

School Name Review Update



September 14, 2023

Karen Waters

Director of Community Education

Project Manager, School Name Review

School Board Directive to the Superintendent

On October 25, 2018, the School Board directed the Superintendent to:

Add school division values to the criteria for naming school buildings and facilities.

Review the names of all schools in the division named after individuals, and how faithful those designations are to the values of our school division.

Report recommendations to the Board for changing the names of schools that are inconsistent with our values.

Strategic Plan: Learning for All

VISION

Our learners are engaged in authentic, challenging, and relevant learning experiences, becoming lifelong contributors and leaders in our dynamic and diverse society.

VALUES

- Equity
- Excellence
- Family and Community
- Wellness

MISSION

Working together as a team, we will end the predictive value of race, class, gender, and special capacities for our children's success through high-quality teaching and learning for all. We seek to build relationships with families and communities to ensure that every student succeeds.

We will know every student.

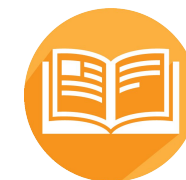
GOALS



Thriving Students



Affirming and Empowering Communities



Equitable, Transformative Resources

ACPS Anti-Racism policy

Albemarle County School Board
Policy ACC Anti-Racism states
“The Albemarle County School
Board (“Board”) and the Albemarle
County Public Schools (“Division”)
reject all forms of racism as
destructive to the Division’s
mission, vision, values, and goals.”



**WE STRIVE TO BECOME
ANTI-RACIST**

The Albemarle County
School Board and School Division

..... reject all forms of racism

as destructive to our mission,
vision, values and goals.

Albemarle County Public Schools

is committed to establishing and sustaining an equitable community that achieves the School Division's equity mission to end the predictive value of race and ensure each individual student's and staff's success. The Albemarle County School Board and School Division reject all forms of racism as destructive to their mission, vision, values, and goals.



Individual Racism



Is pre-judgment, bias, or discrimination by an individual based on race. Individual racism includes both privately held beliefs, conscious and unconscious, and external behaviors and actions towards others.

Institutional Racism

Occurs within institutions and organizations, such as schools, that adopt and maintain policies, practices, and procedures that often unintentionally produce inequitable outcomes for people of color and advantages for white people.



Systemic/Structural Racism



Encompasses the history and current reality of institutional racism across all institutions and society -- It refers to the history, culture, ideology, and interactions of institutions and policies that perpetuate a system of inequity that is detrimental to communities of color.

Past School Name Reviews: School Board Actions

- **Paul H. Cale Elementary ➤ Mountain View Elementary**
- **Mortimer Y. Sutherland Middle ➤ Lakeside Middle**
- **Virginia L. Murray Elementary ➤ Virginia L. Murray Elementary**
- **Charter Public School ➤ Community Lab School**
- **Jack Jouett Middle ➤ Journey Middle**
- **Broadus Wood Elementary ➤ Broadus Wood Elementary**
- **Mary Carr Greer Elementary ➤ Mary Carr Greer Elementary**
- **Meriwether Lewis Elementary School ➤ Ivy Elementary**

Past School Name Reviews: School Board Actions

- Baker-Butler Elementary ➤ Baker-Butler Elementary
- Joseph T. Henley Middle ➤ Joseph T. Henley Middle
- Stone-Robinson Elementary ➤ Stone-Robinson Elementary
- Jackson P. Burley Middle ➤ Jackson P. Burley Middle

School Name Review Process Changes

- **Staff Research/Recommendation ➤ Board Directive**

Upon direction from the Superintendent, a staff designee shall (a) provide research to the School Board about the individual for whom the school is named so that the School Board may determine whether the existing school name aligns with the current vision, mission, and values of the School Board; and (b) present a recommendation to the School Board as to whether the current name should be retained or changed.

- **Board Directive ➤ Retention or Review**

The School Board will determine whether to retain the current name or rename the school. Names of individual(s) will not be considered in the renaming process.

- **Name Review ➤ Community Process**

Advisory Committee, Surveys, Public Meetings

Remaining Schools for Review

1

Leslie H. Walton Middle

Founded in 1974. The school was named for Leslie H. Walton (1906-1970), an ACPS Superintendent.

2

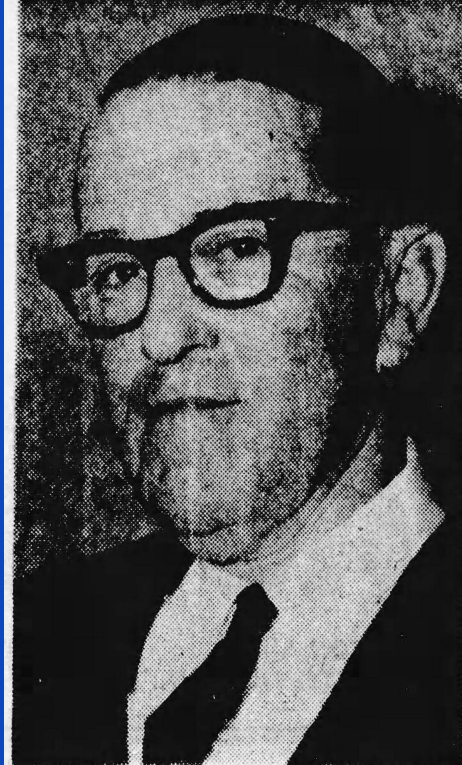
Agnor-Hurt Elementary

Opened in 1992; Named after County Executive Guy B. Agnor Jr. (1929-1996) and AHS Principal Benjamin Hurt (1918-2018)

Sources

- Daily Progress
- Interviews
- Obituaries
- School Board Minutes
- Scottsville Museum
- Board of Supervisors Minutes
- Yearbooks
- Albemarle-Charlottesville Historical Society
- Albemarle's Black Classrooms-Lorenzo Dickerson
- School Board commissioned research by Shelly Murphy, Jean L. Cooper and April Burns





LESLIE H. WALTON
43 Years as an Educator



Est. 1974

Leslie Hughes Walton Middle

- Opened in 1974, the school was named after ACPS School Board Chair Leslie Hughes Walton, who died of a heart attack one year into his term. Some sources incorrectly identify his father, Rev. Leslie Harvey Walton as the namesake. [Rev. Walton is recognized for his service as Pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church](#), and for bringing the Boy Scouts to Scottsville.
- **Leslie Hughes Walton (1906-1970)** was born in Fork Union. His father was Reverend Leslie Harvey Walton (Scottsville Baptist Church). He married Lady Boggs in 1940. Known as a “Lifelong Democrat” he unsuccessfully ran for statewide office in 1967. Walton taught at Greenwood School early in his career, was the principal of Scottsville High School, took the role of Assistant Superintendent and served as Clerk of the School Board in 1947, working closely with his best friend, Paul Cale. On Cale’s retirement in 1969 he became Superintendent. According to the [Daily Progress on July 12, 1970](#), “Those who knew them and observed them working together were continually struck by their singlemindedness of purpose.”
- ***Additional RESEARCH indicates equity, excellence, family and community and wellness are demonstrated in the public record with respect to Mr. Walton.***

Daily Progress, 2/29/1962

The Girls Keep Those Buses Rolling; Neither Mud nor Snow Can Stop Them

2/29/62

(This is the first of a two-part article on the women who play an important part in the county school bus system.)

By NANCY TALMONT
Women's News Reporter

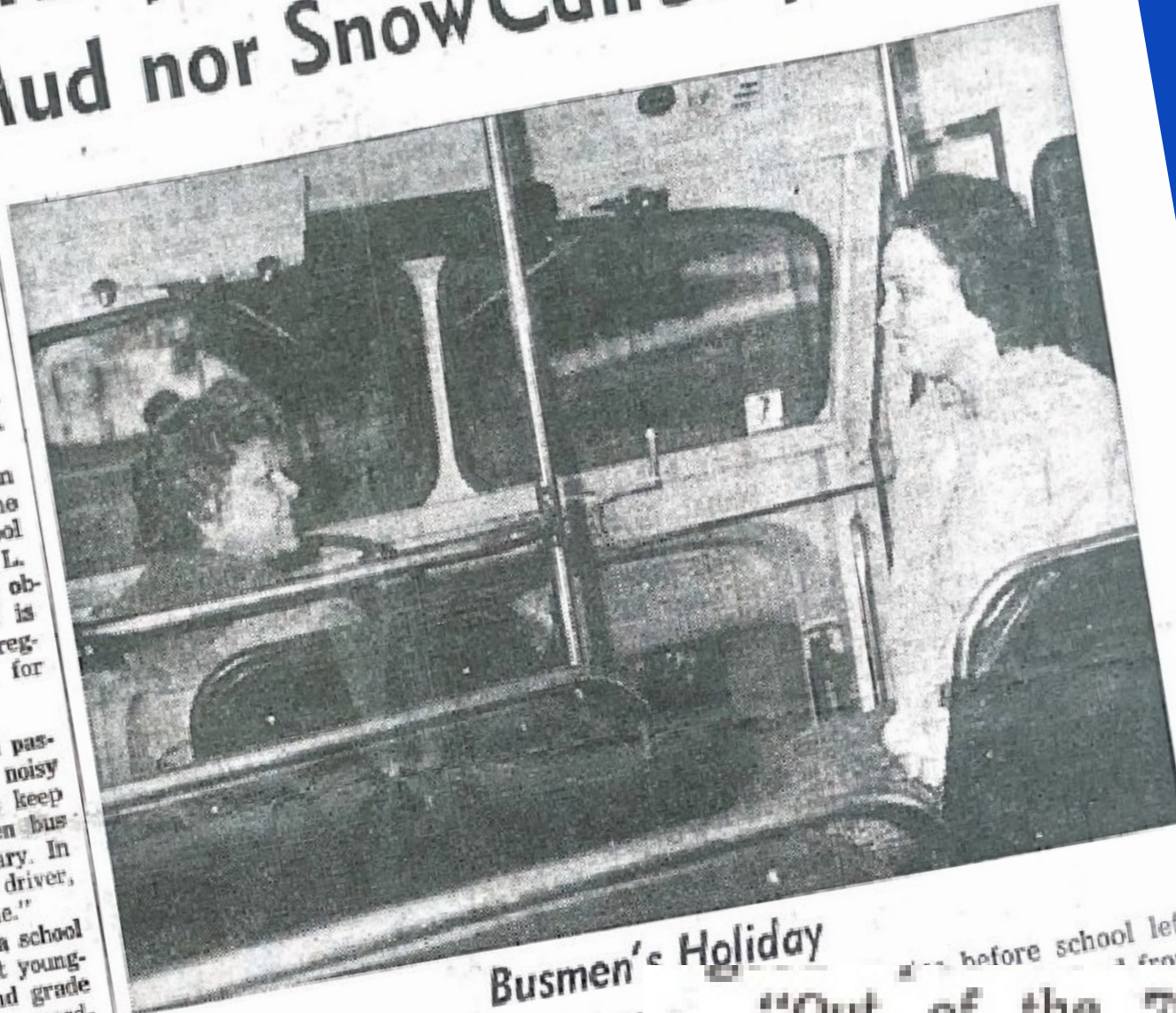
"I love you very much. You're a wonderful bus driver. Do you love me?"

That's a written tribute from a very small passenger on one of the Albemarle County school buses to Mrs. William L. Davidson of Esmont. The object of his young affection is one of the 19 women who regularly drive school buses for the county.

Love notes, furry animal passengers, stuck buses, noisy Fridays and snowy days keep the lives of these women bus drivers out of the ordinary. In fact, says one veteran driver, "We have a merry time."

The county has used a school bus system to transport youngsters to high school and grade school for many years according to Leslie H. Walton, assistant superintendent of Albemarle County schools. "And women have been driving for a good portion of the time."

"Out of the 78 drivers this year 19 are women. I must say my women drivers have better records of safety and average less repairs to their buses than do the men."



Busmen's Holiday

Mrs. Hansford Pace of Robertson Road (left) and Mrs. O'Neal Smith drivers of Albemarle County school buses, talk over experiences of the day

through the Greenbrier section to McIntire, drops off 53 youngsters, and then she goes to

"I needed day 1"

Daily Progress, 7/12/1970

At certain points, he was extremely concerned with the welfare of the county school system's non-professional employees. Walton's consideration for them made him something of a hero to the personnel whose roles are not as obvious as that of the classroom teacher.

before school lets from
"Out of the 78 drivers this year 19 are women. I must say my women drivers have better records of safety and average less repairs to their buses than do the men."

Leslie H. Walton

To be read
July 14, 1970
The Daily Prog

The first thing that came to mind when news spread last weekend of the death of Albemarle County School Superintendent Leslie Walton was that boys and girls of Albemarle County and education in general had suffered a grievous blow.

This is undoubtedly true, for it will be difficult to find a school superintendent more dedicated to his job and more determined to bring the best education possible to the youth of his county. It will be difficult also to find a man who will meet and tackle without fear the never-ending stream of problems that public education produces in this day and time.

Leslie Walton was actually something of a surprise as a school administrator. He rarely spoke the jargon of education — although he understood it — but he was a practical man who didn't waste the language or the time.

He often ate lunch at his desk and it was then that he might take time to be a teacher. Sometimes he might talk about electrical fixtures or the merits of gas furnaces. Sometimes he might teach by recalling the way he learned. Sometimes it was a vision of all that could be in Albemarle County — things that probably never would be within his lifetime but not because Mr. Walton would not try with all his heart and soul.

It was in his small office, during the days when he was assistant superintendent of schools, that some of the most serious conversations about the ill-fated city-county merger proposal took place. Always a step ahead, Mr. Walton could see the advantages for public education in the merger concept and — in his view — anything that was good for public education was good for Albemarle County.

The superintendent lived to see the idea come before both the city and county governments. The crushing defeat of the merger proposal last March didn't embitter

Mr. Walton. He had given his support and his prestige to the idea. He was still a believer but there was no time to sulk. Business must go on as usual, as indeed it did.

Another of Mr. Walton's ideas — probably considered ahead of his time — was for the year-around school. He could see the advantages for students and for teachers and he could see no end of economic savings in the idea. But he was practical enough to see that it was a radical proposal, so new and radical as to produce almost automatic opposition.

He also had the of merit pay for to reduce the pupil on a variety programs.

In the field of administration his forte was probably school buildings. He enjoyed working with engineers, as he with all people.

He was a conservative in money matters which may have been part of the fascination that buildings held for him. Sometimes it is possible to lose sight of the purpose of a school but Mr. Walton never did.

He liked new approaches and controversy. But he have knowingly the price tag on a The tragedy of was that he had to serve as superintendent more than a year his dear friend, retired July 1 of that short time school system for Mr. Walton's mination and his vision and the schools are all the better for it.

Albemarle Sheriff W. S. Cook summed it up as Leslie H. Walton's coffin was carried out of Mountain Plain Church yesterday. "That's a good man leaving," he said.

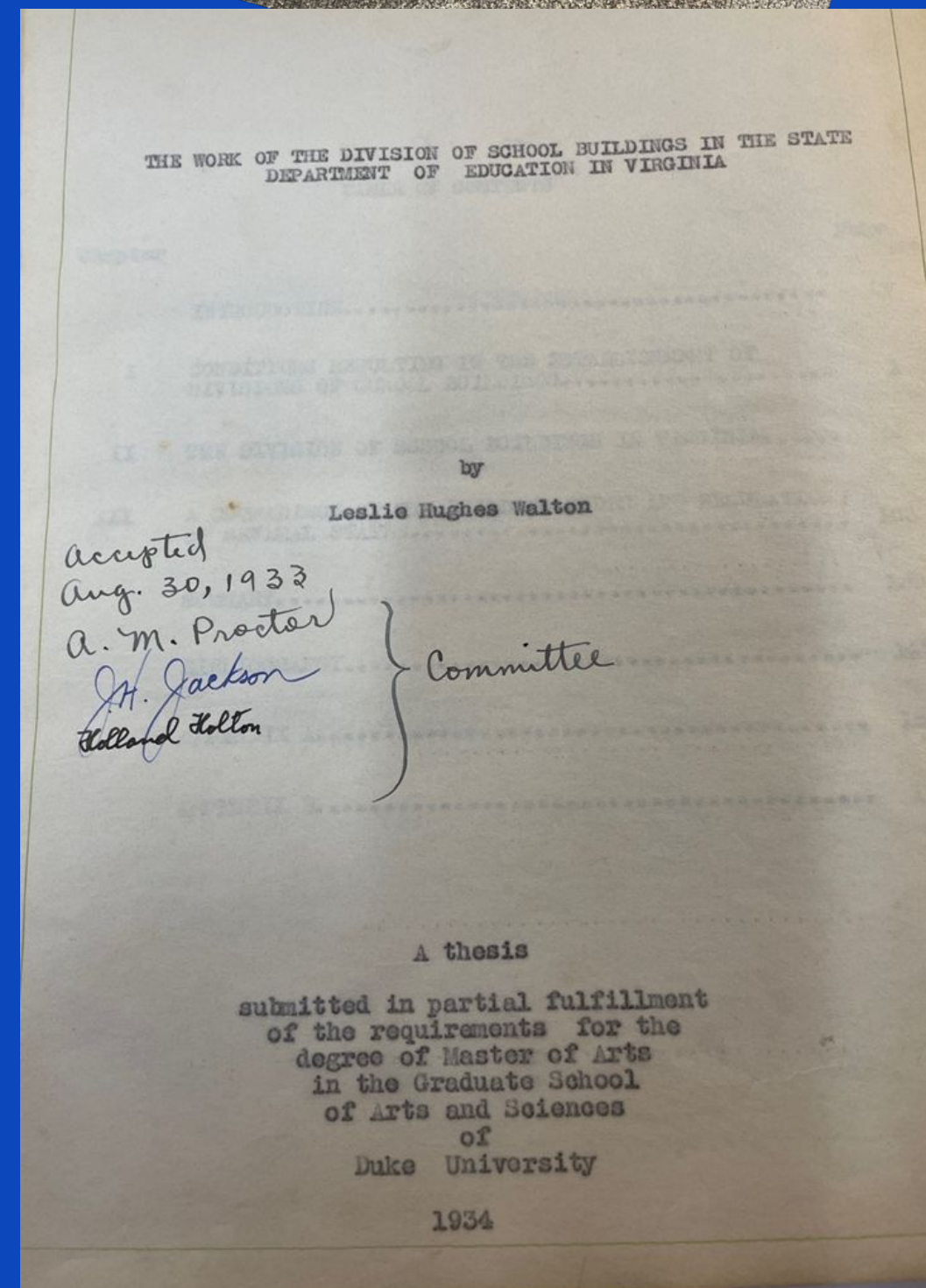
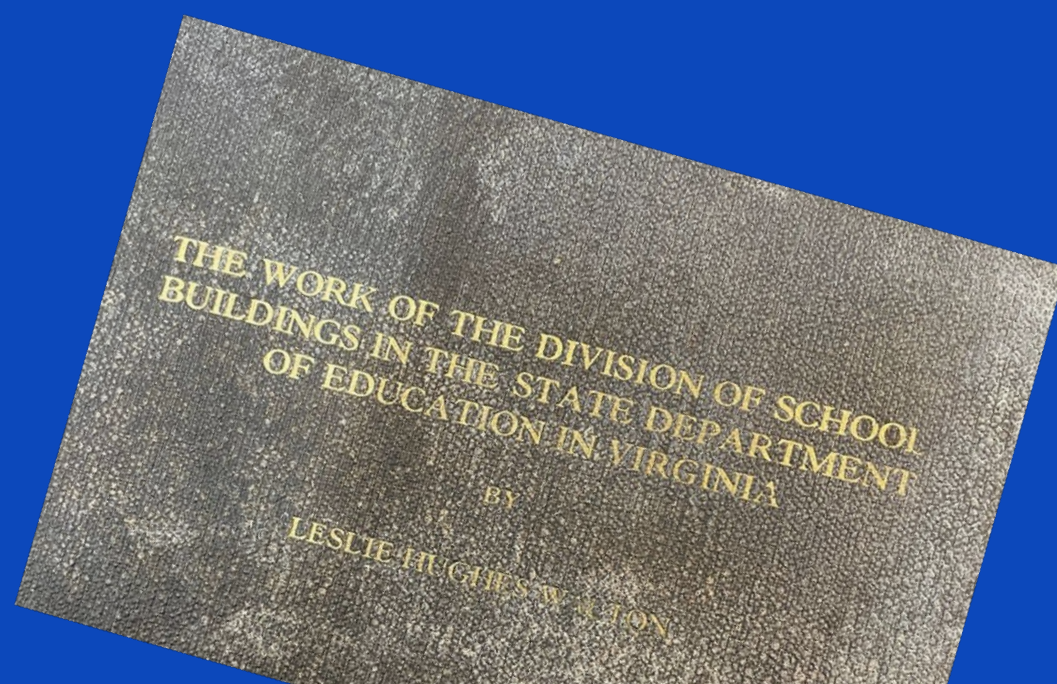
Having completed his Master's Thesis at Duke on school buildings, Walton was very involved in the construction and maintenance of schools.

In the field of educational administration his forte was probably school buildings. He enjoyed working with architects and engineers, as he enjoyed working with all people.

He was a conservative in money matters which may have been part of the fascination that buildings held for him. Sometimes it is possible to lose sight of the purpose of a school but Mr. Walton never did.

Daily Progress

7/14/1970



THE WORK OF THE DIVISION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA

by Leslie Hughes Walton

Accepted
Aug. 30, 1933
A. M. Procter
J. H. Jackson
Holland Holton

} Committee

A thesis
submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the
degree of Master of Arts
in the Graduate School
of Arts and Sciences
of
Duke University

1934

County School Construction To Be Outlined

Leslie H. Walton, assistant superintendent of Albemarle County Schools, will discuss the county's new school buildings and their facilities in a talk before the McIntire School Parent-Teacher Association tomorrow night.

The meeting, at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium, is open to the public. Walton will answer questions from the floor following his talk, titled "What's With These New School Buildings?"

“What’s With These New School Buildings?”

On Tuesday, April 19, 1966 Walton presented a talk on the newly constructed schools and took questions afterward from the floor, which largely were focused on integration. Walton’s responses, which he noted were his personal opinions, clearly align with our current vision, mission and values.

Daily Progress, April 20, 1966

Walton said he was speaking only for himself and not as a representative of the School Board, the superintendent or anyone else.

"Albemarle County is not fighting integration," he said. "The School Board and the administrators are trying to follow a course that will provide as smooth a transition as possible from a dual system of education to a unified system . . .

"I think it is certain that we will have a unified system by September 1967, and we may have it by September 1966."

There are vocal minorities on both sides, "but the vast majority of people in Albemarle County know there is going to be progress in that direction," he said.

"We can go to complete integration because the parents in the county have chosen and force it, or by edict of the Office of Education in Washington."

“I’m more concerned about the overall development of a child than whether he memorizes the date of the battle of Waterloo.”

“Our children are asked to say nothing and ask no questions and listen and try to remember,” he said. “And if they can’t remember, they protect their egos by not trying . . .

“We’ve got to stop killing the desire to learn in our youngsters. We’re so busy pouring it in, we’re not letting anything come out; we’re not listening to them.”

“No matter what the child’s race or social or economic background, if we can make him feel he amounts to something, he will do twice as much in the way of successful work as if he feels he doesn’t amount to much.”

Monday, July 13, 1970

Charlottesville, Virginia

The Daily Progress

Colleagues, Friends Pay Tribute to Walton

Colleagues and friends from across the state came to Albemarle County today to pay a final tribute to Albemarle School Supt. Leslie H. Walton. Mr. Walton, 64, died suddenly Saturday afternoon after being stricken with a heart attack at his home.

The funeral was to be held at 3 p.m. today at Mountain Plain Baptist Church at Meckum River, with burial following in the Fork Union Memorial Cemetery.

All Albemarle schools and school offices and other operations of the Albemarle school system, including the summer program at the

Brownsville Elementary School, were closed today in honor of the superintendent.

The Albemarle School Board meeting scheduled for 7 tonight has been canceled. Board Chairman Thomas H. Jenkins indicated that the board meeting probably will be held next week.

Mr. Walton was born May 2, 1906, in Fork Union. His parents were the late Leslie Harvey Walton and Harriet Hughes Walton. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lady Virginia Boggs Walton; a sister, Miss Harriet Walton of Richmond; and a brother, R. Edward Walton of Arlington.

Mr. Walton spent his childhood in Scottsville where his father, a Baptist minister, was pastor of the Scottsville Baptist Church. He was graduated from Scottsville High School in 1923 and entered the University of Richmond, graduating four years later. He held his masters degree from Duke University.

Mr. Walton's first teaching assignment was at the Greenwood School in western Albemarle. In 1930 he became principal at Apple Grove School in Louisa and served there until 1937.

For the next 10 years Mr.

Walton was Scottsville High School principal and in 1947 he became assistant superintendent, working for the next 22 years with Albemarle Supt. Paul H. Cale.

When Cale retired last year, Mr. Walton was named superintendent. He had served one year and 10 days.

Albemarle School Board Chairman Jenkins said today that Mr. Walton had devoted his life to Albemarle County and its school system.

"A big spoke in the wheel is gone," Jenkins continued, pointing out that there are children and adults in the

county who have never known an Albemarle school system without a Leslie H. Walton.

Albemarle Superintendent Edgar N. Gass commented Saturday night the county had lost a devoted superintendent and a full-formed citizen who gave time and energy to government.

In lieu of flowers the superintendent has requested that money be donated to a fund to be known as the Leslie H. Walton educational fund. The address is the Department of Education, County Building.

Walton Fund Reaches \$2,737

With a \$200 contribution from the Albemarle Education Association, the Leslie H. Walton educational fund today stands at \$2,737. The fund was established in memory of Albemarle School Supt. Leslie H. Walton.

The AEA, meeting this week during the Albemarle preschool conference, voted money to the Walton fund. Ben F. Hurt, chairman of the citizenship committee, gave the in memoriam.

The association also published a newsletter in memory of Mr. Walton.

Written by R. Ben Turner, a

member of the Albemarle High School faculty, the newsletter noted that Mr. Walton was not well known to many of the teachers new to the county, because he had served as superintendent for just a year.

"To those teachers, however, who had known and worked with him for a number of years, his death meant the loss of a man deeply concerned with and committed to the best education of the youth of Albemarle County."

The newsletter pointed out Mr. Walton's concern for school buildings, saying it was "largely due to his painstaking

and persistent efforts" that classroom construction proceeded in an orderly manner.

The newsletter went on to say, "Far more important to Mr. Walton than elaborate school facilities was a school building staffed by teachers who had a genuine concern for the education of the children they taught and who cared deeply for them and their welfare."

"While always entertaining new and creative approaches to teaching, Mr. Walton firmly believed in the classroom teacher as the key to the best possible learning experiences."

CDP Aug. 27, 1970

Albemarle Sheriff W. S. Cook summed it up as Leslie H. Walton's coffin was carried out of Mountain Plain Church yesterday. "That's a good man leaving," he said.

TO - WALTON SCHOOL

IN HONOR OF UNCLE LESLIE
EDUCATOR AND CHRISTIAN FRIEND
TO ALL WHO PASSED HIS WAY

PATRICIA B. MARKS
C THOMAS BOGGS JR

8/22/97

Recommendation



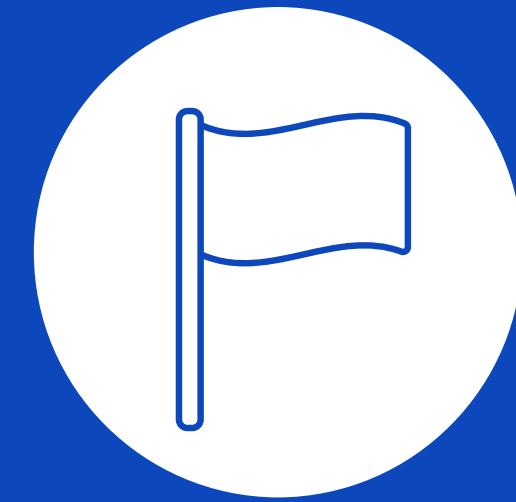
RETAIN

- Leslie H. Walton Middle



RESEARCH

- Agnor-Hurt Elementary



REVIEW

To be determined
by School Board