Wharton Proposes Increased Budget With No Added Taxes

Memphis Mayor A C Wharton presented his budget proposal to the Memphis City Council on Tue., April 21, 2015.

The Proposed FY 2016 Budget reflects my administration’s continued commitment to public safety, and to the communities we serve. The FY2016 budget proposes to invest $3 million for the demolition of buildings that are both eyesores and havens for crime. This reflects my administration’s ongoing commitment to fighting blight. Additionally, our proposed Capital Improvement Budget for FY 2016 general obligation bonds (GO) is $54 million compared to $82 million in FY15, and includes $15 million for street paving compared to $9 million in FY 16. So as we have been conservative in our overall GO request, we have targeted street paving for a 66% increase over last year.

Legacy Sunday Award

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church-Memphis sponsored its 2nd Annual Legacy Sunday Celebration on April 19, 2015, with LeMoyne-Owen College President John B. Watson (left) receiving the honors. Shown is Mt. Vernon Pastor James Nettiers presenting the award. (Photo by Terence F. Poitier)

Superintendent Changes Local Schools Budget

Shelby County Schools Superintendent Dorsey Hopson has made a considerable change the school district’s budget. The proposal calls for an additional $14.2 million for the 2015-2016 school year.

The budget adjustment was made as 16 items were added to the budget in the midst of $15 million gap between the districts expected costs and revenues. SCS board officials also previously made amended the budget on March 3, 2015, while creating a financial plan in support of the district’s Destination 2025, and 80/80/100% Strategic Plan. Five priorities for the new school year includes plans to: strengthen early literacy; improve post-secondary readiness; develop teachers, leaders and central office to Drive Student Success; expand high-quality school options; and mobilize family and community partners. Revenue for the 2015-16 General Fund was projected to be nearly $19 million lower than the current budget due to declining enrollment caused by local population trends, more schools being taken by the Achievement School District and the addition of five new charter schools in Shelby County.

“Though the situation presents a significant challenge, we can ensure all financial decisions are aimed to support student achievement in the most effective and efficient manner because they are aligned to our strategic priorities,” noted a SCS letter at www.scsk12.org.

Delta Fine Arts Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover

An audience full of supporters filled the Little Theater at LeMoyne-Owen College on Sun., April 19, 2015, as Delta Fine Arts, Education and Cultural Center hosted its Poetic Prose and Theatre Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover. Shown are some of the student participants and others who helped make the event a success. The DFA staff who organized the program includes: Dr. Audrey Eison, Kristi Balcom, Cliff Halab, Angela Hujikend, Charles Niyons and Brianna Wilson. About 50 students from the Memphis area participated in last weekend’s activities. (Additional photos on page 10.)

Superintendent Changes Local Schools Budget

Shelby County Schools Superintendent Dorsey Hopson has made a considerable change the school district’s budget. The proposal calls for an additional $14.2 million for the 2015-2016 school year.

The budget adjustment was made as 16 items were added to the budget in the midst of $15 million gap between the districts expected costs and revenues. SCS board officials also previously made amended the budget on March 3, 2015, while creating a financial plan in support of the district’s Destination 2025, and 80/80/100% Strategic Plan. Five priorities for the new school year includes plans to: strengthen early literacy; improve post-secondary readiness; develop teachers, leaders and central office to Drive Student Success; expand high-quality school options; and mobilize family and community partners. Revenue for the 2015-16 General Fund was projected to be nearly $19 million lower than the current budget due to declining enrollment caused by local population trends, more schools being taken by the Achievement School District and the addition of five new charter schools in Shelby County.

“Though the situation presents a significant challenge, we can ensure all financial decisions are aimed to support student achievement in the most effective and efficient manner because they are aligned to our strategic priorities,” noted a SCS letter at www.scsk12.org.

Delta Fine Arts Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover

An audience full of supporters filled the Little Theater at LeMoyne-Owen College on Sun., April 19, 2015, as Delta Fine Arts, Education and Cultural Center hosted its Poetic Prose and Theatre Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover. Shown are some of the student participants and others who helped make the event a success. The DFA staff who organized the program includes: Dr. Audrey Eison, Kristi Balcom, Cliff Halab, Angela Hujikend, Charles Niyons and Brianna Wilson. About 50 students from the Memphis area participated in last weekend’s activities. (Additional photos on page 10.)

Superintendent Changes Local Schools Budget

Shelby County Schools Superintendent Dorsey Hopson has made a considerable change the school district’s budget. The proposal calls for an additional $14.2 million for the 2015-2016 school year.

The budget adjustment was made as 16 items were added to the budget in the midst of $15 million gap between the districts expected costs and revenues. SCS board officials also previously made amended the budget on March 3, 2015, while creating a financial plan in support of the district’s Destination 2025, and 80/80/100% Strategic Plan. Five priorities for the new school year includes plans to: strengthen early literacy; improve post-secondary readiness; develop teachers, leaders and central office to Drive Student Success; expand high-quality school options; and mobilize family and community partners. Revenue for the 2015-16 General Fund was projected to be nearly $19 million lower than the current budget due to declining enrollment caused by local population trends, more schools being taken by the Achievement School District and the addition of five new charter schools in Shelby County.

“Though the situation presents a significant challenge, we can ensure all financial decisions are aimed to support student achievement in the most effective and efficient manner because they are aligned to our strategic priorities,” noted a SCS letter at www.scsk12.org.

Delta Fine Arts Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover

An audience full of supporters filled the Little Theater at LeMoyne-Owen College on Sun., April 19, 2015, as Delta Fine Arts, Education and Cultural Center hosted its Poetic Prose and Theatre Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover. Shown are some of the student participants and others who helped make the event a success. The DFA staff who organized the program includes: Dr. Audrey Eison, Kristi Balcom, Cliff Halab, Angela Hujikend, Charles Niyons and Brianna Wilson. About 50 students from the Memphis area participated in last weekend’s activities. (Additional photos on page 10.)

Superintendent Changes Local Schools Budget

Shelby County Schools Superintendent Dorsey Hopson has made a considerable change the school district’s budget. The proposal calls for an additional $14.2 million for the 2015-2016 school year.

The budget adjustment was made as 16 items were added to the budget in the midst of $15 million gap between the districts expected costs and revenues. SCS board officials also previously made amended the budget on March 3, 2015, while creating a financial plan in support of the district’s Destination 2025, and 80/80/100% Strategic Plan. Five priorities for the new school year includes plans to: strengthen early literacy; improve post-secondary readiness; develop teachers, leaders and central office to Drive Student Success; expand high-quality school options; and mobilize family and community partners. Revenue for the 2015-16 General Fund was projected to be nearly $19 million lower than the current budget due to declining enrollment caused by local population trends, more schools being taken by the Achievement School District and the addition of five new charter schools in Shelby County.

“Though the situation presents a significant challenge, we can ensure all financial decisions are aimed to support student achievement in the most effective and efficient manner because they are aligned to our strategic priorities,” noted a SCS letter at www.scsk12.org.

Delta Fine Arts Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover

An audience full of supporters filled the Little Theater at LeMoyne-Owen College on Sun., April 19, 2015, as Delta Fine Arts, Education and Cultural Center hosted its Poetic Prose and Theatre Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover. Shown are some of the student participants and others who helped make the event a success. The DFA staff who organized the program includes: Dr. Audrey Eison, Kristi Balcom, Cliff Halab, Angela Hujikend, Charles Niyons and Brianna Wilson. About 50 students from the Memphis area participated in last weekend’s activities. (Additional photos on page 10.)

Delta Fine Arts Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover

An audience full of supporters filled the Little Theater at LeMoyne-Owen College on Sun., April 19, 2015, as Delta Fine Arts, Education and Cultural Center hosted its Poetic Prose and Theatre Program’s #SocialMediaTakeover. Shown are some of the student participants and others who helped make the event a success. The DFA staff who organized the program includes: Dr. Audrey Eison, Kristi Balcom, Cliff Halab, Angela Hujikend, Charles Niyons and Brianna Wilson. About 50 students from the Memphis area participated in last weekend’s activities. (Additional photos on page 10.)