

A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on January 31, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

**PRESENT:** Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. Dave Oberg; Mr. Jason Buyaki; Mr. Graham Paige; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. Jonno Alcaro; and Mrs. Pamela Moynihan (arrived at 6:32 p.m.).

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Matt Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Executive Director of Fiscal Services; Ms. Christina Pitsenberger, Director of Food Services; Mr. Kelvin Reid, Director of the Extended Day Enrichment Program; Ms. Amanda Farley, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk of the School Board.

**Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call to Order.**

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Acuff, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

**Agenda Item No. 2.1. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Agenda Item No. 3.1. Moment of Silence.**

**Agenda Item No. 4.1. Agenda.**

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mrs. Moynihan absent.**

**Agenda Item No. 5.1. Public Hearing on Proposed FY2017-2018 Funding Request.**

Ms. Debbie Hall spoke to the Board about bus driver salaries. She asked that the Board consider a five percent salary increase for bus drivers.

Ms. Cathy Cobb spoke to the Board about bus driver salaries. She asked that the Board consider a five percent salary increase for bus drivers.

Ms. Cara Bickers spoke to the Board about bus driver salaries. She asked that the Board consider a five percent salary increase for bus drivers.

Ms. Lynne Summers spoke to the Board about bus driver salaries. She asked that the Board consider a five percent salary increase for bus drivers.

Mr. William Hughes is a teacher at Western Albemarle High School. He spoke to the Board about teacher salaries. He asked that the Board consider a five percent salary increase for teachers.

Ms. Erica Herz is a parent. She spoke in support of the SEAD initiative in the Superintendent's funding request. She asked that the Board look for outside funding sources to support the division.

Mr. Eric Swensen spoke to the Board in support of the SEAD initiative in the Superintendent's funding request.

Ms. Sara Scott is a teacher Greer Elementary School. She spoke in support of the SEAD initiative.

Ms. Eileen Delaney is the associate principal at Greer Elementary School. She spoke in support of the SEAD initiative.

Ms. Diana Wheaton spoke to the Board about bus driver salaries. She spoke in support of a five percent salary increase for bus drivers.

**Agenda Item No. 5.2. FY2017/18 Superintendent's Funding Request Work Session**

Ms. Pitsenberger provided for the Board points of consideration related to the Food Services budget. Topics of consideration included an overview of the department's mission, an overview of revenues and expenses for the department, meal price considerations, meal participation of students, and challenges of the department.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the division had any schools that qualified for community eligibility. He then asked if the director could manually certify in order to qualify for community eligibility. He asked if staff aggressively recruited for bus drivers to be food service workers.

Mr. Alcaro noted that the department is self-sustaining. He asked if the price increases allowed the department to remain self-sustaining for the coming year.

Mr. Paige asked if there were plans to increase participation in the program.

Mrs. Moynihan asked what the cost of hiring a collection agency to collect food service charges on student accounts.

Dr. Acuff asked how many staff members are in the department of food services. She also asked if there was a way to determine if someone who has meal charges may be eligible for free and reduced lunch.

Mr. Buyaki asked if food service workers fall under the commonality agreement with local government. He asked if the increase in lunch prices would cover a wage increase for food service employees. Finally, he asked what price increase would be needed in order to allow salaries to be competitive with the City of Charlottesville Schools.

Dr. Acuff asked if retention and filling positions a recent issue or has it been a chronic problem.

Mr. Oberg expressed concern that staff from central office is being used to fill vacant positions within the division.

Mr. Koleszar asked about the impact of increases in health care costs on lower paid employees.

Dr. Acuff asked how many Food Service employees are eligible for benefits.

Mr. Alcaro asked if self-sustainability was a factor that the board needed to discuss and whether there are other funding options for the program.

Mr. Reid provided for the Board points of consideration related to the Extended Day Enrichment Program. Topics of consideration included an overview of the program's mission, an overview of the expenses of the program, tuition and fees for 2017-2018, and challenges that the program faces.

Mr. Buyaki asked how the program is not meeting the standards of the auditors in terms of background checks.

Dr. Acuff noted that the program oversight transferred to the Department of Social Services last year. She noted that there was legislation introduced to address the issues but she is not sure where it stands at this time. She also said that she was surprised at the number of individuals who qualify for the reduced rate for the program.

Mr. Paige asked what the qualifications were to be a program leader.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the high school students could be recruited to fill some of the vacancies while acquiring real life experiences.

Mr. Zimmermann provided points of consideration related to other special revenue funds. Topics of consideration included Federal Entitlement programs, fee-based services, state and Federal grants, jointly operated programs and internal service funds.

Mr. Alcaro asked for details about the computer replacement funding.

Dr. Acuff noted that the board would need to adopt the funding request by Thursday, February 9, 2017. There is a tentative meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2017, and the Board needs to determine if the meeting is needed.

Mr. Oberg said that last year the board put \$40,000 of one-time funds in the budget for arts pathways or programs outside of athletics. He noted that staff should feel comfortable to come to the Board if they feel that additional money is needed to support these programs. Mr. Alcaro asked how much of the \$40,000 allocated last year was used. Mr. Buyaki asked what was being given up in the budget in order to cover the costs in the coming year.

Mr. Oberg noted that he would like to have a conversation about bus driver compensation. Mr. Buyaki agreed.

Mr. Paige said that he would like to see a discussion about teacher salaries as well.

There was Board consensus for the Board to hold the budget work session tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

**Agenda Item No. 6.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.**

Mr. Koleszar said that he attended the NSBA Federal Relations Conference. He provided a brief update on what was discussed at the conference.

Dr. Acuff said that she met with Daily Progress reporter and new editor to discuss the funding request and demographics of the division.

**Agenda Item No. 7.1. Adjournment**

At 8:21 p.m., Dr. Acuff, hearing no objections, adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

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Chairman

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Clerk