

**May/June 2014**

CHAMPION

FASSE

NEWS

Greetings all FASSE Members!

With another school year coming to an end, the FASSE Board and I want to thank you for a great year. I have spent the last several months with the different classification of support groups working on improving and updating the language within our contract. I’ve learned so much and only deepen my respect for what each and every person within the support unit does to help the FCPS system.

I want to thank Ronnie Beard for an amazing website! Please take a few minutes to see for yourself.

 Visit [www.myfasse.org](http://www.myfasse.org)

 I want to sincerely thank Mike Joy for all his dedication and years of service to the FASSE board.

 The elections results are in the new 2014-2015 Officers are:

**Sharon Eburg – Vice President Steve Brako- Treasurer**

**Darlene Adkins- Food Service Patti Ledford- Member at Large**

**Ronnie Beard- Technology Sheldon Naill- Maintenance**

I want to thank Hilary Stenger and Debbie Sartwell for serving on the Election committee.

Have a wonderful summer!!! We will be working over to summer on are annual Staff Development, if there is a specific class you’re interested in please send me an email. See you in August.

 *From the Desk of the Norma Davis, FASSE President*

*A Special Thank You to the 2013-2014 Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication to FASSE!*

Check it Out!! [*www.myfasse.org*](http://www.myfasse.org)

 *Keep up with all the FASSE News & Information!*

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**NEW**

*2014-2015 Board of Directors*

**President**-Norma Davis **Vice President**- Sharon Eburg

**Treasurer**- Steve Brako **Technology**-Ronnie Beard **Secretary**-Karen Blackwood **Custodians**- Ed Ballew

**Transportation**- Debbie Sartwell **Maintenance**- Sheldon Naill

**Instructional Assistants**- Mitzi Smith **Secretaries**- Paula Bingham

**Food Service**-Darlene Adkins **Member at Large**- Patti Ledford

**EVENTS:**

**May 31:** 9th AnnualFASSE Picnic 12-3pm

**June 3:** FASSE Monthly Board of Directors Meeting 4:30pm

**June 11:** Last Day of School for Students

**OPEN ENROLLMENT started April 1st**

**Sign Up Today! Dues Don’t Start until Sept.**

**Enjoy Your Summer!!!**

**Who Needs a Raise?!!**

Do you make enough money? Do you see prices going up but not in your paycheck? Do you wonder why we haven’t seen much of a raise in the last five years? It has to do with Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding. Let me explain.

Most of the money that funds FCPS comes from the State of Maryland and from Frederick County. You could say that roughly half comes from the county and half from the state. The State has slightly increased their money to FCPS over the years. Because the State was worried that some counties may cut their half or even not pay at all, they made a law about Maintenance of Effort. It means that a county has to give at least as much as it did the year before but they don’t have to increase it by law.

What would happen if a county never increased their share for year upon year? What if you rented out a house and your prices kept going up but you couldn’t raise the rent? You’d make less and less money because you couldn’t raise the rent a little for increased taxes or maintenance or whatever. Eventually, you wouldn’t make any money at all and you might even start losing money. That’s what’s happening to FCPS. FCPS has to pay more for everything too, just like you and I do. The county is not fulfilling its responsibilities to the students and employees of Frederick County!

You may think that if FCPS cut a few thousands here or there, they could fund a step increase for us. It costs the system over 10 million dollars to give all FCPS employees just one step increase. We’re not going to get there by finding additional savings after 5 years of cuts. We need more funding, but the Board of County Commissioners has said they will never give us more than Maintenance of Effort! In my opinion, if we reelect them we won’t get a decent raise for 4 more years!

***What can we do about it?***

First, get everyone you know to vote for the FASSE/FCTA/FCASA recommended candidates who have said they would invest in our school system.

Second, these current commissioners have lots of money to use in their campaign, so we can only beat them by each of us doing a little bit. It’s crucial that every single FASSE members, their family and friends does not sit this election out; you must vote. In addition, we need your help distributing candidate information door to door (May 31) and at the poll (June 12-19 and June 24). Let me know (revmohawk@yahoo.com) if you can help volunteer in the next three weeks. I’m helping because I need a raise in the next 4 years, don’t you?

Steve Brako,

Treasurer of FASSE