

Note: A full recording of the meeting is on file in the Clerk's Office and on the School Division website.

A Regular Board Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on June 11, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Mr. Brian Wheeler; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mrs. Diantha McKeel; Mr. Jon Stokes; and Mr. Ronnie Price.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Bruce Benson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Mr. Andy Johnson, Coordinator for Gifted and Fine Arts; Mr. Tom Nash, Executive Director for Student Services; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Executive Director of Fiscal Services; Ms. Annie Kim, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item 1.1. Commendations.

At 5:30 p.m. a reception was held where the following students were recognized:

1. The Albemarle County School Board would like to recognize Paul H. Cale Elementary School, Red Hill Elementary School, Scottsville Elementary School, Stony Point Elementary School and Woodbrook Elementary School for being selected to receive the 2009 Title I Distinguished School Award. This recognition is based on student achievement during the 2007-2008 school year.
2. Congratulations to two Meriwether Lewis students, Benjamin Baker and Nicholas Horner, who are the regional and Virginia champions in this year's Stock Market Game. Teams are given a hypothetical \$100,000 to "invest" in an online portfolio over a 10-week period. Benjamin and Nick placed first in the state with a final portfolio value of \$160,666.40, an astonishing 61 percent return on investment! Well done gentlemen! The following 6th grade Henley students swept the Stock Market Game middle school regional division: Lorenzo Carrazana, Seamore Zhu, Devin Morris and Ethan Sewell.
3. The School Board would like to acknowledge Agnor-Hurt students Graham Smith and Alec Figler for winning the Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest Award. Congratulations!
4. Albemarle High School's Envirothon team captured the Regional Title at the Virginia Envirothon Competition. Team members Sharon Ellison, John Leonard, Michael Cantoni, Matthew Solomon, and Andrea Oliver planned a 610-acre conservation area to stabilize the habitat of the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker species. Brigitte Moneymaker has served the team as an alternate and will replace Matthew Solomon when the team competes for the state title.
5. The following Albemarle County Public Schools students earned first-place awards at the state-level National History Day competition and will advance to the national level to compete: Walton Middle School eighth grader Patrick Bond won first place for his individual performance of "Forging the Chain: The Civil Rights Legacy of Harry S. Truman," grade 8 student Julia Updike of Henley won first place for her historical research paper "Victor Wouk: Father of the Hybrid Car," and Western Albemarle High School junior Everleigh Stokes won first place for her individual documentary "You should Have Seen it in Color." The students will compete in the national contest June 14-18.
6. Congratulations to Ten Albemarle County High School students named National Merit Scholar finalists for 2009. Less than one-half of one-percent of the 1.5 million high school students in the United States who take the qualifying exam each year are selected as National Merit Scholars. The winners were as follows: Two students from Monticello High School, Patricia Fernandez, awarded a National Merit University of Chicago Scholarship and Timothy Pianta, awarded a National Merit Scholarship for Washington University in St. Louis; three students from Western Albemarle High School, Joshua Dugan, who received the National Merit Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Scholarship; Wesley Swank, who will attend the California Institute of Technology as a National Merit Scholar, courtesy of Consol Energy Inc.; and Whitney Wenger, who received a National Merit Northwestern University Scholarship but has chosen to attend Cornell University; five students from Albemarle High School, Roger Fan, awarded a National Merit University of Chicago Scholarship; Cameron Hill awarded a National Merit Northrop Grumman Scholarship and will attend Brown University; Valentina Moshnikova and Amy Pugh both awarded a \$2500 National Merit Scholarship; Ms. Moshnikova will attend the College of William and Mary and Ms. Pugh will attend Davidson College. Congratulations to all of these outstanding students for this prestigious academic honor.
7. Western Albemarle senior Joanna Moody was awarded the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award. Ms. Moody was named the 2009 recipient of this award at the State DAR Conference in Portsmouth. Congratulations.
8. The School Board would like to recognize Mary Huffard Kegley Scott who has served as President of the Albemarle County Parent Council for the past three years. Mrs. Scott provided commitment and positive leadership to the executive committee, parent council

members and schools. Thank you, Ms. Scott, for all the time and energy you shared to make Parent Council purposeful and highly effective.

9. The School Board would like to recognize the following recipients of the Volunteer of the Year award: Ms. Rose Van Epp/Cale Elementary, Ms. Kelly Johnston/Crozet Elementary, Ms. Kristen Billies/Scottsville Elementary, Ms. Anne Raque/Stony Point Elementary, Ms. Robin Fox/Woodbrook Elementary, Mr. Fred Daus/Henley Middle School, Ms. Lisa Porter/Jouett Middle School, Ms. Michelle Caldwell/Sutherland Middle School, Ms. Kore Drummond/Walton Middle School, Mr. and Mrs. Tony & Carol Alimenti/Murray High School, and Ms. Cheryl Parks/Western Albemarle High School. The support and tireless efforts these volunteers contribute to our school system truly makes a difference in the lives of our children. Thank you!

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting.

At 6:11 p.m., Mr. Price 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 the performance of a specific instructional employee, the resignation of a specific administrative employee and a candidate to replace that employee, and the assignment of a specific administrative employee to potential candidate to replace that employee. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Koleszar and Mr. Stokes absent.**

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Certify Closed Meeting.

At 6:32 p.m., Mr. Price 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 open meeting requirements by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mr. Price; Mrs. Mouly; Mrs. Moynihan; Mrs. McKeel; Mr. Koleszar; and Mr. Wheeler
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Mr. Stokes
ABSTAIN: Mr. Koleszar

Motion carried by a 5:0:1:1 vote.

Agenda Item No. 1.4. Call to Order.

At 6:35 p.m., Mr. Wheeler called the Albemarle County School Board meeting back to order.

Agenda Item No. 1.5. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 1.6. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Agenda.

Mr. Price offered a **motion** to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda.

- 3.2 Personnel Action
- 3.3 Exemption from Compulsory Attendance

Mr. Price offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion. Mr. Wheeler in discussion pointed out that there was an additional item, an exemption from compulsory attendance that was a time sensitive issue. **The motion passed with Mr. Stokes absent.**

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

End of School: Dr. Benson said that the end of school closing was smooth. Faculties closed up the classroom, prepared summer maintenance projects, and began work on CAI projects across the division. There were great graduations, and the ceremonies were streamed live over the internet for Western Albemarle High School, Albemarle High School, and Monticello High School. The streams had over 1000 viewers from 6 continents.

Assistant Principal Intern: Dr. Benson introduced Ben Williams as the Assistant Principal intern at Woodbrook Elementary School.

Spring SOL: Dr. Benson said that staff is currently reviewing Preliminary SOL data from the spring assessment. Initial results are encouraging, and once the results are confirmed it will be shared with the Board.

Streaming Ceremonies: Mrs. McKeel asked for more in-depth information about the graduation webcasts.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Mr. Jeff Luck is a parent of a rising third grader at Red Hill Elementary School, representing a group parents, students, educators, and community members who believe that small community schools are critical to the future of Albemarle County. He supports keeping Red Hill, Scottsville, and Yancey Elementary Schools open. The small school atmosphere fosters a tight-knit community, and aid in better performance.

Dr. Christian Steinmetz is a parent of a rising 1st grader and faculty member at UVA's Curry School of Education. She presented findings about the importance and advantages of small schools in rural communities in support of keeping Red Hill, Scottsville, and Yancey Elementary Schools open. She stated that based on studies conducted in rural areas, the smaller schools reduced the achievement gap a greater percentage than larger schools.

Dr. Stephanie Wilkerson is a parent of two students at Scottsville Elementary and the president of Magnolia Consulting, a company specializing in educational studies. She continued with Dr. Steinmetz's presentation, and focused on economies of scale. A research review of consolidation showed less fiscal benefit and more fiscal cost than initially promised, since initial savings are replaced by expenditures such as transportation and specialized staff. She also stated that there is an impact on the community and other unintended impacts, since a unifying fixture of the school is removed from the community identity.

Ms. A'phie Wiggins is a doctoral student at UVA's Curry School of Education, and continues the presentation from the two previous speakers in support of keeping Red Hill, Scottsville, and Yancey Elementary Schools open. She states that studies have shown that teachers with fewer students have more interaction with their students and know them better on an individual basis. When schools combine to form larger schools there is evidence of decreased morale, decreased attachment to the school and decreased effectiveness of the administration.

Ms. Hannah Pickens is a rising fifth grader at Scottsville Elementary. She has attended a 615 student elementary school during Kindergarten and 1st grade and then a 1000 student elementary school for 2nd and 3rd grade. In the larger schools teachers were focused on struggling students, there were discipline problems and large class sizes. At Scottsville all of the teachers know her name. She works in small groups with other students, and receives personal attention from her teacher. She sees her experience as proof that students perform better in smaller schools.

Ms. Allison Davis attends Scottsville and enjoys her music class every week.

A student at Scottsville Elementary School enjoys the fact all her teachers know her name.

A student at Yancey Elementary School likes that her principal knows her very well.

Miss Megan Pasherel attends Scottsville and enjoys that she interacts with kids in every grade.

Mr. Eric Quip attends Scottsville and thinks community schools are better for kids.

Mr. Benjamin Barlow uses computers at his school every day.

Miss Emily Draper attends Scottsville and enjoys her art class every week.

Miss Selina Shifflett attends Scottsville and is happy to have a library with 7000 books in it.

Ms. Jessica Bowling is a Yancey Alumni and is currently an honor student at Monticello High School. She believes her success is tied to her attendance at Yancey Elementary. Due to the high standards set at Yancey, she has carried and remained successful through her school. The close-knit community helped to push her to be the best student possible and allowed her teachers to interact with her more than they could have otherwise.

Mrs. Lynn Horwitz is a retired special educator. She taught 2 years at a large elementary school and 22 years at Red Hill. At the large school there was a sense of isolation and anonymity among staff and students had an effect on her career, pushing her to find a small school and she moved to Red Hill. The simplicity, community, and connectivity at Red Hill aided her career and provided a better working environment.

Mrs. Laura Morris is the parent of three students that attended or are attending Red Hill and a teacher at Scottsville. She felt that a presentation by Mr. Haun during the previous telephone forum about Red Hill, Scottsville, and Yancey was misrepresenting the situation and did not illuminate the quality teaching that was taking place at those schools.

Mrs. Robin Dixon is a parent of a student at Scottsville. She is happy that her daughter attends school in a small community. She enjoys the personal attention from the small school system, and when buying a home focused on finding a small school.

Mrs. Kelly Weston was a teacher at Scottsville Elementary and found Scottsville to be a warm, nurturing place where children could flourish. She thinks that Scottsville is this way due to its small size, and when it was time for her own children to attend school she moved to Scottsville so that they could attend a small school. She states that children do better both academically and behaviorally at small schools.

Mrs. Jennifer Paige is a parent of a child at Scottsville, and moved there specifically to find the smaller school and smaller community as compared to Charlottesville. She spoke about communities and how important they are since the children make a connection to the community through the school and will return as adults to aid the community.

Mrs. Walteen Eubanks is a retired teacher from Yancey and speaks on behalf of the Esmont community. State that to remove a school spells doom for any community; the property value, tax base, and businesses will be affected as well as the County. To close Yancey and Scottsville will have an immediate impact on the children and will hurt them the most. She presented letters to the Board from members of the community

Mrs. Anne Farris is a retired teacher from Red Hill. She believes that commitment, continuity, and community have been woven into the three schools and supports Red Hill remaining open.

Mr. Carter Conrad was a former student at Scottsville High School as it was being closed. He says that he had a profound sense of loss and isolation when he was moved to the larger Albemarle High School. He

believes the Scottsville community never recovered from the closure of the high school and does not want to see the same thing happen to Scottsville Elementary.

Mr. John Snoddy is the Vice Mayor of the Town of Scottsville and read a resolution passed by the Town of Scottsville in regards to Scottsville Elementary. He states that the loss of the school would be a great loss to the citizens of the town, and that the Scottsville Town Council requests that the School Board keep open all three schools.

Mrs. McKeel suggested that the Board readjust the agenda so that all of public comment could be heard. She suggested that the Board pull the Policy Review and Revision agenda item that is being presented for information. Ms. Kim said that would be fine. Mrs. McKeel suggested that the Board move the retreat re-cap to another meeting. She asked that the Gifted Advisory Committee be allowed to present prior to finishing public comment. **There was Board consensus to do this.**

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

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Gifted Advisory Committee Report.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Wavering, Chairman of the Gifted Advisory Committee, summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mr. Price said that he is disappointed in the number of minority students being identified as Gifted. He asked how the Committee's recommendation is tied into the disparity among minority students, and asked for an explanation for why the disparity existed. Mrs. McKeel asked what they recommended to do differently, since the current process was not working. Mr. Johnson stated that using an additional test in conjunction with the Cogat Test due to the questions of cultural biases of the tests should help. In addition, to conduct the fourth grade screening and perhaps a screening that is more projects based than assessment based. They also need to identify what they are identifying for within the program, currently Albemarle identifies for general intellectual and they could expand that into other categories. Another recommendation is to come up with metrics to aid in tracking the history of students and create a pool of students and then working with that pool. Another recommendation is the easily understandable brochure in multiple languages. Mr. Wavering added that the paperwork was hefty, intimidating, and cumbersome to push through. Therefore, a lot of the recommendations are geared towards working with simpler paperwork and community to engage them in the process easier.

Mr. Price stated that he was not convinced the recommendations would work and putting it in layman's terms sends a message that the information had to be dumb downed for the minority community. He is interested in studying the local plan to see if they are really going after the right students, and that the burden should really rest on the teachers to identify the gifted students.

Mrs. McKeel supported the recommendation of a presentation to everyone during back to school night instead of an earlier meeting with a select group of people. She also would like to know what will happen next. Mr. Johnson stated that they wanted to make sure there was continuity from the recommendations now into the future, hence the extension of committee terms. Mr. Wheeler observed a lot of parallels in the gifted education program and in the special education program.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment Continued.

Mr. Clark Draper is a resident and the Town Administrator of Scottsville. He is also the parent of two elementary school children he believes will be adversely impacted by the school consolidation plan. He states that the consolidation plan is contrary to the Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan. He states that the proposed school does not meet the comprehensive plan's guidelines for the site, enrollment size, and upkeep of rural schools.

Mrs. Kristin Billings is the Scottsville Elementary School PTO President. She stated that she was disappointed in the options presented in the plans since they did not show improvement on behalf of the teachers and students, and that there was no true savings presented by the plans. She stated that a larger school will actually limit the resources available to the students since more students will be competing for those resources.

Mr. Kelly Eppely is a parent of two students who attended Red Hill. He stated that the bottom line fiscally is the proposed school will only save one percent of the budget, and that amount is not worth the changes to the system.

Mr. Remy Indebetou stated that small community schools engage students and perform better than larger ones. He submitted 1,345 names, addresses, and signatures that state the small schools are the best option for Albemarle County. He urged the Board to keep the three schools open.

Mr. Wheeler stated that there was no specific proposal for action in front of the Board for action, and a recommendation will come sometime in August and action will be taken in the future.

Mr. Bill Goldeen is a founder of Zephyrus, an early music chamber choir, and addressed the Western Feeder Pattern Music program. He thanked the Board for their search for a music director at Henley, but was disappointed in the schedule for the position, and that where there was a band director also directing the choir, the choirs have been deteriorating. He also hoped to see a director for Western Albemarle High School. He would like the Board to reconsider their decision to not allow advertisement of Zephyrus concerts on school property.

Ms. Shira Goldeen is a rising freshman that just graduated from Henley. She stated that the choir at Western has suffered since the Band Director took the additional position of Choir Director.

Mrs. Martha Redinger stated that Charlottesville community is thriving in part due to the music industry, but some County children do not have any education in music. She recommended coordinating middle and high school schedules to allow for full-time staff and full oversight of the music programs, offering a seminar to determine staffing needs, install a mandatory elective in the arts during middle school, and separate the topics of music and fine arts.

Mr. Larry Bishop is the stepfather of rising sixth and eighth graders at Henley and is concerned about music education. He spoke about the importance of music education in personal values and intellectual achievement.

Mrs. Nancy Paulson is a member of Music Matters. The group's interest has grown to over 150 individuals, and submitted a petition with approximately 650 signatures calling for a recommitment to music in Albemarle County schools. She stated the schools and administration need to view the fine arts as part of the core curriculum, and this will promote schedule and staff adjustments. She requested the middle school schedule be changed, an increase in funding for staff, a required music course and language for all middle school students, and hold principals accountable to concrete goals.

Dr. Rick Turner is the President of the Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP. He questioned why the Albemarle County School Division did not address the ratio of having only one black principal in the 25 schools during its recent hiring of three new principals. He claimed that the school division continues to engage in racially exclusive hiring practices.

Mr. Steve Hunter is the parent of two children one at Meriwether, one at Henley. He stated that the population at Henley has increased while the enrollment in the music programs there has declined and that music is a core component to education.

Reverend Sylvester Turner is the Pastor of New Green Mountain Baptist Church in Esmont. He spoke in opposition of the closing of Red Hill, Scottsville, and Yancey Elementary Schools.

Mrs. Sibley Johns is the executive director of the Music Resource Center. She urged the continued funding of school music programs in the future. She cited that music training aids underachievers and received higher marks in standardized tests.

Ms. Ally Nicholson is a rising ninth grader at Western. She has been involved in music most of her life and enjoyed choir, but will not be participating in choir at Western since there is no competitive option for her there.

Ms. Sarah Cushing is a rising ninth grader at Western. She stated that music and choir has been important in her life, and does not feel that the choir program at Western is as strong as it should be.

Ms. Elaina Joans is a rising ninth grader at Western. She stated that she learned a lot about singing in middle school and participates in a singing group outside of school, but she feels that the choir program at Western is weak and needs to be improved to be on par with other schools.

Mrs. Sally Cushing is in attendance to present the Music Matters petition. It stated that music provides significant contributions to intellectual development and is essential for a well rounded education. The organization calls for action with the 650 signatures on the petition.

Mr. James Toban is an alumnus of Burley Middle School and Albemarle High School, went on to receive a Master's in Performance, and is engaged as a clinician by every county band program except for Henley. He stated that all of the programs are struggling due to the fact the directors are teaching dual programs.

Mrs. Linda Hahn is a parent of two students in the Albemarle County system, and both have been in music education programs since preschool. She stated that music should be a core class and was disappointed that Western only offers a class during the zero-period when there is no transportation provided. She stated that music needs to be made a priority in the school system.

Mr. Wheeler thanked everyone for their comments. There was a break from 8:51 p.m. until 9:09 p.m.

Mr. Wheeler asked if there were any additional public comments.

Mr. Edward Brooks is a resident of Esmont with three children that attended Monticello. He stated that he is in agreement with all that was said against the closing of the three schools in the Southern Feeder pattern. He suggested the Gifted Program garner help from Paula White, who led the Gifted Program at Yancey.

Mrs. Peggy Scott is the grandparent of a student at Monticello. She expressed concern that the three schools have been targeted for closure every decade over the past thirty years.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. ARRA – Title Funds FY 2009-2010

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to request the Board of Supervisors to appropriate the ARRA funds in the amount of \$3,392,591.72. Mr. Price **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Approval of Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs Application

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion on this item.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Approval of Title I, Part C, Education of Migratory Children Application

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion of this item.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Approval of Title II, Part A, Teacher Quality Application

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion of this item.

Agenda Item No. 8.6. Approval of Title II, Part D, Educational Technology Application

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion of this item.

Agenda Item No. 8.7. Approval of Title III, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students Application.

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion of this item.

Agenda Item No. 8.8. Approval of Title IV, Part A, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Application.

Mr. Nash summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. There was no Board discussion of this item.

There was Board consensus to put the Title applications on the next consent agenda for approval.

Agenda Item No. 8.9. Request to Name Henley Band Room.

Dr. Benson summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mrs. Mouly offered a **motion** to approve the request to name the Henley Band Room after Gary Fagan. Mr. Stokes **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Wheeler asked staff to extend the Board's thanks to the Perriello family for their contribution in making the name change possible.

Agenda Item No. 8.10. Break. Taken earlier in the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8.11. Policy Review and Revision.

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8.12. Policy Review and Revision.

Ms. Kim summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mr. Koleszar asked if there was a reason that they had to have court review of Board actions that in policy. Ms. Kim answered that it had to be there since falls under the Standards of Quality in the State Code, it has to be in the policy manual. The Board did not have a policy that spoke directly to this before.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** that the Board adopt the proposed revisions to policies KL and KLA in an expedited fashion. Mr. Price **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 8.13. School Board Salary Public Hearing and Action.

Mr. Wheeler opened the public hearing for the School Board Salary. Hearing no input, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to set the School Board Member salary for 2009/10 at \$5,912 with a chairman stipend of \$1,800 and a vice-chairman stipend of \$35 per meeting chaired. Mrs. Mouly **seconded** the meeting, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 8.14. Use of Board Reserve for Community Outreach.

Dr. Moran summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mr. Stokes asked if the position would come out of the 2009 budget and the 2010 budget. Dr. Moran stated that the Board Reserve moves forward and that there was an additional reserve added in for the 2009/2010 budget cycle. She spoke to Mr. Zimmermann, who indicated that the position could be funded with the exception of about \$3000 of salary that would come out of fund balance next year, but the following year that small amount would need to be placed in the budget for 2010/2011. Mr. Stokes asked if this would take up the Board Reserve, and Dr. Moran answered yes.

Mr. Stokes asked why the position was not requested as part of the budget process to be full-time. Dr. Moran stated that the position was reduced to zero during the budget process, and then the Board had discussion and directed staff to bring the position to half-time, then at the retreat discussion emerged with focus from the Board to make the position full-time. She stated that it is a position where they have built depth over the past few years and finding a person to start over at half-time would be difficult. There have also been gaps that the Board has been concerned over with productivity work in the community around volunteerism and business partnerships, so the staff was asked at the retreat to present information about making that position full-time.

Mrs. McKeel asked Mr. Zimmermann how much Board Reserve would be remaining. Mr. Zimmermann replied that there would be none. Mrs. McKeel said that during the last meeting there was a different amount indicated in Board Reserve. Mr. Wheeler stated that, at the time, they thought they had enough money to fully fund the position. Mr. Zimmermann replied that he only had \$50,000 prior to losing the computer file. Mr. Wheeler stated that their figures showed at least \$100,000. Mr. Zimmermann stated that to make the position full-time would run approximately \$53,000.

Mr. Wheeler asked Mrs. Johnston if she had access to the notes from the prior meeting. Mr. Price stated that in the January Board book they only had \$50,000 in Board Reserve for 08/09, and \$51,569 for 09/10. Mrs. McKeel stated that they had additional money rolled into the Board Reserve. Mr. Zimmermann stated that they would have a Board Reserve of about \$117,000, and part of that was taken out to fund the position half-time. There should be just under \$70,000 remaining after funding the position 100%.

Mr. Wheeler stated that the Board Reserve could cover the position. Mr. Zimmermann corrected Mr. Wheeler stating that it would cover next year since this year's was non-recurring.

Mr. Zimmermann stated that this will require an additional action on the Board's part to approve this since it is not an actual appropriation.

Mr. Wheeler stated that staff was stating the Board Reserve had enough money to fully fund the position. Mrs. Moynihan wanted to ensure that the numbers are correct prior to voting. Mr. Zimmermann stated that all they would be approving tonight would be the concept not the appropriation of funds.

There was Board consensus to bring the information back at the next meeting for approval.

Agenda Item No. 8.15. ARRA – State Stimulus Funds FY 2009-10.

Mr. Zimmermann summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mrs. Mouly asked about a listing for machinery and equipment for model classrooms. Dr. Brown replied that it included electronic whiteboards, document cameras, a computer for each classroom, response system for each classroom, and enhanced audio systems for each classroom. Mrs. Mouly asked if 56 model classrooms was the correct number. Dr. Brown affirmed that there were 56 across the Division, but primarily at Albemarle High and Brownsville Elementary.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the budget as provided and request the Board of Supervisors to amend the appropriation ordinance accordingly. Mr. Price **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 8.16. Recap of Retreat Discussion.

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

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

Mr. Koleszar received an email from Albemarle High School stating how wonderful the *Language!* program was. He looked at the data and it showed average growth as 38% of students were losing ground (they gained one year or less) and in Special Education students it was 50%. The data also showed that 50% of the ESOL students gained two years or more, but it did not seem to be working effectively with the other students. He stated that he would send the information to the Board so they could examine it.

Dr. Moran stated that the schools are in the process of re-evaluating *Language!*. In some cases they get better results, in other cases it looks much more flat. There are a couple of middle schools that are going to pilot an alternative to *Language!* that will be funded in the Special Education department through the stimulus money. The program is called *Read 180*. *Read 180*, unlike *Language!* has a technology component that allows the student to work in a technology piece, a guided reading piece, and then an independent practice piece. There are schools across the state that have shown success, so Albemarle would like to try it out and create some comparative data.

Mrs. Mouly appreciated the article included in the packet from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. The author of the article states that teachers do not have real authentic choices with real consequences due to the top down effect of the standards and that sends a message to the students that is not a good message when they see that their teachers do not have the ability to make decisions. Mrs. Mouly stated that the article was worthy of thought and consideration. Mr. Wheeler asked the title of the article, Mrs. Mouly replied, "Democracy at Risk."

Mrs. McKeel expressed concern about the County's process where at Albemarle High School they have an auditorium that has just been renovated, and a lighting system that in the weeks leading up to West Side Story it took 100 man hours to keep it running. According to Faye Cunningham, they had to hire somebody to stand by it during every show so that when it failed someone would be there to fix it. Mrs. McKeel does not understand why the antiquated lighting system was not included as a part of the renovation. Dr. Moran replied that when they go into a renovation there are certain parts that are specified for renovation and other parts that are not. In past years, when it emerged that there would be funding remaining those areas would be addressed. The idea is that parts considered as essential are renovated, but things that are considered to be value added are not renovated. What they have learned from the process, is that when they enter into a renovation they need to look at the full scope what they need to address and determine what parts are essential and what parts are alternate additions. The Board should be presented with the full scope analysis when going through CIP, which has not been the process

in the past. Mrs. McKeel stated that they need to address the process, because it is not fiscally sound to pay people 100 hours or hire people to stay on standby during a production. Mrs. Moynihan stated that the lighting system is an integral part of the auditorium and should not be considered value added. Dr. Moran stated that when the auditorium was looked at years ago, the system was declared as “operational,” and when the value-added engineers looked at it, they decided that it was operational and similar in scope to what was in place at Western Albemarle. Mrs. Moynihan asked what year that the studies for the renovations were conducted. Dr. Moran stated she was unsure of when the evaluations were conducted, but they typically pre-date the work by about five years. Mr. Stokes brought up that this was looked at during the Resource Utilization Study and that there was no process at that time.

Mr. Price stated that he was overwhelmed by the supportive emails sent in response to the classroom that was aired on the Schilling Show.

Mr. Wheeler stated that he neglected to read a resolution at the time the Board motioned for the Henley Band Room to be named in honor of Gary Fagan. He then read the resolution into the record.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.

Mr. Price 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 the performance and salary of the Superintendent. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting.

Mr. Price 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 open meeting requirements by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting. Mrs. Mouly **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mr. Price; Mrs. Mouly; Mrs. Moynihan; Mr. Koleszar; Mr. Koleszar; and Mr. Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mrs. McKeel

Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment

At 11:18 p.m., Mr. Price offered a **motion** to adjourn the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mrs. McKeel absent.**

Chairman

Clerk