

A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on October 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Albemarle County Office Building, Lane Auditorium, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

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

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Debora Collins, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of Strategic Planning; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Director of Planning and Budget; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk of the Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting – if needed. None.

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification -if needed. None.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

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

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Agenda.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

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- 3.2 Personnel Action
- 3.3 Proposed QuickStart Tennis Courts at Stone Robinson Elementary School
- 3.4 Western Albemarle High School Softball Restrooms and ADA Improvements
- 3.5 Western Albemarle High School Cell Tower Contract
- 3.6 Minutes
- 3.7 For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.8 Proposed Clean Energy Resolution
- 3.9 Direction to Superintendent Regarding School Names
- 3.10 2019-2020 Comprehensive High School Program of Studies, Middle School Elective Offerings

Mr. Koleszar offered a motion to approve the consent agenda less items 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 and 3.8. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.0. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Koleszar said that Items 3.4. and 3.5 are being deferred to another meeting.

Mr. Oberg said that he would like to have a conversation about the Western Albemarle High School Cell Tower. Dr. Acuff said that the Board could have a conversation on November 8, 2018.

Ms. Callsen said that with the tennis court – item 3.3, she is concerned that the Division is being asked to pay for the future upkeep of this tennis court. She feels that we need to take in to consideration all costs when accepting donations. She also feels that this donation may create inequities between schools. Dr. Acuff asked what has been the past practice for QuickStart Tennis Courts at other schools. Mr. Oberg said that he understands Ms. Callsen’s point. Mr. Paige said that he is supportive of this donation.

Mr. Paige offered a **motion** to approve Item 3.3, Quick Start Tennis Courts. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Dr. Acuff said that Clean Energy Resolution is on the agenda for information. Mr. Buyaki said that he is concerned with some of the language used in the resolution. There are diverse opinions about climate change and clean energy. Ms. Callsen said that Albemarle is behind in what has been committed to in terms of helping the environment. She feels that Albemarle County can do more. Mr. Koleszar said that the Division has been responsible in energy efficiencies within schools. He supports passing the resolution at the next meeting. Mr. Oberg asked if Mr. Buyaki has a problem with only second paragraph. Mr. Alcaro supports the resolution as written. Mr. Paige said that he is in favor of the resolution as well. Mr. Buyaki said that he would support a resolution that said that the Division would be good environmental stewards. Dr. Acuff said that the item will be on November 8th agenda for approval.

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Dr. Haas thanked Dr. McLaughlin's team for the work they did preparing for the night's work session.

Ms. Collins stated that ACPS students' mean SAT score was higher than the state and national averages. Our seniors also scored higher than the state and the nation in readiness score as well.

Ms. Schmitt said that this week is National School Bus Safety Week. Our Transportation Department is celebrating 8.5 Million safe driving miles. Bus Drivers were pleased that Board members and Dr. Haas came out in support of the Department.

Mr. Paige said that he attending the Woodbrook Dedication along with Mr. Koleszar and Dr. Acuff on Tuesday. He then shared letters from students thanking them for the renovations and addition at the school.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. School Board/Superintendent Business. None.

Agenda Item No. 6.2. Board Member Reports. None.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. State of the Division.

Dr. McLaughlin provided for the Board's consideration the State of the Division report. Albemarle County Public Schools has a commitment to excellence. We believe that we should challenge every student to unleash his or her potential and perform to the best of their ability. Our one, student-centered goal is for all Albemarle County Public Schools students to graduate having actively mastered the lifelong-learning skills they need to succeed as 21st century learners, workers and citizens. In that spirit we provide the Board with an annual report that highlights our accomplishments and identifies areas for improvement. Our strategic priorities guide this work, and during the work session the Board will examine data sources that will provide some insight into our work in each of these areas.

As we move toward the development of our funding request for the 2019-2020 school year, board members are encouraged to think of how they might translate the conversation from the work session into some funding priorities for the next school year.

The Board went into breakout sessions.

Mr. Buyaki asked how we are sharing work across the Division. How often do principals share their work with each other?

Mr. Alcaro said that there is terrific content in the report. The budget season will be interesting this year.

Ms. Callsen asked about the data on the website and there is no direct link to the current State of the Division Report. There needs to be a link to current data.

Ms. Callsen said that the Board needs to take more leadership in what we want to see in terms of the goals. The goals are broad but there is no guidance from the Board on how to meet them.

Mr. Buyaki said that we do a lot with differentiated staffing. We need to look at other factors beyond economic factors to address how students are doing.

Mr. Paige said that the equity dashboard showed some glaring problems. He would like to see mandatory CRT training for all teachers and how the SEAD Program is working to address some of the issues seen on the equity dashboard. He also asked for data on the number of African-American teachers by school.

Ms. Callsen said that she would like to be together during the work session rather than breaking out into groups. She would also like to have time to discuss during the work session rather than just taking information in.

Dr. Acuff said that a work session should have a work product.

Mr. Koleszar said that he does not feel like we are getting the data we need. We need trend data. He thinks staff should look at how to gather data from our graduates. Maybe need to increase our evaluation staffing. He said that equity dashboard showed him that the gifted identification is broken. We need to fix this issue. Mr. Koleszar said that we need to plan to expand the STEP program to more schools because that program is seeing results.

Mr. Oberg agreed about the gifted identification issue.

Dr. Acuff said that she is concerned that 30-40 percent of students in the middle school were not engaged in school. Why are we not reaching these students?

Dr. Acuff said that the reason the STEP program is working is due to additional staffing for guidance counselors. She would like to see how guidance counselors are used and do we need more.

Mr. Koleszar asked if there was a way to find out how many of our graduates are in jail.

Dr. Acuff said that she heard about the importance of carving out professional development time during the school year so that adjustments can be made throughout the year.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. Break.

The Board did not take a break.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Public Comment.

Mr. JB Hurt lives in the White Hall Magisterial District. He spoke about Paul H. Cale. He was not a racist.

Mr. Matthew Christensen is a resident of the Rio Magisterial District. He said that he was encouraged by the conversations at the last school board meeting. He said that he hopes the Board bans confederate imagery. He asked the Board to condemn the arrests of individuals at the August 30, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Ben Dornberg is a resident of the Rio Magisterial District. He is encouraged by the conversations during the last few meetings. He asked that the Board condemn the arrests during the August 30, 2018 meeting. It was traumatic to students.

Ms. Mary McIntyre is a teacher and parent from the Rio Magisterial District. She thanked Mr. Lorenzo Dickerson for the great presentation at the last meeting. She shared about her family – Dr. Oglesbee – who was

mentioned in the presentation. He was racist. Many know Dr. Cale’s history, and people are just now starting to share it.

Ana is a resident of Albemarle County. The people who were arrested have had their lives changed because of that meeting. She asked that the Board ask for the charges to be dropped.

Ms. Bekah Saxon is a City of Charlottesville resident. Speaking as a parent, there needs to be work on the identification process on gifted kids of color. She also said that the gifted numbers in the City are bad too but they are working on it.

Agenda Item No. 9.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent. None.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting. None.

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

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment

At 9:45 p.m., Dr. Acuff, hearing no objections, adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk