

# Go Further with FORD

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The Ford Next Generation of Learning initiative sold Hampton their bill of goods. It is promised that something new and innovative through this organization will be occurring.

Hampton is continuously glomming onto something “new” because of the lack of leadership or know how in our schools – Hampton will give those on staff responsible for leadership pay raises rather than showing them the door. This is the same concept around a school having to get a new principal or teachers if their school is denied accreditation. Let me make it perfectly clear here, I do not think it is the teachers (for the most part), it is the lack of leadership. Hampton has a tendency to throw additional staff – which means money – at students in an attempt to keep kids in and through school – example: graduation specialist. However, fewer kids are becoming graduates or completers.

Hampton already has academies. These academies limit participation and require parents to provide transportation if not a zone school. So who are these academies geared towards? Maybe parents could get their children to school using HRT. Depending on the number of transfers, their children could be dropped off near the school in an hour or two with just an additional block or two to walk.

Nashville was the model location that brought many members of the City of Hampton and Hampton City Schools to a visit in September/October 2015 (I will update with totals once I get information from Hampton City Schools.). You really have to see kids learning to get the full effect. Just reading about it or watching a video can't be as effective...it's free.

Six months after their visit, the school board and city council held a joint meeting so they could be told what they learned on their visit. This joint meeting also discussed salaries. What wasn't discussed is that the board will no longer have raises – merit or otherwise – go through the agenda process for a vote. No way in heck are they going to have the public, PTA or NAACP make a stink again. Transparency can be a bitch.

“Pay increases and adjustments are approved by the School Board, either through the budget process or via the Board approval of pay scales.”

**Diana Gulotta**  
**Hampton City Schools**  
**FOIA Officer**

No more board agendas with Personnel Reports indicating pay adjustments...up or down. But I digress...back to Ford.

Okay, what is Ford – the company that moved truck building to Mexico and only brought the manufacturing back to the states because of it benefit to FORD – suggesting it can do?

According to Ford NGL –

“In the short and medium terms, the success of Ford PAS will be indicated by the following:

- An increasing percentage of students who develop the essential knowledge and skills identified by employers
- Increased attendance, persistence, and graduation rates
- Increased postsecondary attendance and persistence rates
- Improved earning potential
- Students will be college- and career-ready, a particular benefit for less-advantaged students who need to simultaneously work and pursue postsecondary education.

In the medium and long terms, broader success will be indicated by the following:

- Rising gainful employment
- Strengthened workforce and economic development
- Increased income tax revenue
- Reduced expenses for incarceration and public assistance”

Metro Nashville schools – Ford Next Generation Learning has been in Nashville since 2010. The number of students accepted into the various academies is limited and transportation is not provided to an out of zone school.

The Nashville school district serves more that 80,000 students. Of those 80,000 students, 72.4% are economically disadvantaged.

Nashville fully participates in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program that provided free breakfast and lunch to **ALL** students.

Sooooo...maybe not the economic windfall expected over the last 5+ years.

**Nashville, Tennessee, is named the first  
Ford NGL Model Community.**



**2014 Ford NGL  
Annual Report**