

PRESS RELEASE

January 5, 2009

COMMISSIONER'S RETREAT

On Monday morning, December 29th, before being sworn in, the 3 newly elected commissioners were asked to meet with the 2 current commissioners so meeting protocol could be discussed. The newly elected commissioners learned how to address each other, the citizens, the chairman of the board, etc. How issues were presented, motions made, discussed, and voted on were outlined. This has been standard procedure every 4 years with newly elected commissioners.

The group met at Griffin Tech because Mrs. Joan Bell wanted to show us around the building. She informed us that there are no classes being held at Griffin Tech anymore, except GED that she teaches. Mr. Daniel Vaughn was there cleaning out his desk and his room. We all spoke with him and he showed some of us the shop area. He is being transferred to Jackson to teach his automotive class. Three "CDL" trucks sat outside the building. Mrs. Bell said she didn't know what would happen to them as all CDL classes were now being held at the Jackson campus of Griffin Tech. There are no joint enrollment classes with the High School taking place nor any Winter Quarter classes.

We were all in shock and asked Mrs. Bell, "Why?" She really didn't have any answers but told us that she had talked to everyone about this situation and could not seem to get anyone interested in doing anything to save the Monticello campus of Griffin Tech.

Once the new commissioners have been sworn in and officially take office, they plan to have more discussions with Griffin Tech personnel to find out what is happening and what can be done to get the Monticello Campus back in operation.

Carl Pennamon, Dist 1

Mary Patrick, Dist 4

Charles Hill, Dist 2

Alan Cox, Dist 5

Ronnie Payne, Dist 3