

A Special Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on June 19, 2020 9:00 a.m. via Zoom, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

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

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matthew Haas, Superintendent; Ms. Debora Collins, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Rosalyn Schmitt, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Clare Keiser, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Bernard Hairston, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Christine Diggs, Chief Technology Officer; Dr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief Strategic Planning Officer; Mr. Ross Holden, School Board Attorney; and Ms. Christine Thompson, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call Order.

Mr. Alcaro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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 votes:**

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

NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. School Board Retreat.

Unpacking the ACPS Return to School Plan

Healthy Environments

Ms. Le asked about the ventilation concerns in schools. She also asked about frequency of hand washing.

Dr. Acuff asked if the Division has the capacity to implement transportation changes.

Mr. Paige asked what the capacity of a bus.

Mr. Alcaro asked if there was enough staff to handle all the items in the plan. Will the Division consider hiring outside help to cover some of the cleaning items?

Ms. Callsen asked if staff considered taking temperatures during of students when they get on the bus or arrive at school.

Ms. Osborne asked how all of this information will be communicated to parents strategically.

Dr. Acuff said that the response to a COVID section needs more details.

Ms. Callsen asked is staff has thought about flu season and winter time, and how students who exhibit signs of illness will be handled.

Dr. Acuff asked if staff could recommend or require someone to be tested for COVID.

Mr. Alcaro asked how staff will limit the number of students in a bathroom at one time.

Ms. Callsen said that the plan seems difficult and hard to implement.

Healthy Staff

Dr. Acuff asked how many staff consider themselves in a high-risk category.

Mr. Alcaro said that there is a confidentiality side that allows those with COVID make individuals aware while maintaining confidentiality.

Ms. Le asked about staff leave and what happens when leave is exhausted.

Mr. Oberg asked is staff has looked at leave through the OSHA lens.

Dr. Acuff asked is we are going to be able to keep all of our staff.

Mr. Paige asked if the Health Staff section been distributed to any staff for review.

Healthy Students

Ms. Le asked if thermometers will be provided to families who are not able to get them.

Ms. Le asked if masks will be required for students and staff.

Dr. Acuff said that there is a notification section for if a student has COVID, however, there is no notification requirement if the parent tests positive.

There was a break from 10:18 a.m. until 10:23 a.m.

Health Learning

Dr. Acuff asked how the Division will now where students are with their learning after the break due to COVID.

Mr. Paige asked if there will be a way to give individual remedial work with those who are identified as needing extra help.

Ms. Le asked about the COVID slide.

Ms. Callsen asked about the Check and Connect and what it looks like for families.

Dr. Acuff asked if there would be any assessments looking at the COVID slide that showed where more resources needed to be placed or if extended learning would be needed.

Mr. Oberg said that the Division needs to look at year-round school.

Ms. Callsen asked if there was anything the Division could do now to address the slide.

Mr. Paige asked if materials could be mailed to parents who do not have access to the internet.

Ms. Callsen asked about the use of MAP testing.

There was a break from 11:20 a.m. until 11:33 a.m.

School Resource Officer Program

Each Board member took a couple of minutes to provide initial thoughts on the SRO program.

Ms. Le urged the Board not to look at the County as immune to national issues. She appreciates the speed that the staff reviewed the SRO program. She does not feel that this has been an independent review.

Dr. Acuff said that she has been looking at the SRO program for several years and how it is functioning in the County. She has been working with staff to rework the Memorandum of Understanding with the police department. It does not answer the question of what roles the SROs play in schools. She is looking forward to data to address the program.

Ms. Callsen said that she is missing the accountability in the Memorandum of Understanding with the police department. She feels that the program needs to be rework, revamped, or eliminated if it is not working. She is concerned that the review will not be unbiased.

Ms. Osborne said that she objects to having a police officer as a school officer. She does not feel that there is a need for SROs on-site during the day. She would like an independent review of the program.

Mr. Oberg said that there needs to be a relationship with the police department but we do not need police on-site all day.

Mr. Paige expressed concern that police in schools traumatize black and brown students in schools. His main concern is what needs to be done to alleviate the situation. If there is a statement that the main function is to build a good relationship with students. We have to make sure that bad cops have to go. Not all cops are bad.

Mr. Alcaro feels strongly that there is an opportunity to set up a new model on the relationship with the police department. We will need some sort of relationship with the police department. He also believes that there needs to be accountability.

Ms. Gellner shared the student survey regarding the SRO program.

Mr. Paige said that question 5 should not be lumped into one question, rather it should be separate questions.

Mr. Oberg agreed with Mr. Paige. He feels that the question should be rephrased asking if there is agreement.

Ms. Osborne said that the options for question 6 has odd options for the question. It should be more defined in the timeframe.

Mr. Alcaro asked if there could be a question about instructional disruption.

Ms. Callsen asked what conversations are being had with principals regarding this topic.

Mr. Oberg said that question 10 needs to be refined. Some students may not want to explain why the interaction was negative.

Ms. Le said that she is interested in the past not necessarily the last year. She suggested that the "last year" time frame be removed from the question.

Ms. Callsen asked if there was a question that talked about whether students are treated differently by SROs.

Mr. Paige offered a **motion** to send out a student survey. Mr. Oberg **seconded** the motion. Ms. Callsen said that a survey could provide some information or it could be something not to take in to consideration. Mr. Alcaro said that he would like feedback on the program from principals and Dr. Nick King. Mr. Oberg said he would like input from Dr. Haas as well. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

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

NAYS: Dr. Acuff.

Motion carried by a 6:0 vote.

Ms. Callsen said that she wants to see options other than the current Memorandum of Understanding with the police department.

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to direct the administration to provide to the Board in a timely manner a revision of the MOU that eliminates daily presence of police officers in our school buildings. Ms. Le **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

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

NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

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

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Adjournment.

At 12:40 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Alcaro adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk