



# Draper Notes

October 26, 2014

## The Spending of Taxpayer Dollars

It is difficult to understand, in view of our complete elementary program receiving a grade of **F** by the State of Florida, why the superintendent is allowed to spend taxpayer money in such frivolous ways. The following are just a few examples of the obvious ways our tax dollars are being spent other than the classroom:

- The superintendent purchased a 2014 Ford Explorer in excess of \$24,000. This vehicle is used exclusively by the superintendent for her travel, including going back and forth to home each day. This also means that taxpayers provide the funds for fuel to get the superintendent to her office daily. It is unbelievable that the taxpayers must pay the expense for the superintendent to drive to work each day and back home each night. This is a nice perk which most taxpayers do not enjoy.
- Many new administrators in the school district are provided with new office furniture. Most of the replaced furniture is still very usable.
- Reception area furniture has been replaced simply because something new was desired.

Frankly, furniture should not be replaced because it is used, or the wrong color, or will not fit with a new decorating scheme. Taxpayers should only pay for furniture that needs to be replaced because it is unusable. This wasted money needs to be spent in the classroom to improve student achievement.

Admittedly, a percentage of the district funds can only be spent on capital outlay items such as furniture and/or equipment. Updated classroom equipment and technology are a high priority in this school district and needed in every classroom to assist our teachers as they strive daily to

teach our children. These funds do not need to be spent on school administrators and other non-classroom areas.

Another question that needs to be addressed is why the majority of our school board members continue to routinely approve these items? After reading the school board minutes for the past year, it is obvious that the majority of these elected school board members have little to say of value at their meetings. Some school board members say virtually nothing. Frankly, school board members need to do their jobs and provide some much needed oversight on this administration. The taxpayers, their bosses, deserve no less.