the City of Hampton to cover the school districts ass. Apparently, in 2015, the amount needed to contribute to this self-insured fund increased to the point it required mentioning in the budget. Hampton City Schools must have anticipated a lot of liability lawsuits. This can happen when you hire people without verifying their applications, or shaft students with disabilities. So, **NO** insurance company. It was our money.

Phyllis Henry seems to be head over heels in love with Ford Next Generation Learning (NGL). It's going to be a cure-all for what ills Hampton City Schools...eventually. So rather than focus on accreditation, and issues that brought us to only 41% of our schools being fully accredited, Hampton chooses to focus on a pipe dream...at taxpayer expense. Clearly, the 2010 implementation of this program in the Metro Nashville Public School district has **NOT** rejuvenated their community. As evident in the more than 72.4% of the school children living in economically disadvantaged households. That is the purpose...right? What hope do we have for success when we have a city council member (Billy Hobbs) who "just started another business in a local city?" What's wrong with Hampton?

Ohhh my goodness the excuses. The state changed things up and caused a nose dive in the number of fully accredited schools. Was every Hampton Roads district provided the improved curriculum to teach and method for testing their children? Hampton should be suing the Virginia Department of Education; apparently, Hampton was not. Problem with Henry's storytelling, this was not an overnight development.

		2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
District	Accreditation	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
Chesapeake City	Fully Accredited	77.78%	71.11% ↓	75.56%
Hampton City	Fully Accredited	50.00%	41.94% ↓	41.38% ↓
Newport News City	Fully Accredited	48.65%	28.95% ↓	39.47%
Norfolk City	Fully Accredited	33.33%	29.55% ↓	37.78%
Portsmouth City	Fully Accredited	47.37%	31.58% ↓	57.89%
Suffolk City	Fully Accredited	68.42%	47.37% ↓	57.89%
Virginia Beach City	Fully Accredited	82.93%	79.27% ↓	89.02%
Chesapeake City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Hampton City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	0.00%	6.90% ↑
Newport News City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	5.26% ↑	10.53% ↑
Norfolk City	Accreditation Denied	6.67%	11.36% ↑	13.33% ↑
Portsmouth City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	0.00%	5.26% ↑
Suffolk City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Virginia Beach City	Accreditation Denied	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%