

An Organizational Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on January 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. David Oberg; Mr. Graham Paige; Mr. Jonathan Alcaro; Ms. Katrina Callsen (joined the meeting at 6:42 p.m.); Dr. Kate Acuff; and Mr. Jason Buyaki.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Matthew Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Director of Budget and Planning; Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, Strategic Planning Officer; Ms. Amanda Farley, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

**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 1 to discuss and consider: (a) Prospective appointments to the Long Range Planning Committee; (b) Duties and leave status of a member of the Central Office; and (c) Potential changes to assignments of members of the Central Office and principals; and subsection 7 to discuss and consider consultation with legal counsel regarding actual litigation pending on a contract matter; such discussion in open session would adversely affect the negotiating or litigation posture of the Board; and subsection 8 to discuss and consider consultation with legal counsel regarding a specific matter requiring legal advice by counsel relating to a person's eligibility for School Board employment under federal law. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen 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 votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Alcaro, Mr. Oberg, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Koleszar, Mr. Buyaki, and Mr. Paige.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Callsen

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

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

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Moran, Superintendent, called the Albemarle County School Board to order.

**Agenda Item No. 1.4. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item No. 1.5. Moment of Silence**

**Agenda Item No. 1.6. Organizational Meeting – Election of Officers.**

Dr. Moran opened nominations for Board Chairperson. Mr. Alcaro **nominated** Dr. Acuff.

Hearing no further nominations, Dr. Moran closed the nominations.

**Roll was then called on the nomination** of Dr. Kate Acuff as chairperson. **The nomination carried by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Koleszar, Mr. Oberg, Mr. Paige, Mr. Alcaro, and Dr. Acuff.

**NAYS:** Mr. Buyaki.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Callsen.

**Motion carried by a 5:1:1 vote.**

Dr. Acuff then opened nominations for vice-chairman.

Mr. Paige **nominated** Mr. Alcaro for vice-chairman.

**Roll was called on the nomination** for Mr. Alcaro as vice-chairman. **Roll was called, and the nomination passed by the following recorded vote:**

**AYES:** Dr. Acuff, Mr. Koleszar, Mr. Oberg, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Alcaro.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** Mr. Buyaki.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Callsen.

**The nomination carried by a 5:0:1:1 vote.**

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to appoint Jennifer Johnston as Clerk to the School Board. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 1.5. Establishment of Meeting Time, Date and Place.**

Mr. Koleszar suggested that the Board add December 6, 2018 as a work session as needed. It seems as if the Board gets jammed on agenda items near the end of the year. Mr. Alcaro said that the meeting be for any items that needs to be taken care of. Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the board meeting calendar as amended adding December 6, 2018 as a tentative meeting date. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 1.6. Appointments to PREP and CATEC Boards/Appointments to Other Boards and Committees.**

Mr. Oberg **nominated** Mr. Alcaro to serve on the CATEC Board for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2019. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

The Board decided to leave the Audit Committee membership open.

Mr. Buyaki **nominated** Mr. Alcaro to serve on the CIP Oversight Committee. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

Mr. Koleszar **nominated** Dr. Acuff to serve on the CIP Oversight Committee. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

Dr. Acuff noted that she would like to remain on the communications committee. Mr. Alcaro said that he would like to remain on the committee as well. Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to appoint Dr. Acuff and Mr. Alcaro to the communications committee. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Ms. Callsen absent.**

Ms. Callsen joined the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Mr. Koleszar **nominated** Ms. Callsen as the representative on the PREP Board. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed.**

Mr. Buyaki **nominated** Mr. Paige to serve as the alternate on the PREP Board. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed.**

The Board decided not to fill the New School Board Member Orientation committee.

Public Education Foundation Board: Mr. Paige asked for additional information on the Foundation and its meetings.

Mr. Oberg **nominated** Mr. Buyaki, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Koleszar to serve on the Discipline Committee. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed.**

Mr. Oberg **nominated** Mr. Koleszar to serve on the Thomas Jefferson Adult and Career Education Regional Program board. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed.**

Mr. Oberg **nominated** Mr. Koleszar and Mr. Alcaro to serve on the Legislative Committee. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the nomination, **and the nominations passed.**

Mr. Oberg **nominated** Ms. Callsen to serve on the Audit Committee. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the nomination, **and the nomination passed.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 2.1. Approval of the Agenda.**

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

#### **Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda**

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Making Spaces Grant
- 3.3 CTE Equipment Grant
- 3.4 Personnel Action
- 3.5 Superintendent's Designee to Attend Board Meetings in Her Absence
- 3.6 For Action: Proposed 2018-2019 School Year Calendar
- 3.7 School Board Member Code of Conduct
- 3.8 For Information: Policy Reviews and Revisions

Mr. Koleszar then offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda minus the school division calendar. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 4.1. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda.**

**Calendar:** Dr. McLaughlin said that the calendar is moving forward with a calendar that is different from what the City of Charlottesville Schools adopted. Our Winter Break starts on December 22 and ends on January 2. Mr. Koleszar said that he likes the two solid weeks of Winter Break and would suggest that the division make that change. Mr. Alcaro said that he likes the split in the Winter Break. Dr. Haas noted that parent surveys show commonality with the City Schools is the lowest priority. Mr. Koleszar said that he would like to revisit the idea of a snow emergency plan. Mr. Buyaki offered a **motion** to approve the 2018-2019 School Division Calendar. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.**

Mr. Paige said that this evening's agenda includes a public hearing on a recommendation from our citizens' advisory committee and our superintendent that students from Agnor-Hurt and Greer Elementary

Schools be redistricted to Woodbrook. The recommendation also calls for some Greer students to be relocated to Agnor-Hurt.

Relocating students to a new school can generate a good deal of questions and even concerns among those families that would be affected. One important factor in resolving these challenges is the quality of the transition plan that is put in place to support students who move from one school to another.

That certainly was the case earlier this decade when 134 Hollymead students were relocated to Baker-Butler Elementary School.

This evening, we have with us, Jennifer Burman, Lisa Baker and Lisa Harmon. Jennifer currently is a Baker-Butler parent. In 2012 when 134 Hollymead students were transferred to Baker-Butler, one of those students was Jennifer's daughter. She joined Baker-Butler as a second grader. Lisa Baker and Lisa Harmon are names that are well known in our school division. Both names frequently appear on the list of annual Shannon Grant award winners. They have been outstanding in using this funding to bring some of the most innovative learning ideas to their classrooms every year.

He asked Jennifer to join the Board at the podium to offer the perspective of a parent who went through a major redistricting decision and to have her share her recommendations with us. He also invited the two Lisas to share their thoughts as teachers about the most important requirements of a transition plan and the experience of the former Hollymead students at Baker-Butler.

**Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.** None.

**Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Hearing on Woodbrook Addition Redistricting.**

Ms. Kimberly Swanson is an Agnor-Hurt Elementary School parent. She thanked the Committee for their work. She asked that the Board consider grandfathering for 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Ms. Shrijana Yonjan is a Burley Middle School parent. She said that redistricting is stressful. She encouraged the Board to grandfather rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Ms. Mali Amarasinghe is a Burley Middle School parent. She asked that the Board consider grandfathering rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Mr. Kasey Chadwick is a student at Burley Middle School. He asked that the Board grandfather rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Mr. Eric Swenson is a Greer Elementary School parent. He thanked the Board for the Woodbrook expansion. He encouraged the Board to look at a system wide redistricting to address capacity needs.

Mr. Jason Fletcher is a Greer Elementary and Jack Jouett Middle school parent. He said that those impacted are the students in the urban area and he recommended moving students who live further out rather than those closest to the school.

Ms. Liz Copeland is an Agnor-Hurt parent. She asked the Board leave Minor Ridge out of any redistricting to Woodbrook Elementary.

Ms. Melanie Garland asked that the Board approve Dr. Moran's recommendation for the Woodbrook Elementary School redistricting. She expressed concern about Woodbrook being a multi-age school. She suggested that Woodbrook be made a multi-age school that anyone can apply to attend. She also asked that the Board look at a countywide redistricting for longer-term solution.

Mr. Rob Mathes asked that the Board consider alternative scenario B2 for the redistricting plan for Woodbrook.

Mr. Steve Raymond is a Burley and Agnor-Hurt parent. He asked that the Board consider grandfathering students who are in their last year at the schools.

Ms. Robyn Bolling is principal of Greer Elementary School. She said the school is overcrowded even though they have come up with creative use of spaces. It is hard to say goodbye to students, but staff knows that the students will be taken care of at Agnor-Hurt and Woodbrook Elementary Schools. She said that the redistricting decision would cause staff to leave Greer as well.

Having no further input, the public hearing was closed.

#### **Agenda Item No. 6.2. Public Comment.**

Ms. Krista McMullen is a Cale Elementary School parent. She spoke to the Board about the inclusion of Lee-Jackson Day on the school division printed calendar. There have been many racial incidents in schools but none have been reported. She encouraged that the Board remove the holiday from the calendar and apologize for including it in the calendar.

Ms. Amanda Moxham is a Sutherland Middle School parent. She asked that the Board remove Lee-Jackson day from the printed school division calendar. She stated that while it is a state holiday it is no longer observed several localities. She feels that it was an act of aggression by printing it in the calendar. She asked that the Board apologize for its inclusion of the holiday and to send out an updated calendar.

Mr. Miles Moxham is a student at Sutherland Middle School. He said that printing Lee-Jackson Day on the calendar is an act of violence. He requested that the holiday be removed from the calendar.

Ms. Lara Harrison is an Albemarle County resident. Her children have been called racial slurs and treated unfairly in Albemarle schools. Her daughter has to walk past an image of a confederate flag every day. She asked that the Board remove Lee-Jackson Day from the school division calendar.

Ms. Aubrey Israel Hampton is an Albemarle County resident. She asked that the Board remove Lee-Jackson Day from the calendar.

Ms. Leslie Lowry is a city resident. She asked the Board removed Lee-Jackson Day from the printed school division calendar.

Ms. Megan Argaud is an Albemarle County resident. She asked that the Board remove Lee-Jackson Day from the printed school division calendar. Inclusion of the holiday is a micro-aggression.

Ms. Mary McIntyre is an Albemarle County resident. She agrees with previous speakers about the removal of Lee-Jackson Day from the calendar. She then spoke to the Board about an article on vox.com on January 8th. She said that redistricting is making diversity and segregation issues worse in Albemarle County.

Ms. Catherine Lochner is a member of the Special Education Advisory Council. She said that the proposed changes to Policy JGDA was not brought to the Committee for review. She feels that some of the language is awkward.

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

Mr. Tistadt said that based on the Board's action in December on the high school solution, the CIP included a placeholder. Staff is preparing a memo to send to the Board of Supervisors and County staff to make sure the funding is included in the budget.

**Agenda Item No. 8.1. Break.**

There was a break from 8:03 p.m. until 8:14 p.m.

**Agenda Item No. 8.2. Woodbrook Addition Redistricting Study.**

Ms. Schmitt provided for the Board's consideration a review of the Woodbrook addition redistricting study as presented in December 2017. On June 9, 2017, the School Board directed the Superintendent to convene an advisory committee and to complete a redistricting study. On December 14, 2017, the Superintendent presented her recommendation to the School Board that endorsed the committee's recommendation as written. Any approved boundary change by the Board would be implemented for the 2018/19 school year.

Mr. Buyaki asked, historically, how many students typically take advantage of grandfathering.

Mr. Alcaro said that if grandfathering is put in place then there is no transportation provided. What would be the cost of grandfathering for current students? If no transportation provided, could those students go to an existing stop and what distance would that stop be from the home?

Mr. Paige asked about the reasoning of moving students from Townwood to Agnor-Hurt and moving students from Minor Ridge to Woodbrook.

Dr. Acuff said that she would consider grandfathering.

Mr. Buyaki feels that there needs to be a countywide redistricting.

Mr. Koleszar said he does not feel that a countywide redistricting would address the capacity issues at the elementary level.

Mr. Oberg expressed concern about when we work through this process, there are certain portions of the community that are more able to provide input to the Board, so it is important to take into consideration the opinion of all families. The input may not always be fair and accurate.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation for redistricting with grandfathering for rising 5<sup>th</sup> and rising 7/8 graders. **Motion was withdrawn.**

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation for redistricting and to discuss grandfathering separately. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion. Dr. Acuff asked for discussion. Mr. Oberg said that he is not comfortable with the plan. Ms. Callsen said that she is not comfortable with it either. Mr. Oberg said that he is not comfortable bumping students from a school in order to make room for another group of students. Mr. Paige said that he agreed with Mr. Oberg. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

**AYES:** Mr. Alcaro, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Koleszar, and Mr. Buyaki.

**NAYS:** Mr. Paige, Mr. Oberg, and Ms. Callsen.

**The motion carried by a 4:3 vote.**

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to grandfather rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion. Dr. Acuff asked for discussion. Mr. Buyaki feels that siblings should be included in the grandfathering. Mr. Koleszar said that he would approve siblings for one year, and accepted the request as a friendly amendment. The **motion** is to grandfather rising 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and to grandfather siblings for one year. **The motion passed.**

Dr. Acuff asked that staff provide additional information on transportation for students who were grandfathered.

Mr. Alcaro asked about resources for the schools who would be receiving new students and staff.

**Agenda Item No. 8.2. 2018 – 2019 Budget Survey Results.**

Dr. McLaughlin provided for the Board's consideration the results of the 2018-2019 budget survey. The annual ACPS budget development survey closed on December 17, 2017. A total of 2,247 students, parents, employees, and community members responded to the online survey. The survey gauged respondents knowledge of the budgeting process and also asked respondents to consider eight priorities and rank their top three in order of importance. In addition to teacher salaries, other options included competitive salaries to attract and retain high-quality support staff; increasing career and workforce readiness opportunities for students; fully funding all student experiences such as field trips; increasing student health and wellness services; increasing funding for elementary after-school programs; increasing funding to provide students with transportation to programs outside their home schools; and continuing to expand in-home internet access for those students who currently are unable to access commercial broadband services.

Mr. Koleszar said that he has a problem with the survey because there are no dollars attached to the items.

Dr. Acuff asked if the survey was provided in different languages and what the response rate was for those taking it in a different language.

**Agenda Item. No. 8.3. Changes to Standards of Accreditation.**

Dr. McLaughlin provided for the Board's consideration information on the changes to the Standards of Accreditation. In November, the Virginia Board of Education approved revisions to the standards schools must meet for state accreditation and the requirements students must meet to earn a high school diploma. For schools, the revisions to the board's Standards of Accreditation are designed to encourage continuous improvement for all schools while placing increased emphasis on closing achievement gaps between student groups and providing a more comprehensive view of school quality. For students, the revised regulations reduce the number of Standards of Learning tests they need to pass to earn a diploma. The new standards also implement the "Profile of a Virginia Graduate," a set of expectations that includes increased emphasis on developing critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and citizenship skills, in addition to academic achievement in English, mathematics, science and history. The revised standards have entered the final stage of the regulatory process, which includes a final review by the governor and secretary of education. It is anticipated that the changes will move forward with minimal changes.

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

Mr. Buyaki asked about Policy JGDA. He would like staff to put the policy in front of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Mr. Koleszar said that he would like to have a report or work session on discipline and suspension rates.

Dr. Acuff said that she sent out an email soliciting input for possible topics for future work sessions.

Mr. Koleszar asked if the Board would revisit the division's AP policies based on the program review conducted by Jamie Gellner.

Dr. Acuff reminded the Board that the Superintendent would be presenting her funding request on January 18, 2018.

Mr. Paige said that he would like staff to investigate the holidays that are included on the calendar.

**Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.** None.

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

**Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.**

At 9:24 p.m., hearing no objections, Dr. Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

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Chairman

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Clerk