Observer Corp Report

New Hanover County Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, March 1, 2016

At a policy committee meeting two issues were discussed: student dress code and placement of student interns. Both will come before this committee again.

After recognitions and approval of minutes Iva Bunch, Supper Optimist softball commissioner, spoke against the plan to eliminate the three ball field at Blair Elementary when the school is rebuilt. See Star News article for details: <http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20160301/NEWS/160309959/0/search>

A non-agenda item was commented on by Jim Kistner, a retired educator. He asked two questions about J.C. Roe Center.

* “What research data and/or best practices examples has led the administration and board to conclude that the new suspension center and the district’s present approach to managing discipline and student behavior is most effective?”

The fact that (as I understand it at least), students who will be bussed to the new center will range in age from elementary school to high school aged children and young adults, leads me to ask:

* “What dangers does putting students of such a wide range of ages together in a single building on a single small campus at the end of a dead end road pose to the youngest, most vulnerable students? How will the safety needs of all students, especially the youngest and most vulnerable, be addressed?”

Mr. Kistner asked that both questions be addressed at a board meeting or public forum in the near future.