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A timeline of trouble

June 13, 2024

Forsyth County commissioners give WS/FCS \$8 million of its \$20 million request for its 2024-25 budget year. WS/FCS fails to adjust budget, one of several key budgeting miscues.

January, 2025

N.C. Department of Public Instruction notifies Chief Financial Officer Tommy Kranz that the school district's budget is late. He erroneously says it is coming soon.

o April 17

April 8 -Kranz abruptly announces he will resign at a school board meeting. o

McManus tells the school board in a closed meeting that she intends to retire on June 30.

April 21 °

State Auditor's Office notifies McManus that it is launching investigation into school finances. **Aug. 13** New school year

begins; hiring freeze in place: more cuts anticipated.

JUNE '24

JULY

AUG.

SEPT.

OCT.

NOV.

DEC.

JAN. '25

FEB.

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUG.



WALT UNKS. JOURNAL

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Chief Financial Officer Tommy Kranz and Superintendent Tricia McManus confer during a Forsyth County commissioners meeting in 2023.

March 25

An audit presented at a school board meeting reveals that the school district was \$16 million over its budget in 2023-24. Superintendent Tricia McManus announces cuts of \$8 million from 2024-25 budget and \$16 million from its 2025-26 budget request.

May 1

The State Board of Education and the state superintendent issue a "warning" to the school district to fix finances or risk state takeover and financial sanctions.

May 9

Kranz resigns, weeks ahead of schedule.

May 22

The deficit for 2024-25, once thought to be \$8 million. balloons to \$42 million.

Superintendent Catty Moore is sworn in.

June 1

Interim

June 5 County commissioners tell school board it will not give them \$32 million to cover budget shortfall.

July 21 ⊶

Moore apologies to commissioners for state of district finances: requests \$8.5 million

July 31 °─

School board Chairwoman Deanna Kaplan requests \$50.1 million help from state: state delegation turns her down.

