

A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on March 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Monticello High School, 1400 Independence Way, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Dr. Kate Acuff (arrived at 6:19 p.m.); Ms. Katrina Callsen; Mr. Graham Paige (arrived at 6:07 p.m.); Mr. David Oberg; 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; Dr. Christine Diggs, Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Robert Rejonis, Technology Department; Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

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

At 6:01 p.m., Mr. Koleszar 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 3 for discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose; 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; and subsection 19 for discussion or plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law-enforcement or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to public safety; and discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any government facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Dr. Acuff, Mr. Buyaki and Mr. Paige absent.**

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

Mr. Koleszar noted that while the Board was in closed meeting they realized that they needed to discuss a personnel matter. The Board discussed the personnel matter. The matter discussed would be exempt from open meeting requirements under subsection 1. Mr. Koleszar 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 plus a personnel matter were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Alcaro; Ms. Callsen; Mr. Oberg; Dr. Acuff; Mr. Koleszar; and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Buyaki.

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

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to appoint Ashby Johnson as the principal of Jack Jouett Middle School effective next school year. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

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

At 6:31 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. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

**Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.**

- 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2. Personnel Action
- 3.3. Personnel Action – Athletic Coaches
- 3.4. For Approval: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.5. For Information: Policy Reviews and Revisions

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

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

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

Dr. Haas said that he attended the student led conferences that took place at Greer Elementary.

Dr. Haas said that he attended a dinner with the National Society for Black Engineers at Albemarle High School.

Dr. Haas said that on Monday he went to Crozet Elementary to help plant trees for their project on cleaning up the watershed and protecting the creek that runs beside the school.

Dr. Haas said that the entire division is doing a fundraiser to raise money for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Employees will pay one dollar to wear jeans to work on Friday.

Dr. Haas said that he and Mr. Alcaro visited the fine arts festival at Fashion Square Mall.

Dr. Haas said that the We Notice program is getting started. You can nominate any employee by visiting the link on the webpage. A ceremony will be held in late April/early May.

Ms. Rockhold provided the Board with an update on the Gold Card program that provides free access to events within the division to senior citizens within the community. This program is also a program to solicit volunteers for the schools.

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

Dr. Haas said that since the March 11, 2019 notice banning confederate imagery in schools there have been six students counseled within the division. These incidents have been handled per the standard operating procedures. All students have cooperated.

Mr. Oberg said that he and Mr. Paige attended a class at Western Albemarle High School where there was a presentation on the homework policy. There were a lot of questions and he hopes that Dr. McLaughlin will address.

Ms. Callsen said that she was on the radio with three of our students to discuss the anti-racism policy.

Ms. Callsen said that she and Dr. Acuff met to discuss community engagement opportunities for School Board members. Information will be brought to the Board shortly.

Mr. Koleszar said that he would like to see an agenda item on the Freshman Seminar to see how it is working – strengths and weaknesses.

### **Agenda Item No. 7.1. Streaming School Board Meetings.**

Dr. Diggs and Mr. Rejonis provided for the Board's consideration a proposal to stream school board meetings. The County Board of Supervisors has made the audio systems in the auditorium available for school board use. Recently, video capabilities have been added via permanently installed cameras. This system can provide switchable multi-camera viewing of the meeting space when controlled by an operator (or a single camera view without an operator).

The plan is to continue using the existing audio system, and adding the installed video equipment upon agreement from the county board of supervisors. One paid operator would control the system via a dedicated device, transmitting the video stream to the ACPS data center. The system operator can be covered for the remainder of this school year by division technical support staff, at their regular overtime rate, and next school year by an individual through a paid internship open to division students.

Estimated costs for this recommendation: \$1,000 for the dedicated streaming device and supporting hardware \$900 for ACPS technical support staff member to run the camera system for April - Jun Total for current FY: \$1,900 \$1,300 for paid student internship staffing for Aug 2019 – June 2020 Total for next FY: \$1,300

Future Cost: County government is currently investigating the purchase of a maintenance agreement for the video and audio systems. This service would become a shared expense with the school division. No cost figures are available at this time.

Dr. Acuff asked how the Board of Supervisor lives streams their meeting and if they have an individual who mans the cameras during the meeting.

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to utilize the Board Reserve to fund the associated costs of streaming Board meetings and approve the plan and its associated costs on the next consent agenda. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

### **Agenda Item No. 7.2. Equity Policy Review Checklist Training.**

Dr. Hairston Mr. Holstrom, and Ms. Kimerlee Dickerson provided for the Board's consideration an equity policy review checklist. An equity policy checklist was developed in response to the School Board's 2017-18 "All Means All" equity and assess call to action initiative. The equity checklist is a tool to ensure that policies are created, reviewed and revised to be equitable. It draws attention to how school policies can unintentionally perpetuate inequity by asking policy reviewers to specify how a policy will have a positive or adverse effect with respect to equity. It also emphasizes the need for accountability such as benchmarks or indicators to ensure that equity becomes practice.

Board members participated in a training session to understanding the application process of this equity checklist. They explored:

1. The definition of equity as it relates to ACPS
2. Steps to apply the checklist to a policy review
3. The application of the review steps by examining Policy IHA, Grouping for Instruction

### **Agenda Item No. 7.3. Break.**

The Board did not take a break.

**Agenda Item No. 8.1. Public Comment.**

Mr. Ben Doernberg lives in the Samuel Miller magisterial district. He thought the work session was helpful.

Ms. Amanda Moxham is resident of Albemarle County. She encouraged the Board to use the equity checklist when looking at the dress code.

Ms. Nancy Carpenter is a resident of the City of Charlottesville. She said that the Board is not doing a good job.

Ms. Aubrey Israel Hampton is a parent. She said that the Board allowing hate imagery in schools is causing trauma in students. She encouraged the Board to ban hate imagery now.

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

Dr. Haas thanked Dr. Hairston and his team for the work session.

Mr. Koleszar said that he would like staff to bring to the Board a report on the Freshman Seminar.

**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 8:43 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Alcaro adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

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Chairman

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Clerk