

Monroe A. Miller Jr.  
19 Big Spruce Lane  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
July 17, 2014

**Subject:** Conversations with Dr. Doris Hammett.

The first time Dr. Doris Hammett communicated to me was through a post in the comment section of the Mountaineer. It happened to be the Character Assassination Hit Piece by Vicki Hyatt regarding my Public Comments at the June 16<sup>th</sup> County Commission Meeting where I demanded that Julie Davis, Haywood County Finance Director either resign or be fired.

See: <http://themountaineer.villagesoup.com/p/frequent-county-critic-levels-more-accusations/1199490>  
[Frequent county critic levels more accusations, By Vicki Hyatt, Jun 17, 2014,](#)

and see: <http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/140626MountaineerResponse.pdf>

In her initial post, Dr. Doris Hammett obviously had me confused with my dad.

I had known Dr. Kristen Hammett for years, and called her to verify who Dr. Doris Hammett was, if there was any relation. Turned out to be her mother, and she already called her and cleared the confusion with me and my dad.

Although I have never personally met Dr. Doris Hammett, I do sense that she has a strong desire to assist Haywood County Public Schools.

**[Editors Note:** Sequence of documents is earliest first, the latest at the last.

Monroe A. Miller Jr.  
Haywood County Taxpayer.

Posted by: Doris Hammett | Jun 18, 2014 19:07

June 18, 2014  
Monroe Miller  
19 Big Spruce Lane  
Waynesville, NC 28786

Dear Mr. Miller:

This is the first time I have contacted you although for years I could see your road and house on the mountain from my Waynesville Surrey Road home. You have been in my consciousness.

Thank you for your concern for funding of our educational system in Haywood County. You join many others in this concern. Haywood now ranks 21st in the states 115 public school districts state wide. This is a great improvement from 1960 at the beginning of Terry Sanford's Governorship when North Carolina School System ranked among the tenth worse nationwide.

We as individuals can make a difference in Haywood County by working with the system. The Haywood County Public Schools Foundation handles donations to our schools following the requests of the donor. Dr. Frank and I started a fund in 1998 at Haywood Community College with the purpose to assure every graduate of Haywood County High Schools the funding for two years at the Community College. I have worked with the Public Schools Foundation the last three years, first with a small donation increasing over the years as I have found that the staff not only helpful but willing to share my questions and ideas with other educators.

In an effort to improve all the levels of the students in our schools, my idea is to raise the ceiling for all. I have done this by establishing the Excellence in Education Trust which income will be directed as per my requests over the years. I invite you to investigate this means of influencing the education in Haywood County.

Please consider a tax deductible donation to the Foundation to make an impact on our future. Make it in the name of your grandson who died here in Haywood County as the result of a terrible accident.

Thank you for your concern. I hope to make it a positive influence.

Doris B. Hammett, MD  
400 Wesley Drive  
Asheville NC 28803

Monroe A. Miller Jr.  
19 Big Spruce Lane  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
June 25, 2014

Doris Hammett, MD  
400 Wesley Drive  
Asheville, NC 28803

Dear Dr. Hammett,

I believe that you have me confused with my Dad, Monroe Miller, who lives at the top of the mountain. I have been out of town and returned yesterday to find your letter (also posted as a comment on the hit piece by Vicki Hyatt in the Mountaineer).

I am concerned for funding of our educational system in Haywood County, which is why I called for the resignation of Julie Davis. Julie Davis cooked the books when computing the Haywood County Schools "Funding Formula" during the years 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 by falsifying values for PPA (Per Pupil Appropriation). Julie Davis denied Haywood County Schools access to about \$15 Million Dollars by falsifying that data.

I have a website, [www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net), which I have detailed Julie Davis' nefarious activity. So you see, I am doing my part to assist Haywood County Schools.

Thanks for your interest.

Monroe A. Miller Jr.

June 26, 2014  
Monroe A. Miller, Jr.  
19 Big Spruce Lane  
Waynesville, NC 28786

Dear Monroe:

Thank you for your letters explaining I had you in my and your father's generation. How long have you lived in Waynesville?

Was the son to whom I referred in my first letter your son? Can you give me the year of his death? My daughters did not know of the accident.

Thank you again for your interest in Haywood County Public Schools. Could I send you information on the Foundation for Haywood County Public Schools? Kristen is a graduate of Tuscola, was selected for Governor's School which was new at that time. Both her daughters also attended Governor's School. Kristen was Phi Beta Kappa at UNC-CH.

I opened the web site, [www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net) but could not find reference to your email. Might I have that address?

I wish every child the opportunities public school affords. Please work with us to be certain that our children will have them.

Doris B. Hammett, MD  
400 Wesley Drive Apt 58  
Asheville, NC 28803

*Doris B Hammett, MD*

On 6/26/2014 5:53 PM, Doris Hammett wrote:

Dear Monroe:

I received the hard copies of your letter with its enclosure. I also have your email as Monroe Miller [ \*\*\* ].

I believe that we have established lines of communication. Thank you.

Doris Hammett, MD

June 26, 2014  
Monroe A. Miller, Jr.  
19 Big Spruce Lane  
Waynesville, NC 28786

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Doris B. Hammett, MD  
400 Wesley Drive Apt 58  
Asheville, NC 28803

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Thank you

Date: Thu, 26 Jun 2014 18:09:25 -0400

From: Monroe Miller

To: Doris Hammett

CC: Kristen Hammett

Dr. Hammett,

Yes, this is the correct e-mail address. I do not put it on my website because I don't care to have people e-mailing me.

I have lived in Waynesville since 2004.

It was my son who died in the accident. He died in 1986, seems like yesterday.

I will not be needing information on the Foundation for Haywood Schools just yet. I believe I am doing more for the Haywood County Schools than anyone has done for the past five years.

I posted two (2) additional items on my website today, which you may or may not find to your taste, but you should read them when you get a chance. They are highly critical of some county and school people. It is what I do.

<http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/140626DavisDialog.pdf>

<http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/140626MountaineerResponse.pdf>

Monroe Miller Jr.

[**Editors Note:** Slightly edited, removed a sentence.]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Mountaineer Post - To: Superintendent Anne Garrett

Date: Mon, 14 Jul 2014 21:02:42 -0400

From: Monroe Miller

To: Doris Hammett

CC: Kristen Hammett, Anne Garrett <anne@haywood.k12.nc.us>

Dr. Hammett,

I purchased an on-line subscription to the Mountaineer after Vicki Hyatt's Character Assassination Hit Piece and Editorial on me, and caught your comment to Anne Garrett (in Blue).

Posted by: Doris Hammett | Jul 14, 2014 20:11

To: Superintendent Anne Garrett

Thank you for informing the Haywood County Board of Education and the people of Haywood County the problems that a local school system has with the uncertainties related to the North Carolina General Assembly indecision of how much each school system will receive and how much this amount may be changed over last year. This is compounded by the directives from that federal government in which they give unfunded mandates which the schools have to provide to receive any federal grants.

Haywood County is comfortable that the Board of Education will make the best decisions for our students. However, these decisions may prevent our students from the education they deserve. The administrative staff is looking carefully at what will receive the highest priority. The total funding will be federal, state, grants and awards for the schools and their classes. In that we know that Haywood County will not receive sufficient money to provide the funds for the teacher's salaries, assistant teachers, guidance counselors, social workers, security cameras and other supplies.

Knowing this, I propose that the citizens of Haywood County determine that our students will have the education that they need to perform at their highest level and start on this program now. I propose that the Board of Education pass a resolution:

Whereas, Haywood County Board of Education has studied the needs of our students and in that when all the funding available from federal, state, county, grants and other sources are considered, this amount is not sufficient to provide the education that we desire for our students in our public schools.

We ask the parents, school staff, supporters of each school, the communities in which these schools are located, the businesses, clubs, organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, city mayors and councils, community organization and individuals to contribute funds for the many projects needed for excellence in education.

With this leadership we can prepare for the school year 2014-2015 and thereafter.

Doris Hammett

Interestingly enough, I was present at the 4:30 pm Haywood County School Board Finance Committee Meeting and the 7:00pm regular meeting. I gave a public comment (should be on YouTube shortly), and I have attached it for you. Board Members looked like they could start chewing on raw bear meat as I was giving this presentation. Why is that?

I underlined and emphasized the word "county" in your "Whereas", as Julie Davis and commissioner Mark Swanger have a strangle hold on the county's contribution towards Haywood County Schools. This is not insignificant, yet no one is willing to call them out. It is not all a State Funding problem, a significant portion of the problem is with the county.

Perhaps we will not see eye-to-eye on this, but we do seem to have a common interest - Teachers and Haywood County Students.

Monroe Miller

[**Editors Note:** I attached (and also here) the Public Comment I made at the July 14<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting].  
Public Comment, July 14, 2014

The Funding Formula.

From today's Mountaineer by Shelby Harrell- "During a recent work session, Superintendent Anne Garrett told the school board what resources schools would likely have to do without in the coming year.

In April, school officials gave a presentation requesting \$1.1 million from the county, a 6.87 percent increase. While the commissioners were sympathetic, they followed a funding formula adopted a decade ago, which provided for a 2.33 percent budget increase."

During the last County Commission Meeting I demanded that Julie Davis resign her position as Finance Director, and if she didn't resign, commissioners fire her, for falsifying PPA values in the Funding Formula during the years 2008 thru 2011.

The problem for you, is that Teachers in Haywood County, and most importantly, Haywood County Students were shafted by Davis and the County Commissioners of nearly \$ 15 Million Dollars during the period Julie Davis cooked the books.

You will find a complete analysis of the Funding Formula and my findings on my website, [www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net).

Julie Davis mucked with the PPA values, giving you a 2.33% increase this year, and has already determined you will get a .89% increase next year.

What are you going to do about it? Where do we go from here?

Here are some questions posed by Becky Johnson of the Smoky Mountain News, who happens to be with us this evening, regarding the Funding Formula:

- Is the issue whether commissioners use the funding formula as a crutch when it comes to school funding?
- Is the funding formula politically expedient by allowing commissioners to avoid a more difficult annual conversation about school funding?
- Is the school funding formula working for both parties, or does it benefit one part(y) more than the other?
- If the funding formula wasn't followed, why do the commissioners continue to publicly tout the funding formula as a success?
- Is it genuine to herald the funding formula as an accomplishment, if it wasn't followed as many times as it was?
- Is the funding formula obsolete now given the changing needs of the school system?

It is my understanding that a new committee will be formed to come up with a new funding formula. Who is slated to be on this committee? The same old people who gave you the last three Funding Formula Resolutions - County Commissioners, Chuck Francis, and you, members of the School Board?

I would recommend expanding this board to include members of the public and other knowledgeable individuals. I'll even volunteer to be on this committee, since I am the only one around here who seems to be able to challenge Julie Davis.

Thank you for allowing me time to express my opinion.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Mountaineer Post - To: Superintendent Anne Garrett

Date: Mon, 14 Jul 2014 21:30:17 -0400

From: Doris Hammett

To: Monroe Miller

CC: Karen Hammett, Kristen Hammett

Dear Monroe:

Thank you for your kind comments. And thank you for your efforts toward more funding for Haywood County Schools. We certainly are working for the same goals. I am handicapped in that I am not in Haywood County now and cannot hear the feedback at the coffee clubs, 19th golf course hole and other watering places. I cannot get to meetings in Waynesville especially those after dark. You can get to these open meetings.

As you are aware I am working within the system, and the information I have is from those sources. I am certain that your input has an impact and will help achieve that which we both desire: The best educational public school system for our students.

Thank you.

Doris Hammett