A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on September 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Dr. Kate Acuff (arrived at 6:17 p.m.); Ms. Katrina Callsen; Mr. Graham Paige; Mr. David Oberg (arrived at 6:21 p.m.); and Mr. Jonathan Alcaro.

ABSENT: Mr. Jason Buyaki.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Debbie Collins, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Clare Keiser, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Bernard Hairston, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Maya Kumazawa, Director of Planning and Budget; Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting

At 6:00 p.m., Mr. Paige offered a **motion** that the Albemarle County Public 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 3 for discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Buyaki, Mr. Oberg and Dr. Acuff absent.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification.

Mr. Paige 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: Mr. Graham Paige, Dr. Kate Acuff, Ms. Katrina Callsen, Mr. Jonathan Alcaro, Mr. Stephen Koleszar
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: Mr. David Oberg
ABSENT: Mr. Jason Buyaki.

Motion carried by a 5:0:1:1 vote.

Mr. Oberg abstained due to being absent from the closed meeting.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Alcaro called the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board back 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. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

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      3.2. Crozet Architectural Selection Committee
      3.3. Personnel Action
      3.4. FY2019/20 Fees
      3.5. Equity Report, Spring 2019
      3.6. Leave Policy GCC

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda minus item 3.5. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

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

Item 3.5. Equity Report, Spring 2019.

Mr. Koleszar said that this was an excellent report. He asked if the Board would receive an update on any progress made on the recommendations that were included because he would like a report to be provided by December.

Ms. Callsen agreed that this was a great report. She asked how this information would be disseminated to the County at-large. She also asked if there were metrics set for the recommendations as it relates to the School Division priorities.

Mr. Koleszar said that at one point the Division was giving all freshman the PSAT. He would like for the Division to get back to that practice because it can show students that they can be successful in college. Ms. Callsen agreed.

Mr. Alcaro thanked all those who assisted in developing the report. He said that the report should be the foundation for moving forward. He also asked that the Division take over the collection and organizing the data for future reports.

Mr. Paige asked if the recommendations would be implemented if the Board approves the report.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the Equity Report for the Spring of 2018. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed**.

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Mr. Alcaro said that there are two students from Albemarle High School who are members of the County Student Council.

Mr. Koleszar said that he attended the last County Student Council meeting. They will have different students at each meeting. They would also like for Board members to attend their meetings. The Council was concerned that the work that they were doing was not getting to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. School Board/Superintendent Business.

Mr. Alcaro said that he attended the Building Bridges Through Bread at CATEC last night. The cuisine theme was Columbian. He encouraged Board members to attend future events.

Mr. Alcaro said that he and Mr. Koleszar attended an advocacy event sponsored by the VSBA.

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

Agenda Item No. 7.1. Superintendent's Recommendation Regarding the Naming of Paul H. Cale Elementary School.

Dr. Haas provided for the Board's consideration a recommendation on the naming of Paul H. Cale Elementary School. Based on the findings of the Paul H. Cale Elementary School Name Committee, as well as the information provided to the Superintendent through a report from the committee, the Superintendent shall bring a recommendation to the School Board regarding whether the name of the school shall be kept or the Board should vote to rename the school. If the Superintendent recommends that the Board vote to rename the school, the Superintendent shall also provide information regarding the location, cost, and construction timeline for designing and erecting new signage.

Dr. Haas recommended four changes to policy FA, the ACPS policy for building and naming schools:

1. First, the policy states that we can only have one advisory committee at a time. With the experience we now have with the process we can handle more than one review at a time.

2. Second, the process for examining the names of our schools can be significantly improved by simply combining the decision to change the name with the selection of a new name and including the existing name in the pool of potential new names.

The School Board has already decided that for each of the 14 schools named after a person there be a process for determining whether the school will be renamed and what that name will be.

The naming process for Cale will have taken about one year. Unless changes are made to the current process, it is estimated it will take about ten years to get through the 14 schools now named after people. Before moving on to the next 13 schools, we need to learn from our recent experience with Cale. The process needs to be more efficient, less costly in staff time and less stressful for the community, for the advisory committee and for the family and friends of the persons for whom schools are now named.

As it now stands, the current process includes the following 12 steps:

1. A committee is selected and organized.
2. The committee does its research and begins accepting 3 public input.
3. The committee holds one or more public hearings.
4. The committee meets once or more often to discuss and analyze the information it has received and comes to a consensus decision.
5. The committee meets to announce its recommendation to the superintendent.
6. The superintendent meets with the school board and makes a recommendation to the School Board.
7. The School Board makes a decision about whether to change the school name.
8. If the School Board recommends changing the name, the committee reconvenes to begin the process of recommending a new name.
9. The committee starts receiving input and holds at least two public meetings.
10. The committee discusses the information it has received and recommends a new name to the School Board.
11. If the committee is unable to agree on recommendation, the superintendent recommends a new name to the School Board.
12. The School Board votes on the recommended new name.

It is recommended that before the School Board moves any further, the process needs to be changed to the following:

The committee's initial charge will be to make a recommendation concerning the school name, based upon the current values and policies of the School Board. The committee will be allowed to consider a pool of names derived from a process of school and community input to include the existing name. This would eliminate

steps 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 from the above process by combining the decision to change a name with the name selection process for both the committee and the School Board.

This would significantly reduce the time involved in the process. It should also make the process less stressful by changing the focus of the committee's work from whether the existing name 4 should be eliminated to a focus on what the best name for a school should be given the current values and policies of the School Board, as well as the current school community's preference.

3. For the third recommendation, he quoted the Daily Progress Editorial from this past week:

"Because cultural standards and definitions of success are subject to change, no buildings should be named for people. Then future generations could avoid this kind of agonized retrospection. Every person is flawed. And as we've seen, different generations interpret flaws differently. A policy that names schools for nearby geographical features would be safer."

One of the first recommendations of the advisory committee chair Dennis Rooker was to recognize the geographical area in which the school is located as the first naming option for future schools and facilities rather than choosing a person's name.

4. The fourth and final recommendation is that when a new school or other school facility is built and named, that name should have a review date. Every so often a school renews its mission. So, should the school community, from one generation to the next, join together to consider its namesake as well.

Dr Haas then recommended that the name of Cale Elementary School be changed.

The Board received the recommendations for information.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. FY2019/20 Budget Proposals.

Dr. Haas, Ms. Kumazawa and Ms. Schmitt provided an update on the budget proposals as adopted in the FY 2019-20 Budget. Progress reports were provided for specific proposals:

1. Contemporary High School Programming: NDCC Program
2. Safety and Well-being: Elementary and Middle School Counselors
3. Safety and Well-being: School Safety Coordinator
4. Research-Based Best Practices: Education Advisory Board (EAB) Membership

School Board members then participated in an activity to further explore and provide feedback on the proposals to guide decision-making in the next budget cycle.

Agenda Item No. 7.3. Break.

There was a break from 8:37 p.m. until 8:47 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Public Comment.

Reverend Roy Thomas spoke in opposition of renaming Cale Elementary School.

Mr. JB Hurt spoke in opposition to renaming Cale Elementary School.

Mr. Lois Johnson said that he was one of the original Albemarle 26 from Stone Robinson Elementary. He spoke in favor of changing the name of Cale Elementary School.

        Ms. Aubrey Israel Hampton is a parent. She noted that the Board should have two public comment periods – one at the beginning of the meeting and one at the end of the meeting. She also spoke in support of changing the name of Cale Elementary School.

        Agenda Item No. 9.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent. None.
        Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting – if needed. None.
        Agenda Item No. 11.1. Closed Meeting Certification. None.

        Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

        At 9:06 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Alcaro adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

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            Clerk   Chairman