

A Budget Public Hearing and Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on January 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., Room 241, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Ms. Ellen Osborne; Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Ms. Katrina Callsen; Ms. Judy Le; Mr. Graham Paige; and Mr. Dave Oberg.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Debora Collins, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Maya Kumazawa, Director of Planning and Budget; Dr. Bernard Hairston, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Clare Keiser, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney; and Ms. Christine Thompson, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call Order.

Mr. Alcaro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Public Hearing on Proposed FY 2020-2021 Funding Request.

Mr. Alcaro opened the public hearing.

Mr. Angel Gokey is a student. He said that it is difficult to find information about Center II. There is a lot of money being spent on this center and there should be more student involvement in what is being offered.

Ms. Amy Gaertner is a teacher. She spoke to the Board about increased compensation for teachers.

Ms. Amanda Moxham is a parent. She spoke to the Board about the MySchoolBucks app used for child lunch accounts and the fees that are applied when adding money to the account. She said that Hate Free Schools provided supplies to the schools through the nurses at each school.

Mr. Alcaro closed the public hearing.

Agenda Item No. 2.2. FY 2020/21 Superintendent's Budget Development Work Session #4.

Ms. Schmitt and Ms. Kumazawa provided for the Board's consideration information on the development of the School Board's budget. The presentation included a recap of the proposed compensation increases in the proposed funding request; a history of salary increases since FY 2015/16; data on teacher pay comparisons to the adopted market; a summary of expenditure changes; a review of sources of input into the proposed funding request; an overview of FY21 proposals included and not included in the funding request, and changes in the special revenue funds.

Ms. Callsen said that the FLES program is different than a foreign language immersion program. She asked what school would be the next school to have a FLES program? How is the school selected? She expressed concern that schools are able to self-select for having these programs and could create a situation where schools are being given additional opportunities that schools with greater needs are not offering the same programs. She feels that the School Board should select the schools where the FLES programs are located.

Mr. Paige said that he would like to see a table when all the elementary schools would be included in the FLES program. What is the estimated date that all elementary schools will have a FLES program?

Mr. Oberg said that he agrees with Ms. Callsen.

Ms. Osbourne said that the Scottsville PTO has expressed interest in having a FLES program at Scottsville Elementary.

Mr. Alcaro asked if Broadus Wood went through the planning year last year for the FLES program. He also asked if we know what language will be offered at Broadus Wood.

Mr. Alcaro suggested a program evaluation of the elementary foreign language program.

Dr. Acuff asked if we knew the number of students who were in Cale continued in Spanish at the middle school.

Dr. Acuff said that she was surprised at the number of students who attend the STEP program and how successful it is. She asked if we do any evaluation of the program with students and parents.

Mr. Oberg said that STEP is an alternative to out of school suspension. Is it possible for students to self-select to attend the program before they get in trouble?

Mr. Alcaro said that last year asked if there was new data on the number of students who attend STEP and then have to return to the program again.

Mr. Alcaro asked how many field trips would be covered for elementary schools with the \$195,000. Would this pay for all students to attend the field trip?

Mr. Paige asked if all elementary schools would be covered in the funding.

Ms. Callsen said that she would be okay with this item being unfunded. She does not feel that it would be the best use of money. It only guarantees a certain number of field trips not necessarily all field trips.

Ms. Callsen said that she would like to see each school's budget to include what the PTO contributes.

Mr. Paige said that the Check and Connect seemed to work well last year.

Dr. Acuff asked how many students are served through the Check and Connect Program.

Ms. Callsen asked what does it mean when it says that the Becoming a Reader is unfunded. Will it still continue in first grade?

Mr. Alcaro said that he would like to see Becoming a Reader funded in the budget.

Ms. Callsen said that the EDEP proposal sounds exciting even though it is not all planned out yet.

Dr. Acuff asked how EDEP has done with staffing this year.

Mr. Paige asked what was being done to recruit applicants to work in the EDEP program.

Ms. Le asked what is the percentage increase of free and reduced lunch students being served in the program with the proposal.

Ms. Le asked how long the waitlists have been for the EDEP programs in past years.

Dr. Acuff asked if there was a waitlist for the Greer Elementary EDEP program.

Mr. Alcaro asked how the additional money in the proposal would be spent. He asked for clarification on the number of employees that would be hired with the FTEs allocated. He also asked if the funding allocated was enough.

Mr. Alcaro said that the First Year Teacher Recruitment Incentive proposal seems like an inexpensive idea. It is something that the Board should be considering.

Dr. Acuff asked if this was for first-year teachers to the profession or to the Division.

Mr. Alcaro said that the Career and Technical Education piece is only \$10,000 is that something that be done with one-time money.

Mr. Paige asked what the Carl Perkins funds are used for in the Division.

Dr. Acuff asked if the compensation would be presented in different levels or when the budget is approved.

Dr. Acuff asked how much money is in fund balance.

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.

Dr. Haas said that he and Dr. Hairston would be presenting at the NSBA Equity Symposium this weekend in Washington, D.C.

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Adjournment.

At 8:09 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Alcaro adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk