

A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on March 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. Graham Paige (arrived at 6:15 p.m.); Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. David Oberg; and Mr. Jason Buyaki.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Matthew Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Vince Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Debora Collins, Executive Director of K-12 Education; Ms. Maureen Jensen, Lead Coach; Mr. Craig Dommer, Principal of Yancey Elementary School; Mr. John Blair, Deputy County Attorney; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk to the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting.

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** that the 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 7 to discuss and consider consultation with legal counsel about actual litigation; and subsection 1 to discuss and consider the performance of specific employees. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Paige absent.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification.

Mr. Alcaro 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. Buyaki **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded vote:**

AYE: Mr. Buyaki, Mrs. Moynihan, Mr. Oberg, Mr. Alcaro, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Koleszar
NAY: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Acuff, Chairman, called the meeting 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. Alcaro offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Donation of Baseball/Softball Shelters, Batting Cages and Scoreboard to Western Albemarle High School
- 3.3 Exemption from Compulsory Attendance
- 3.4 For Information: Learning Resources Selection and Adoption
- 3.5 Personnel Action
- 3.6 Personnel Action – Athletic Coaches

3.7 For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions

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

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda. None.**Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.**

Mr. Paige said that this has been an extraordinary few weeks of student accomplishments in our school division. He had the privilege on February 25th of attending the Destination Imagination Tournament at which 15 of our teams qualified for the state championships, which will be held on April 8th in Mechanicsville. Eight of our teams placed first in their division and category—three teams from Albemarle High School, one from Monticello, one apiece from Sutherland, Henley and Jouett, and one team from Brownsville. Congratulations to all the students and volunteer coaches who have been working since the fall to prepare for the competition. He wished all 15 of our teams the very best as they prepare for the state tournament and for the right to go to the Global Finals in Tennessee in May.

He also saluted 11 of our high school students selected as Rising Stars by the Piedmont Council for the Arts. A total of 23 students in Central Virginia comprise the 2016-17 class of accomplished artists who were honored at a special event this past weekend. All four of our high schools were represented and our students were recognized for their excellence in the visual and performing arts and for creative writing. Each one of these outstanding young men and women model the creativity, innovation, critical thinking and communication skills that all of us so highly value. It is his understanding we will have the opportunity to personally recognize our Rising Stars as part of a future Spotlight.

Now, on to another highly talented group of young men and women, who have so capably demonstrated such important life skills as hard work, dedication, maturity and poise. We are pleased to recognize the extraordinary performances of our students who represented our school division in the regional Spelling Bee held last weekend at Albemarle High School. It took 66 rounds to complete the Bee and two of our students were in the final group of three. In what was described by the *Daily Progress* as a “polite but devastating war of words,” Ranae George, a Sutherland seventh grader, placed third out of the 24 regional finalists. Layla Bouer, a Meriwether Lewis fifth-grader, earned second place. Six other students also represented our school division, including Margaret Paczkowski (PAZ-COW-SKI) from Jack Jouett and Grace Caramanis of Walton. Margaret won the divisional Spelling Bee this year and Grace was our 2015 winner. Other competitors in the regional bee included Divya Hande, also from Jouett, Ella Hughes of Crozet, Jonah Klaff-Laymon from Murray Elementary, and Martin Muchai who represented Baker-Butler. Alison Dwier-Selden, who was one of the co-coordinators of our Spelling Bee, attended with five of the outstanding students who competed last weekend. Alison and the students came to the podium to share some thoughts about their special experience. First, however, our chair has a special presentation to make.

Dr. Acuff said that today was the 36th annual Piedmont Regional Science Fair and as we speak now, awards are being made. Our students entered 50 projects in the Fair and I am proud to say they have a history of doing very well in this competition. How could they not with such titles as the Synergistic Repulsion of Ants by Lipid Fraction of Cinnamon and Aqueous? Another project offers a more immediate and direct benefit to all of our students--Hacking Into the Web of Cyberbullying: Creating a Program to Recognize Cyberbullying. Tonight, though, it is my privilege to present Margaret Paczkowski of Jouett, with the championship award for this year's divisional Spelling Bee. Margaret is an unusually gifted young lady. She obviously is highly talented in Language Arts but I understand her real passion is physics. She wants to be a particle physicist someday and I am sure she will be an outstanding scientist. That is very impressive but what I like best about Margaret is that she resists the temptation to use auto correct to find the right spelling of words. A model for all of us to follow.

Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.

Mrs. Moynihan announced that she would not be seeking re-election to the Rio Magisterial District seat on the School Board. She also noted that she would not be seeking election to the Rio seat on the Board of Supervisors.

Dr. Moran said that she was at Scottsville Elementary yesterday and teachers noted that they are seeing great progress in students since there have not been inclement weather days. She also noted that there have been many guest readers within the schools during the week.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment. None.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board/Superintendent Business. None.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. FY 2015-16 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Mr. David Foley, Robinson, Farmer and Cox, provided the Board points of consideration related to the FY 2015-16 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. He provided a brief overview of the audit and what the audit entails.

Dr. Acuff asked how many years has Robinson, Farmer and Cox been doing the County's audit.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. AVID Update.

Ms. Jensen provided for the Board points of consideration regarding AVID. AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities. ACPS schools has been involved in AVID for the past eleven years with all comprehensive secondary schools participating this school year. Jouett Middle School has achieved the status of Demonstration School for the past five years. This update will provide current data for the division as well as spotlighting the programs at Monticello, Burley and Walton.

Dr. Acuff asked that students what prompted them to get involved with AVID.

Mrs. Moynihan asked the students what they enjoyed most about AVID. What part of the program has led you to excel? She also asked staff if there are parts of the program that can be used with the entire student population within a school.

Mr. Koleszar asked how we encourage students to become involved in AVID. Do we seek out students with the greatest need?

Mr. Alcaro asked if most students who are in AVID stay in the program until graduation.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Break.

There was a break from 7:39 p.m. until 7:50 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Yancey Update.

Ms. Collins and Mr. Dommer provided the Board points for consideration regarding Yancey Elementary School. Virginia Department of Education designates B.F. Yancey Elementary School as a Priority School. In addition, Yancey has been denied accreditation because of 3 continuous years of not meeting Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment benchmarks. As a result of denied accreditation, ACPS will submit a Corrective Action Plan for Yancey. Mr. Dommer, the principal, will present mid-year data and share progress to date toward end of grade level academic benchmarks. In addition, he will share the current progress on the professional development for staff and the Corrective Action Plan that will be submitted to Virginia Department of Education.

Mr. Alcaro asked if the UVA partnership group participated in the parent conferences.

Mr. Paige asked how often teachers are exposed to trauma sensitive training.

Mr. Koleszar said that he has heard that there has been a big change in school climate.

Dr. Acuff asked how the staff was accepting the constant oversight and evaluation of the work.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Infrastructure and Broadband Update.

Mr. Scheivert provided the Board points for consideration regarding the division's network infrastructure and broadband. Staff shared historical information, the current status, and planned future enhancements.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the Board should be talking to legislators about E-rate. **There was Board consensus for the Board to send a letter to legislators regarding the importance of E-rate to the Division.**

Mr. Paige asked about the broadband buildout in the southern part of the County.

Dr. Acuff asked if the Division was partnering with the County in any manner on the buildout of broadband.

Mr. Alcaro said that a year ago the board talked about the need for different access points in some areas due to topography issues, is this still the case.

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

Mr. Alcaro offered a **motion** that the Albemarle County School Board appropriate the amount of \$3,000 for settlement of a claim by a former employee. The settlement shall be approved by the Office of the County Attorney and executed by the School Board Chairwoman. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting. None.

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting. None.

Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 9:10 p.m., hearing no objections, Dr. Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk