

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

PRESENT: Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. Jason Buyaki; Mr. Graham Paige; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. Jonno Alcaro (attended electronically via telephone from Crozet, VA); and Ms. Katrina Callsen (arrived at 5:10 p.m.).

ABSENT: Mr. David Oberg.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Debora Collins, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Clare Keiser, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Office; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Assistant Director of Planning and Budget; Dr. Bernard Hairston, Executive Director of Community Engagement; Mr. Joe Letteri, Director of Building Services; Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, Strategic Planning Officer; Ms. Amanda Farley, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk of the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting.

At 5:02 p.m., Dr. Acuff called the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board to order. She noted that Mr. Alcaro has requested to participate in the meeting remotely. Mr. Alcaro asked that the Board allow him to participate in the meeting electronically due to medical reasons. Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** that the Board allow Mr. Alcaro to participate in the meeting via telephone. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen and Mr. Oberg absent.**

Mr. Buyaki 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 8 to discuss and consider: Consultation with legal counsel about specific policy matters and contemplated revisions to public participation policies requiring the provision of legal advice. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen and Mr. Oberg absent.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification.

Mr. Buyaki 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. Koleszar **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Oberg.

Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.

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. 1.6. Agenda.

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

Opening Remarks.

Dr. Acuff said that there appears some confusion among community members about the School Board's work on reviewing the dress code policy, which may have led to the adjournment of last week's meeting. In July when the Board was presented with some language specific to the dress code, we rejected that language as not passing legal muster and decided to look at changing the policy in terms of education rather than discipline. This item was going to be voted on last week. It was not a complete review of the dress code policy. Board members have been communicating with other jurisdictions, there has been legal counsel review case law, and our full determination of the dress code will happen when the Board feels it has struck the best balance in terms of substance and legal jeopardy. The Board may down the road have town hall meetings to seek input from the community.

The Board has also met with legal counsel, the Commonwealth's Attorney and police department on how best to avoid another occurrence as last week that prevented the Board from doing its work. She said that any venue and jurisdiction for offenses within this building and at the School Board proceedings lie in the County of Albemarle and will be prosecuted by that office. Virginia Code §18.2-415 provides penalties for disorderly conduct in public places. Anyone who willfully disrupts this meeting in a manner that prevents or interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting may be ejected by the chair. Anyone who fails to leave when asked to do so in a prompt manner after being ejected shall be cited for trespass and removed from the building. These laws exist to protect the dignity and decorum of public proceedings in accord with Virginia law. Those charged with violating these provisions will be criminally prosecuted for their misconduct by the Albemarle County Commonwealth Attorney to the full extent of the law.

The Board encourages public comment in an appropriate and dignified way at the allocated time in our meetings, but we will not tolerate disruptions.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Superintendent Business.

Dr. Haas said that we had a smooth opening of schools. He thanked staff for all the work done for a great opening.

Dr. McLaughlin provided the Board with a quick update on where we are with the work on the anti-racism and dress code policies.

Agenda Item No. 2.2. Summer Projects.

Mr. Letteri provided the Board with information on Building Services projects that have taken place over the summer.

Dr. Acuff asked if the science addition at Western Albemarle the last of the funded referendum projects underway.

Mr. Paige asked if the front security entrance at Scottsville had been completed.

Ms. Callsen asked how many schools still need updated security entrances.

Mr. Paige asked how many schools still did not have security shades.

Ms. Callsen asked about the bulletproof window film and if staff had an update.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the Board needed to be concerned about any projects.

Dr. Acuff asked if the 220,000 of roof work the average for a summer.

Agenda Item No. 2.3. Preliminary FY 2017/2018 Ending Fund Balance Estimates.

Mr. Zimmermann said that upon the Board request, staff has prepared highly preliminary estimates for the School Operating fund ending balance. These numbers are extremely, highly speculative in nature and therefore should not be used other than to provide an order of magnitude estimate of the final numbers, which will be available in late November. The Board of Supervisors has adopted a policy that restricts the School Operating Fund balances to no more than 2% of final adopted budgets. This equates to approximately a permitted fund balance of \$3.6M.

Dr. Acuff asked when the estimates of fund balance would be firmer.

Mr. Koleszar said that the Board of Supervisors has a policy to put fund balance into capital projects. He asked if the division would be better to fund projects like the K-2 technology project being presented rather than putting it to capital projects.

Agenda Item No. 2.4. FY 2018/2019 K-2 Technology Project.

Ms. Schmitt provided for the Board's consideration information on a request FY2018/19 K-2 Technology Project. She said that on July 12, the Board received information about a funding request for the purchase of touchscreen devices for all Kindergarten classrooms. The item is for action this evening. The ACPS departments of Student Learning and Learning Engineering, Access, and Design (LEAD) have collaborated on a design effort with learning space modernization. Beginning with kindergarten in fiscal year 2018-2019, as the Division's K-2 classrooms are refurbished to maximize student choice and learner agency, new age-appropriate technologies will be introduced to support Universal Design for Learning, digital literacy and citizenship curriculum, and increase student creativity and voice. A combined professional learning program is underway to support these changes in a fully integrated manner.

ACPS has never had a Division level-funding stream for K-2 technology, and what technology is currently in these classrooms is typically older and less reliable, or was funded by PTOs in a manner that challenges our mission of equity and opportunity. This plan would put 10 touchscreen tablets, with teacher management, a full warranty, and a highly protective case, into every K-2 classroom beginning with kindergarten this year. The full cost of this program, annually, is approximately \$300,000 to \$320,000, with a first year cost of \$320,000. This sum will supply these devices to the classrooms with a 3-year warranty, and will replace them on a 3-year cycle. This will form the basis of a new budget initiative for FY 2019/20 to obtain recurring funding to bring equitable and systemic equipment to all classrooms in the division, including the K-2 levels.

For this first year, LEAD has pulled \$100,000 from other operations to support this, a cost we can absorb on a one-time basis. LEAD is requesting the Board approve a transfer of up to \$220,000 from fund balance to kick start this initiative to bring such equipment into our K-2 classrooms.

This initiative will require an additional \$220,000 in FY18/19.

Staff requested an appropriation of \$220,000 from fund balance to fund kindergarten devices for purchase during the 2018/19 school year. Consider funding a replacement cycle for these devices as well as the purchase and subsequent replacement cycle of devices for first and second grades during the regular budget development cycle of future years.

Mr. Koleszar asked if professional development had taken place so that teachers would know how to teach with the equipment.

Ms. Callsen asked how staff chooses the apps and/or programs used.

Dr. Acuff asked when the devices would be in classrooms.

Ms. Callsen asked about the difference in cost between the first year and then each additional year.

Mr. Paige asked which type of devices would be purchased.

Mr. Alcaro asked if the \$300,000 would be in future budgets or always a transfer from fund balance.

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** that the Board appropriate \$220,000 from fund balance to fund kindergarten devices for purchase during the 2018/19 school year. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Oberg absent.**

Agenda Item No. 2.5. Anti-Racism Policy.

Dr. Hairston provided for the Board's consideration an update on the work of the anti-racism policy. At the July Board meeting, the Board directed staff to develop an anti-racism policy. He then introduced Ms. Kimalee Dickerson who is facilitating the work of the student group who is working on the anti-racism policy.

Ms. Callsen said that the group is doing a great job talking about sensitive issues.

Mr. Paige asked if the group was working on ideas on how students can anonymously report racial incidents.

Dr. Acuff asked the group about their mission.

Agenda Item No. 2.6. Break.

The Board did not take a break.

Agenda Item No. 2.7. FY 2019/20 Proposed Budget Calendar and Preliminary Input.

Mr. Zimmermann provided for the Board's consideration a draft FY2019/20 Budget Calendar. This calendar will result in the presentation of the Superintendent's Request based upon the direction of the Board through the Strategic Plan, the Superintendent and Board Goals, and specific Board direction issued during its meetings. This calendar reflects both boards' commitment to additional cooperation and input into five-year projections as well as upcoming fiscal year needs. As dates for the Board of Supervisors budget meetings are revised, they will be updated in future published versions of the calendar.

Mr. Buyaki asked which dates are we certain will take place.

Mr. Koleszar said that the CIP work session is earlier than in the past, is that change a process improvement.

Mr. Koleszar suggested that the CIP joint work session contain some breakout sessions so that the Board members can have more discussion.

Agenda Item No. 2.8. Topics for 2018-2019 Board Work Sessions.

The Board moved to the stage area of the auditorium to conduct its work session.

Dr. McLaughlin said that the outcome of the work session would be a list of school board work session topics for 2018-19 school year. The School Board will use a protocol to brainstorm, categorize, and decide on nine work session topics as well as some suggestions for timing.

Staff will prepare a list of the proposals and send to the Board via email to vote on which topics they would like to have as the work sessions.

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

Mr. Koleszar said that he would like to see a poster at the front of all of our schools that states the Vision and Mission of the School Division.

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Adjournment

At 8:23 p.m., Dr. Acuff, hearing no objections, adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk