

A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on September 12, 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; Ms. Katrina Callsen (arrived at 5:48 p.m.); Mr. Graham Paige; Mr. Jason Buyaki (arrived at 5:37 p.m.); and Mr. Jonathan Alcaro.

ABSENT: Mr. David Oberg.

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. Lorna Gerome, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Daphne Keiser, Assistant Director of Human Resources; Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting

At 5:30 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 2 for discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth or any state school system; subsection 3 for discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose; and subsection 8 for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Dr. Acuff **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Buyaki, Ms. Callsen and Mr. Oberg 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: Ms. Callsen, Mr. Paige, Mr. Buyaki, Mr. Koleszar, Dr. Acuff, and Mr. Alcaro.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Oberg.

Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:34 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.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

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3.2. For Information: Strategic Priorities Brief

- 3.3. Personnel Action
- 3.4. 2019-20 Adult Lunch Price
- 3.5. For Information: Crozet Architectural Selection Committee
- 3.6. Personnel Action: Athletic Coaches
- 3.7. For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions
- 3.8. Proposed Changes to Public Comment
- 3.9. Alternative Accreditation Plan Murray High School
- 3.10. Alternative Accreditation Plan Community Public Charter School

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda minus item 3.2. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

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

Item 3.2. For Information: Strategic Priorities Brief: Mr. Koleszar requested that staff insert into the SMART Goal the word “classroom” in front of practices when discussing barriers to remove the achievement gap. He feels that adding the word will focus the goal. Board members said that the recommendation could limit the focus of the goal.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to insert the work “classroom” in front of practices in the first SMART Goal. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion failed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mr. Buyaki and Mr. Koleszar

NAYS: Ms. Callsen, Mr. Paige, Dr. Acuff, and Mr. Alcaro.

ABSENT: Mr. Oberg.

Motion failed by a 2:4:1 vote.

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.

Mr. Koleszar said that every year, during the school division’s *We Notice* program, parents and students have the opportunity to nominate one or more of our employees for special recognition. It’s not difficult to figure out why so many of these nominations are of bus drivers and custodians. They make school experiences safe, clean, healthy and enjoyable. Tonight, we have the privilege of meeting some of these extraordinary professionals, who are representing all 141 of our custodians. To give you a sense of the scope of their responsibilities, Joe Letteri, director of building services, told us in a recent presentation that his staff cares for 2.3 million square feet of buildings throughout our division. That’s equivalent to caring for the U.S. Capitol building with its five floors, more than 500 rooms and the U.S. House of Representatives chamber. Every day. Actually, our custodians take care of 50 percent more space than that since the U.S. Capitol only is 1.5 million square feet. This evening, our assistant director of building services, Pam Snyder is with us to complete a very difficult assignment. We asked her to select three custodians, from our three feeder patterns, to represent the extraordinary value that all members of our custodial team bring to our students and staff. Typical of Pam’s work, she’s done a terrific job. Joining her are: Charles Key from Brownsville; Jouett’s Clayton Gsell, and C. J. Passalacqua from Burley. Mr. Key has worked for our school division for more than 38 years. He is extremely responsive to staff requests throughout the day amid a heavy demand from one of our largest schools. The needs of others always have the top spot on his priority list. Mr. Gsell is the lead at Jouett and his organizational and planning skills are superior. You can recognize his work orders because they always are accompanied by a picture or parts schematics so what he is requesting can readily be identified. Mr. Passalacqua is Burley’s lead custodian and the high level of his dedication and skills makes the most difficult job look the easiest. He’s intensely student oriented and you usually can find him engaging with those students who need the most encouragement. He does a wonderful job of managing high summer usage of Burley and always delivers a school in the most pristine shape for the first day of the new year. All three have received the department’s highest honor, the Certificate of Achievement. Ms. Snyder, can you and our special guests join us at the podium to share with us the outstanding contributions of our custodial team to the academic, social and emotional health of our students and staff.

Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.

Ms. Collins announced that the Virginia Board of Education is recognizing Madeline Michel. She is the Tony award winner for 2019 Excellence in Theatre Education.

Dr. Keiser announced that Elizabeth Mulcahy, History teacher at Western Albemarle High School, was selected for the National History Day Program titled Legacies of World War II. Mrs. Mulcahy will participate in the webinar for world-wide discussion of impact of World War I.

Dr. Haas said that the school naming committee for Paul H. Cale Elementary School met with him to share the finding that the name of the school should be changed. He will review the recommendation and materials. A recommendation will be brought to the Board on September 26, 2019.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Ms. Aubrey Israel Hampton is a parent. She asked that the Board add another public comment section on the agenda – so there would be one at the beginning of the meeting and one at the end of the meeting. She also noted that the anti-racism policy was not included in the student handbook and no handouts about the policy were provided to students and parents during the first week of school. Finally, she suggested that the Board receive an update on the anti-racism at each meeting.

Ms. Lara Harrison is a parent. She also spoke about the Anti-Racism policy and emphasized that the policy should have been in the parent student handbook at the beginning of the school.

Ms. Amanda Moxham is a parent. She spoke about the National Equity Project framework. She said that it is important to point out that one of the pitfalls that schools are facing is devaluing student resistance to structures and practices that they experience is unwelcoming, hostile and dehumanizing.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board/Superintendent Business.

Ms. Callsen mentioned that Mike Chin reached out to her about the United Way Board. The Charlottesville Albemarle early education task force would like someone on the school board to serve on the Board. Ms. Callsen is happy to be assigned to that work. Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to appoint Ms. Callsen to the Board discussed. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 7.2. Board Member Reports.**Agenda Item No. 8.1. Time and Attendance Project Update.**

Dr. Keiser and Ms. Gerome provided for the Board's consideration an update on the time and attendance project. Included will be an overview of the project, information about policy, training and implementation.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. 2019/20 Enrollment Update.

Ms. Schmitt provided for the Board's consideration an update on the 2019/20 enrollment. Information provided included an enrollment report for September 4, 2019, the tenth day of school for the 2019/20 school year. It included a comparison with last year as well as what was projected for this school year. In total, we have enrolled 13,972 K-12 students in our 25 schools. That is 336 more students than last year and 239 more students than we projected. The enclosure provides the breakdown by school and grade.

Dr. Acuff asked where we were putting 90 extra students at Cale Elementary?

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Hiring Update.

Dr. Keiser and Dr. Daphne Keiser provided for the Board's consideration a hiring update.

Mr. Paige asked for more detail on the number of minority teachers. He would like to see the minority breakdown of teachers at each school. He then said that we lost a few minority teachers and staff. He asked if exit interviews were conducted with those employees.

Ms. Callsen asked how ACPS compares to Charlottesville City Schools in terms of recruiting minority teachers. She also asked if the Division set a goal for minority hiring, and if so, did we meet the goal.

Mr. Alcaro asked how many minority teachers do we have in the Division.

Dr. Acuff asked how we recruit Hispanic teachers.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Break.

There was a break from 7:48 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Discussion on Upcoming Joint Board Meeting on 9/17.

Ms. Schmitt said that on September 17th, there is a joint board meeting scheduled with the Board of Supervisors and the School Board to discuss Capital Improvement Program (CIP) related items. Staff presented the agenda for that meeting and asked the Board to discuss the items in preparation for the joint meeting.

Mr. Alcaro mentioned that the material sent: Agenda and Pick Ten homework assignment, changes in the CIP oversight committee and the advisory committee and what the membership will look like. Most important is that the CIP request packet has a request summary. Board of Supervisors rank projects and 9 other primary projects. Some of them didn't have access to the link. Link is more of an executive summary than detail about the projects. Mr. Paige suggested looking carefully at the CIP request packet forms as well as the Boards and to be fair to both sides.

Agenda Item No. 8.6. 3rd Floor County Office Building (COB) Renovations.

Ms. Schmitt provided for the Board's consideration an overview of a proposed renovation to the 3rd floor County Office Building (COB). Staff has begun the planning process for potential renovations to the 3rd of the County Office Building. She shared the purpose and the scope of the work. If supported by the Board, this work will be implemented when additional funding becomes available. This could occur during a favorable mid-year budget projection or any surplus funds available at the end of year.

Mr. Buyaki asked how many staff are on the third floor, and how many could be accommodated with the renovation.

Mr. Paige asked if other departments like EDEP could be moved after the renovation.

Ms. Callsen asked if the Division rents the County Office Building space from the County.

Dr. Acuff asked for a list of departments/offices not located in the County Office Building.

Mr. Buyaki would like to see the funding packages for the proposals throughout the school year and would like to weigh it against other projects.

Dr. Acuff said that she likes the public spaces and meeting spaces at the very front. She asked if there was a cost just for those renovations.

Mr. Alcaro feels strongly that the education department needs to stay in this building. For that purpose, we need to have sufficient space to maximize the number of staff members who are needed, working in the building.

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

Mr. Paige said that it was mentioned in public comment that we did not have the anti-racism policy posted in schools and the student handbooks. He asked for more information on this topic. Mr. Koleszar asked if there was a timeline for completing some of the implementation projects.

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 8:40 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Alcaro adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk