

A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on March 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Graham Paige, Ms. Katrina Callsen, Mr. Jonno Alcaro, Ms. Ellen Osborne; Ms. Judy Le; Dr. Kate Acuff; and Mr. David Oberg (arrived at 5:25 p.m.).

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Debbie Collins, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Clare Keiser, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Bernard Hairston, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney, Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of Strategic Planning, Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Christine Diggs, Chief Technology Officer; Ms. Leilani Keys, Equity Education Specialist; Ms. Catrina Sims, Lead Coach for K-5 Language Arts and Title I; Student Representative Elizabeth Albarran; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk to the School Board.

**Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting.**

At 5:15 p.m., Ms. Callsen 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 for the discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment and the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and subsection 8 for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Ms. Le **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Ms. Osborne, Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Le, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Oberg, Ms. Callsen, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Oberg

**Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.**

**Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification.**

At 6:30 p.m., Ms. Callsen 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. Ms. Le **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Le, Mr. Oberg, Ms. Osborne, Ms. Callsen, Dr. Acuff, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

**Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.**

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Paige, Chair, called the meeting back to order.

Mr. Paige said that the meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia state law and Albemarle County ordinance because the Covid-19 pandemic makes it impracticable and unsafe to assemble a quorum physically in a single location. The meeting is being streamed live on the Albemarle County Public School's website, and public comment may be offered through the Zoom waiting room feature in accordance with the School Board's protocol or by written submission.

**Agenda Item No. 1.4. Moment of Silence.**

After the moment of silence, Mr. Paige recognized Ms. Albarran for her work as the student representative on the School Board.

Mr. Oberg asked if all previous student representatives could be invited to the April in-person meeting so Board members could recognize them in person.

**Agenda Item. No. 2.1. Approval of Agenda.**

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Ms. Le **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Oberg, Dr. Acuff, Ms. Le, Ms. Osborne, Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Callsen, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

**Agenda Item No. 3.0. Consent Agenda**

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Minutes
- 3.3 For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.4 Program Evaluation: Reduced Tuition for Employees
- 3.5 For Information: Policy Review and Revision
- 3.6 For Information: Carl D. Perkins Local Plan for Career and Technical Education
- 3.7 Personnel Action
- 3.8 Boys and Girls Club/SunTribe Solar Lease

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Ms. Le, Dr. Acuff, Ms. Osborne, Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Callsen, Mr. Oberg, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

**Agenda Item No. 4.0. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda.** None.

**Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.**

Dr. Haas thanked Ms. Albarran for her service on the School Board as a student representative.

Dr. Haas recognized Mr. Bonham and Mr. Dommer, principals in attendance at the meeting.

Dr. Haas highlighted his visit to Jack Jouett Middle School this week.

**Agenda Item No. 6.0. School Board/Superintendent Business.** None.

**Agenda Item No. 7.1. Public Comment.**

Mr. Vernon Liechti is president of the Albemarle Education Association. He presented the Board with a resolution in support of collective bargaining.

Delegate Sally Hudson spoke to the Board in support of collective bargaining.

Ms. Liz Koenig lives in the Rio magisterial district. She spoke in support of collective bargaining.

Ms. Ryan Looney lives in the White Hall magisterial district. He spoke in support of collective bargaining.

Mr. Scott Code lives in the White Hall magisterial district. He spoke in support of collective bargaining.

Ms. Marcy Nacey lives in the White Hall magisterial district. She spoke in support of collective bargaining.

Ms. Margot Diaz lives in the White Hall magisterial district. She spoke in support of collective bargaining.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.1. COVID-19 Status Update.**

Dr. McLaughlin and Ms. Schmitt provided for the Board's consideration a COVID-19 status update. The COVID-19 update provides current information on the local conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic that are used to inform school operational decisions during the 2021-2022 school year. The presentation also included recommendations from the School Health Advisory Board as requested by the School Board. The recommendations were:

#### **Staff & Visitor Mask Requirement**

- Mask requirements should relate to community levels and trends over time
- Eliminate emergency policy EBA when community levels reach low for at least two consecutive weeks.
- Replace it with an amendment to an existing policy to more operationalize mask requirements and other public health guidance in the future.

#### **Staff Vaccination or Test Requirement**

- Eliminate weekly testing program or vaccination requirement at the next practical date.
- Continue to develop ways to encourage and incentivize vaccination.

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to eliminate emergency policy EBA effective April 4, 2022 based on the community levels on March 25, 2022. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion. Ms. Le said that she still has concerns about students who cannot be vaccinated and those who are immunocompromised. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Ms. Callsen, Mr. Oberg, Ms. Le, Dr. Acuff, Ms. Osborne, Mr. Alcaro, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

#### **Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

Mr. Oberg asked that the Board direct staff to amend Policy GBE to operationalize mask requirements and other public health guidance in the future.

#### **There was Board consensus to direct staff to amend Policy GBE.**

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to eliminate the weekly testing program and vaccination requirement effective April 4, 2022. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion. Ms. Le asked how many employees are being tested weekly. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Dr. Acuff, Ms. Callsen, Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Osborne, Mr. Oberg, Ms. Le, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

Dr. Acuff asked if it was possible to monitor transmission levels among unvaccinated students or those who are immunocompromised.

**Agenda Item No. 8.2. Mid-Year Data Review.**

Dr. McLaughlin, Ms. Keys, and Ms. Sims provided for the Board's consideration an introduction to the mid-year data review and equity audits. The work session will have four key objectives: to understand how we use data at the division and school level to help us achieve our mission; to review key mid-year assessment and climate data; to conduct an equity audit of a selected data set; to prepare for our September 2022 work session and target setting of final data. During tonight's session, the Board will receive an overview of the school accreditation process, review our school strategic improvement process, and review and conduct an equity audit on key pieces of mid-year data.

Following the breakout sessions, Board members shared with staff information they would like to be provided.

Mr. Oberg said that he would like to see the numbers disaggregated so that overlaps can be seen among groups.

Mr. Paige said that with the example provided, he would like to see the results of the work to see if there was growth.

Mr. Alcaro said that in the Fall he would like to see side-by-side comparisons of the data provided.

Ms. Le said that she is interested in seeing if there are benchmarks or accountability levels that are monitored.

Ms. Osborne expressed appreciation for being able to see the tools that staff uses to gather data.

Dr. Acuff said that all our schools are different environments. Is our approach refined enough to deal with the diverse student population across schools?

Mr. Alcaro said that in the Fall he would like to see all the information discussed in the work session.

Mr. Paige said that he would like to see the instructional materials being used for reading and mathematics because it may need to be adjusted to reach some students.

Ms. Callsen asked how accessible is the data to the Board or the public as a means of accountability.

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

Dr. Haas thanked staff for the work to develop the work session this evening.

Dr. Haas said that the next school that will have its name reviewed is Mary C. Greer Elementary School.

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to accept the Human Resources recommended job actions as detailed in closed meeting. Ms. Le **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Ms. Osborne, Ms. Callsen, Mr. Oberg, Ms. Le, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Alcaro, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** to assign one-time money to the development of 50 parking spaces at Western Albemarle High School and to modify 67 parking spaces at Albemarle High School. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion. Mr. Paige asked for discussion. Dr. Acuff asked that the Lambs Lane master plan be considered when modifying the spaces at Albemarle High School. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Alcaro, Ms. Le, Dr. Acuff, Ms. Callsen, Ms. Osborne, Mr. Oberg, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.**

**Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.** None.

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

**Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.**

At 8:56 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Paige adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

---

Chairman

---

Clerk