

A Special Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on May 7, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., via Zoom, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Mr. Graham Paige; Ms. Katrina Callsen; Dr. Kate Acuff; Ms. Ellen Moore Osborne; Mr. David Oberg; and Ms. Judy Le.

**ABSENT:** Mr. David Oberg.

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

**Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call to Order.**

At 2:00 p.m., Mr. Alcaro, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Alcaro 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. 1.2. Approval of Agenda.**

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

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

**NAYS:** None.

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

**Agenda Item No. 2.1. COVID Update: Update on School Operations.**

Staff provided an update on the current school operations during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The goals of recent work included: remaining apprised of all VDH/CDC/DOE Guidance, communicating updates quickly and transparently, prioritizing and supporting essential operations, remaining connected with staff, students and families, and creating continuity of learning opportunities for all. The presentation included a FY20 financial outlook, a capital project update, budgetary impact and additional reduction of staff, an update on the hiring update, an update on performance appraisals, student technology updates, impact of COVID on the Office of Community Engagement, update on student engagement, update on the creation of a Return to School Task Force, and an update on graduation plans.

(Ms. Le left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.)

Mr. Paige asked if there were ways to expand the Chance to Dance program to schools outside the urban ring.

Mr. Paige asked if problems with non-participation in online learning were located in certain areas of the County.

Ms. Osborne asked what constitutes engaged and online learning.

Mr. Paige asked if learning packets were being mailed to students who are not able to do online work.

Mr. Oberg asked if there was a news station that could broadcast the graduations so they could be watched on television.

Dr. Acuff asked if graduation programs will be printed. She also asked what we are doing in respect to the lunches being provided to students and biodegradable materials.

Ms. Callsen asked what options are on the table for summer learning and what are we looking at for the Fall.

Dr. Acuff asked what would be taking place for new teachers to onboard them.

Dr. Acuff asked if the possibility of doing virtual learning in the fall is it impacting the individuals applying to work in the division.

**Agenda Item No. 2.2. FY 2020/2021 Recommended Budget.**

Ms. Schmitt and Ms. Kumazawa provided for the Board's consideration a revised FY 2020/2021 budget. Budget balancing strategies for the FY 2020/21 revised budget were recommended and discussed with the School Board on April 23rd. Staff presented a budget that applies these strategies and utilizes the most recently available revenue estimates. The School Board was asked to provide direction for making any desired changes, in anticipation for the FY 2020/21 budget adoption on May 14th.

Mr. Alcaro asked that the Board have the public hearing on the funding request and then return to the discussion.

Ms. Callsen asked about the savings of not doing the recommended minimum wage increase and what that saves the division.

Mr. Oberg said that he thinks that we have enough funding and staff to help students deal with the challenges of remote learning.

Ms. Callsen asked what the division is doing to give a clear message of the priority of remote learning.

Mr. Paige asked if parents have been contacted to let them know what to do if they encounter a problem.

Dr. Acuff asked how mental health counselors being deployed in our schools. She asked if mental health counselors were 10-month employees.

Dr. Acuff said asked about the size of the Baker-Butler learning cottage.

**Agenda Item No. 2.3. Public Hearing on Revised Proposed FY 2020/2021 Funding Request.**

Mr. Alcaro opened the public hearing.

Ms. Amanda Alger is a parent. She asked if the mental health counselor positions were still being eliminated.

Mr. Alcaro closed the public hearing.

**Agenda Item No. 3.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.**

Dr. Haas thanked Ms. Kumazawa for her work on the budget.

Dr. Haas noticed the collaboration going on among the many staff in the division.

Dr. Haas said that he visited the meal distribution site at Mallside Apartments.

Dr. Haas said that this year's employee fundraiser is the Family in Crisis Program. May 15 will be wear your pajamas to work day for staff.

**Agenda Item No. 4.1. Adjournment.**

At 3:32 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Paige adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

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Chairman

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Clerk