

A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on February 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. Graham Paige; Ms. Katrina Callsen; Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. David Oberg; and Mr. Jason Buyaki.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Matthew Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Bernard Hairston, Executive Director of Community Engagement; Ms. Gloria Rockhold, Community Engagement Manager; Mr. Lars Holmstrom, Education Specialist; Ms. Abigail Kayser, Education Specialist; Ms. Karen Water-Wicks, Director of Community and Driver Education Programs; Mr. Kelvin Reid, Director of Extended Day Enrichment Program; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Assistant Director of Planning and Budget; Mr. John Blair, Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk to the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting.

At 6:02 p.m., Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** that the School Board go into a closed meeting as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia under subsection 1 to discuss and consider prospective appointments to the Long Range Planning Committee, and subsection 8 to discuss and consider consultation with legal counsel regarding a matter, namely a possible recommendation to the General Assembly, and subsection 4 to discuss and consider the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters, namely a non-school division professional opportunity, and subsection 3 to discuss and consider discussion of the acquisition and disposition of real property when discussion in open session would adversely affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of the Albemarle County School Board, namely acquisition of an educational facility located in Albemarle County and disposition of an educational facility located in the City of Charlottesville. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification.

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** that the Board certify by recorded vote that to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mr. Alcaro, Dr. Acuff, Ms. Callsen, Mr. Oberg, Mr. Buyaki, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Koleszar.

NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to appoint CJ Hatcher to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

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

Agenda Item No. 1.4. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 1.5. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Approval of Agenda.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Personnel Action
- 3.3 For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.4 For Information: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.5 Minutes

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion. Mr. Koleszar said that on the policy of searches of students, he thought the division was going to revise the Memorandum of Understanding with the Police Department for resource officers. What is the schedule for getting the MOU revised? **The motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda. None.

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with information on the Destination Imagination tournament.

Dr. Haas said that the events in our area on August 12 rightly and profoundly elevated community awareness of how well we as a community are promoting and achieving the full realization of such fundamental human values as respect, decency, safety and equity and opportunity for all. What once seemed routine may no longer be acceptable.

In addition to its showcasing of student artwork, the Albemarle County Public Schools calendar that is distributed to families historically has served as an information resource for parents. It has been our practice to be comprehensive in our calendar listings of all federal, state and local holidays, observances and recognitions, 158 in all.

Among these state holidays is Lee-Jackson Day. Although this holiday is not observed in our schools, it commemorates historical figures associated with societal values that conflict with the values of our school division of young people, respect, community and excellence. We do not believe it is in the best interests of our entire school community to list Lee-Jackson Day as a time for celebration.

The current calendar was printed prior to the events of August 12.

Our earliest opportunity to address the issue of listing Lee-Jackson Day on our school calendar will be this summer. Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, Lee-Jackson Day will no longer appear on our school calendar as a day of recognition.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Ms. Laura Chatterson is a teacher at Western Albemarle High School. She expressed concern about students having access to Fine Arts classes next year with the addition of the Freshman Seminar.

Ms. Emily Clancy is a parent. She said that her objective is to bring awareness and ask that Albemarle County Public School student-athlete safety policies are updated, improved, clarified and enforced. She then shared with the Board incidents that happened with her sons at Monticello High school during a sport practice.

Ms. Megan Argaud is a parent. She thanked the Board for taking the issue of having Lee-Jackson Day on the calendar seriously.

Ms. Aubrey Israel Hampton is a parent. She thanked the Board for taking the issue of having Lee-Jackson Day on the calendar seriously. She then asked why it took the Board a month to address the issue.

Ms. Amanda Moxham is a parent. She thanked the Board for addressing the issue of Lee-Jackson Day being on the calendar. She said that the division needs to stop being so reactive.

Ms. Krista McMullen is a parent. She thanked Dr. Haas for his statement about Lee-Jackson Day.

Ms. Lara Harrison is a parent. She is pleased with the statement by Dr. Haas; however, she is disappointed in the Board that it has taken so long to address the issue of having Lee-Jackson Day on the calendar.

Mr. Julian Waters is a former student. He said that the Board should work with legislators to amend the current Code of Virginia section 22.1-1 to include Pre-K.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board/Superintendent Business.

Dr. Moran said that this week a group of individuals visited a United Way group, The Vision Keepers for Early Childhood Education, to share ideas about pre-K education partnerships with the City and County Schools.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. Board Member Reports.

Mr. Oberg said that he judged the We the People competition. We have a group from Henley Middle School heading to the state competition.

Ms. Callsen said that she attended the NSBA Equity Conference. She asked the Board to consider an equity lens card when discussing issues.

Mr. Buyaki said that he attended the CATEC Open House.

Dr. Acuff said that there were four Board members who attended the NSBA Equity Symposium.

Mr. Koleszar said that he attended the NSBA Advocacy Conference in D.C.

Mr. Alcaro said that at the NSBA Advocacy Conference, they had meetings with Senator Kaine and the staffs of Congressmen Garrett and Warner.

Mr. Alcaro said that he attended the Greer Elementary School full school meeting. The First Graders were in charge of the meeting. It was a delightful event.

Dr. Acuff said that it is important for Board members to get out and visit the schools.

Dr. Acuff thanked the Albemarle Jazz Ensemble and the students for the artwork provided to the Board during the School Board Appreciation Month celebration prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. School Health Advisory Board Report.

Dr. Lori Balaban, chair of the School Health Advisory Board (SHAB), provided for the Board the SHAB's annual report. The following is the report.

Code Ana Program: *Dr. Alice Hoyt, a pediatric allergist, spoke to the board about a program she developed called Code Ana to help train school personnel to recognize and respond to episodes of severe allergic reactions. This team approach can also be used for responding to any medical emergency. Given the prevalence of students diagnosed with life-threatening allergies, the board recommends that schools participate in the Code Ana program*

Childhood Obesity Prevention and School Wellness Policy: *The board heard from Tiffany Neal, a health educator from the local health department, who explained new legislation mandating updates to school wellness policies that include the involvement of various stakeholders, the identification of a school official who will have leadership authority to ensure compliance, and a means of sharing information about the wellness policy with the public. After reviewing the updated policy, the Health Advisory Board recommendations include:*

- 1) Balance the provision of information about weight control measures with the avoidance of promoting eating disorders. Students should not be asked to count their calories for a week since the calorie requirements of individuals are so variable and the amount of calories is not as important as the nutrition per calorie.*
- 2) Although calorie counting should be discouraged, it may be advisable to teach about serving sizes since there are many related misconceptions.*
- 3) Health and p.e. teachers should have training in how to teach the wellness concepts of nutrition and exercise to avoid eating disorder triggers or other unintended consequences.*
- 4) Suggest that the Wellness Policy be shared with parent groups such as Parent Council or PTOs for input and support.*

The health advisory board recognizes the ongoing efforts of Christian Pitsenberger to exceed the required minimum nutritional standards mandated by the USDA in ACPS's Child Nutrition Program and to incorporate local food as much as possible.

The board also heard from Scott Williams, a PE teacher at Meriwether, about his efforts to foster health and wellness that he would like to help push out to other schools. His undertakings include encouraging students to bring in only healthy food to share for celebrations, health fairs, "Wellness Week," incorporating movement in classrooms, creation of a school wellness team, summer camp offered for students to be active and learn about healthy eating, and various initiatives to introduce additional healthy foods in the school breakfast and lunch programs. The board applauds these initiatives and supports efforts to share them with other schools. Recommendations include looking into the health fair program run by UVa's Department of Family Practice, and a caution to not assign moral value to foods and food choices.

Routine Annual Measurement of Height and Weight: *While measuring and tracking BMI does have its uses including determining the progress of the wellness policy and contributing data to monitor national, state and local trends; it is not a reliable indicator of overweight and obesity on the individual level given variance in muscle mass, bone structure etc. Because of concerns that routine annual measurements of height and weight at school can be detrimental to many children, the board suggests modifications be considered:*

- 1) Measure height and weight at the time of other health screenings in grades K, 3, 7 and 10 rather than annually*
- 2) Weights be measured and recorded, but not divulged to the student*
- 3) Measurements can be done by the nurse in private instead of PE teachers*
- 4) Parents be permitted to opt out of such measurements.*

Young Worker Safety: *Kristy Davis, an occupational hygienist at UVa, introduced the topic of young worker safety making the point that by age 18 nearly 80% of students have worked or are working and that young workers are twice as likely to be injured on the job as adult workers. The health advisory board recommends that the worker safety components that are already in the health curriculum SOLs be taught and that leaflets or posters be placed in schools where students may see them such as clinics, guidance offices or cafeterias.*

Sports Physical Exams: *The board recommends that if athletic departments distribute announcements about the availability of \$10 or free sports physicals, a disclaimer be added that these physicals do not take the place of a*

comprehensive annual physical exam by a primary care physician. The sports physical is focused only on issues that might affect athletic participation while a checkup in their doctor's office is more comprehensive and covers issues such as the teen's growth and development, healthy lifestyle choices, mental health screening, and recommended vaccines.

Student Mental Health: *Lori Wood, Director of Prevention, Outpatient and Mobile Crisis Services at Region 10, described the current mental health and suicide prevention efforts in the schools. There are 2 Student Assistance Professionals employed by Region 10 who work in the schools – one at AHS and one split between Monticello and WAHS. The SAPs provide crisis and substance abuse support, provide information and counseling about current morbidities such as cutting and eating disorders and connect students with community mental health resources.*

Alex Moreno, a student at WAHS, spoke about the level of stress he sees among the students at WAHS. He explained the anxiety associated with a highly competitive academic environment. He described his efforts to encourage students to seek help before they reach the point of contemplating suicide. He is also working to try to destigmatize seeking help for mental health problems. He believes students should be able to seek the SAPs when they are having a bad day even if they do not have any mental health diagnosis. He advocates that the SAPs become full-time at WAHS and Monticello to increase access. He also recommends that mental health issues become part of the discussion in health classes and that students be encouraged to take the Mental Health First Aid Training.

The pediatricians on the health advisory board note the high prevalence of patients they see with stress and mental health issues.

There is continuing research on the correlation of ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) with serious adult health problems and decreased life expectancy as well as their role in classroom learning and behavior problems. High ACE scores are seen across all socioeconomic levels and often are multigenerational. Mitigation of adverse effects includes recognition, stress reduction (including mindfulness) and the consistent presence of a caring adult.

Based on all of the above, the board recommends:

- 1) ACPS consider providing funding to increase the SAP support at Monticello and WAHS to full-time.*
- 2) That mental health information be incorporated into the health curriculum.*
- 3) That information about mental health resources be made available to students and parents.*
- 4) That students be educated and encouraged to take other mental health preservation measures such as limiting screen time, spending more time with family and friends, exercise, meditation, adequate sleep and limiting caffeine consumption.*
- 5) That schools incorporate mindfulness, yoga and other stress reduction measures into the school day at all levels.*
- 6) Monitoring and enforcement of the new homework policy.*
- 7) Consider limiting the number of AP courses students can take.*
- 8) We recommend that if any board member has not had the opportunity to see the movies "Race to Nowhere," "Beyond Measure" and "Paper Tigers," you attempt to view these as they have very relevant information about student stress and potential remedies.*

Banning Food Allergens: *Administrators and members of the School Board asked the health advisory board to revisit the issue of banning allergens in schools. The consensus once again was that school-wide allergen bans are impractical and not linked to a decreased incidence of anaphylactic reactions, and therefore are not recommended. Experts believe such bans can actually increase the chances of an accidental exposure due to the creation of a false sense of security and recommend against such bans. They continue to support allergen-free tables in the cafeterias.*

Other: *The board recommends that teachers who instruct students about important health matters be properly trained and provide accurate information.*

Mr. Buyaki asked what role social media plays with student mental health.

Mr. Alcaro asked for further explanation for the reasoning of only measuring height and weight at certain points during the school career.

Mr. Paige asked if there are provisions for contacting parents if a child may have a height and weight issue.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the SHAB feels that staff is responsive to the suggestions from the group. Is there any critical item on the report that the Board should take action on?

Mr. Buyaki asked what policy changes were needed to address heat related illnesses.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. FY 18/19 School Board Funding Request.

Mr. Zimmermann said that on January 18, the School Board received the Superintendent's funding request for FY2018/19. The Board has held three subsequent work sessions to discuss the funding request further, and a public hearing was held on January 30.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the Board of Supervisors had advertised a tax rate. He recommended that the Board members talk to their Board of Supervisor representatives to encourage them to advertise a higher tax rate.

Mr. Buyaki said that he does not agree. The County has had a surplus of money the last several years and should be able to fund the gap the school division is facing without advertising a higher tax rate.

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to add 0.5 FTE for Equity Specialists in the amount of \$37,676 into the funding request. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Koleszar voting no.**

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to adopt a funding request and to send to the Board of Supervisors with expenditures of \$188,506,345 with projected revenues of \$187,055,387 and special revenue funds of \$18,987,734. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Buyaki voting no.**

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Change in Appropriation Process.

Mr. Tistadt said that historically, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) appropriates the school's operating and special revenue funds by the seven categories defined by the state. By state statute, the BOS has the option to appropriate by the seven categories or make a single appropriation. A single appropriation would result in operational efficiencies that would simplify both the original appropriation process and amendments thereto. This action would not reduce financial transparency, reporting and other current financial oversight. To gain these efficiencies, staff recommends that the School Board adopt a resolution requesting that the BOS appropriate the operating fund in a single category and the special revenue fund in a single category as allowed by state statute.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the requests would still have categories.

Mr. Buyaki said that the process provides for a checks and balance.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR ALBEMARLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR 2018-2019

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 22.1-92 requires the Superintendent to prepare and recommend a budget for the next fiscal year to the School Board of Albemarle County, Virginia ("the School Board") for its approval and adoption; and

WHEREAS, the recommended budget shall estimate the amount of monies needed to support the school division and shall state such estimate in the categories established by the Board of Education, as stated in Virginia Code Section 22.1-115; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 22.1-93 requires that the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County (“Board of Supervisors”) shall prepare and approve a budget for education purposes; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 22.1-94 allows the Board of Supervisors to approve an appropriation to the School Board as a single total or by the categories established in Virginia Code Section 22.1-115; and

WHEREAS, a single appropriation by fund would reduce unnecessary time and effort expended by staff for both the School Board and Albemarle County to administer the funds; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors would maintain its oversight of School Board expenditures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Albemarle County hereby requests of the Board of Supervisors that the appropriation for fiscal year 2018-2019 be made in total for the school operating fund and in total for the schools special revenue fund once those budgets are adopted by the School Board.

Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Buyaki voting no.**

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Break.

The Board did not take a break.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Overview of the Office of Community Engagement.

Dr. Hairston provided the Board with a brief overview of the Office of Community Engagement.

Ms. Rockhold provided the Board with an overview of the community outreach work including information on community conversations, the Family Involvement Team, the Virginia Latino Advisory Board, and the Trauma Informed Community Network.

Dr. Acuff asked if the volunteer hours were across all three levels of the division. She also asked about the differences in parental engagement across the schools.

Mr. Paige asked about the Trauma Informed Community Network and if they will be looking into racial trauma. He also asked if the Scottsville Engineering program would be happening again this year.

Ms. Callsen asked about the parental involvement policy and what does it mean to encourage parental involvement.

Mr. Holmstrom and Ms. Kayser provided the Board with an overview of the equity and access work within the Office of Community Engagement. The information included a review of the goals: 1) support and track the application of Culturally Responsive Teaching professional development in routine classroom practices, and 2) provide resources and strategies to build the capacity of Diversity Resource Teachers to lead Equity Teams within their school communities with a focus on Culturally Responsive Teaching.

Dr. Acuff asked how the impact of CRT training on students, teachers and administrators.

Mr. Alcaro asked how many CRT and DRT teachers there are in the division.

Mr. Paige asked if there any efforts to bring in all administrators for CRT training.

Mr. Reid provided the Board with an overview of the work of the Extended Day Enrichment Programs. The information included a review of the program's goals: 1) recruit and retain a diverse, highly-qualified facilitator and teaching staff, and 2) review and revise online registration and payment processes. He also shared some of the work that is taking place in the program.

Ms. Waters-Wicks provided the Board with information on the Community and Driver Education programs.

Dr. Acuff asked about the number of adults that participate in the community education program.

Agenda Item No. 9.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.

Mr. Buyaki said that a Western Albemarle High School art teacher spoke about the percentage of students signing up for art classes. He asked if it could be monitored, as it is one of his concerns about Freshman Seminar.

Mr. Koleszar suggested a work session on the Teacher Performance Appraisal, Framework for Quality Learning, and Professional Learning Communities and what we are doing to improve teaching and learning in the classroom.

Dr. Acuff asked if there was an uptick in applications for academies based on the Board's approval to provide transportation.

Mr. Paige said that the Director of Little Learners Preschool contacted him. When Yancey closed last year, the program moved to Christ Church in Keene. Ten students were moved to Scottsville this year, and are in the Bright Stars Program. Those ten students cannot afford to be enrolled in the afterschool program at Scottsville or the Boys and Girls Club. The director has asked that the Board pay a one-time fee of \$1075 in order to pay the fee to the County for environmental studies to increase the enrollment at the church. Mr. Paige asked the Board to approve paying the fee. Mr. Blair asked if the fee was for a special use permit. The County cannot waive the fee, but they can grant the sum of the amount for a special use fee to non-profit organizations. He will have Ms. Farley provide input to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Alcaro asked if the students go home right now or do they go to a program. Dr. Acuff said that there is a pilot for a sliding scale for tuition to the afterschool programs. Mr. Koleszar said that since the Board of Supervisors has a process then the request should go to them. Mr. Alcaro said that he is concerned about the amount of time the Board of Supervisors takes to approve items. Mr. Buyaki asked about the timeline. Dr. Acuff said that she would work with Ms. Farley on drafting a letter requesting the Board of Supervisors to grant the sum of the fee to the program.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting. None.

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting. None.

Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 9:12 p.m., hearing no objections, Dr. Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk