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

A Regular Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on January 28, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., Room 241, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Brian Wheeler; Mr. Stephen Koleszar (arrived at 6:30 p.m.); Mrs. Diantha McKeel; Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Mr. Eric Strucko; and Mr. Ronnie Price.

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Bruce Benson, Assistant Superintendent for Planning and System Planning; Mr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Luvelle Brown, Executive Chief Information Officer; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Executive Director of Fiscal Services; Dr. Matt Haas, Director of Secondary Education; Ms. Annie Kim, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item 1.1. Call to Order.

At 6:05 p.m. Mr. Price, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance.
Agenda Item No. 1.3. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Agenda.

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Koleszar absent.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
3.2 Personnel Action
3.3 Donation to Albemarle High School Synthetic Turf Field
3.4 Re-appropriation of Computer Equipment Replacement Funds
3.5 June 2009 Audited Year End Financial Report
3.6 November 2009 and December 2009 Financial Reports
3.7 Personnel Actions
3.8 Policy Review and Revision

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Koleszar absent.**

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Mr. Haun said that on February 15th and 16th, Rick and Becky DuFour would be in Albemarle County to provide staff development on Professional Learning Community work.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. School Board/Superintendent Business. None.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. Records Retention for Board Members.

Mr. Price introduced Ms. Anita Vannucci, Records Management Analyst for the Library of Virginia. Ms. Vannucci provided the Board with an overview on records retention for Board members.

Board members asked that Mrs. Johnston bring back a recommendation to the Board regarding retention of correspondence, including email.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. Standards Based Learning.

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

Mrs. Moynihan asked if we have started to look at some of these different ways of teaching and implementing it in the classroom. Dr. Moran said that we have been doing this for years.

Mrs. Moynihan asked if new teachers were taught these ways of teaching. Mr. Haun said that we have a group of teachers that are teaching this way. Once the new student information system is in place all teachers will be moving towards this type of teaching.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with an overview of the work that the vertical teams are doing with curriculum and content work.

Mr. Wheeler asked if there are other school divisions around the state that we look at for best practices. Mr. Haun said that Colorado is the state that has been leading in this area, and we get a lot of information from them. He feels that we are ahead in the State. Dr. Moran said that Virginia Beach, Chesterfield and Manassas City are doing work in this area too.

Agenda Item No. 7.3. Break.

There was a break from 7:52 p.m. until 8:06 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 7.4. FY 2010/11 Budget Worksession.

Mr. Zimmermann summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. He provided a handout on the presentation that would be covered during the meeting. He said that the work session would cover the following areas: personnel and operational reductions; class size reductions; elementary, middle and high school staffing; learning resource reductions; athletics; and reduction in force/furloughs.

Mr. Zimmermann provided a broad overview of the personnel and operational reductions in the Superintendent's Funding Request. Dr. Moran said that over the last three years central office staffing has been reduced by 26 positions.

Mr. Strucko asked about the enrollment figures. Mr. Zimmermann said that average daily membership is a number that is used by the state to generate funding for schools. It is not the number that the division uses to staff schools. From a 10-day to a projected 10-day it is projected that there will be a reduction of 10 students.

Mrs. Moynihan asked how many of the positions reduced in central office where taken out of central office and moved to another location such as a school. Mr. Zimmermann said that these are straight reductions in positions. Dr. Moran said that a person could have moved to a vacant position within the division. The people might have moved but not the position.

Mr. Wheeler asked if it was staff's assessment that we would not get another bump in private school transfers. Dr. Moran said that we could but we do not know.

Mr. Haun introduced Jay Thomas, Jim Asher, and Kim Cousins, who discussed with the Board how the recommendations of the Superintendent's Funding Request will impact their schools including class size.

Mr. Wheeler asked about the value of elementary Spanish and what would happen if it was eliminated. Ms. Cousins said that it would allow for additional instructional time in core content areas. Foreign language is important in elementary school but she feels another method of delivery should be explored.

Mrs. Moynihan asked if Mr. Thomas was looking at reducing foreign language time. Mr. Thomas said no, he was looking for areas where there was under- enrollment for potential areas for reductions in staffing.

Mrs. Moynihan said that she remembers during a work session that the Board discussed looking at other delivery methods for Spanish at the elementary level. Has this been looked into further? Ms. Cousins said that she has discussed with Ms. Agee at Walton the use of Rosetta Stone.

Mrs. McKeel said that she has heard from parents that the elementary Spanish program currently used is outdated and no received well. Mr. Haun said that he hears that the program is okay for the K-2 students but when you get past there it is not engaging toward those students.

Mrs. Moynihan asked how band is the situation with the Strings program at Walton. Mr. Asher said that the program is under-enrolled. It is difficult to find a teacher to work for the portion of time that is needed. Mr. Haun said that there has been discussion about sharing staff for these positions.

Mr. Haun provided the Board with an overview on the reductions in learning resources.

Mrs. Mouly said that we should be encouraging the use of on-line and electronic resources.

Mr. Wheeler said that he would support not purchasing the additional elementary Spanish textbooks that would finish the phase in.

Mr. Price stopped the budget discussion to hear public comment.

Dr. Haas provided an overview of the recommendations for athletics. He also introduced Brud Bicknell from Monticello High School.

Mr. Strucko asked about the $75 fee and the reaction of parents. Mr. Bicknell said that a lot of students play a sport competitively for the first time at the high school level or if they have played it is for local recreation leagues that do not travel around much.

Mrs. McKeel said that we need to be clear in our communications about these recommendations. She is hearing questions about why is Albemarle being treated differently than Monticello and Western Albemarle. Dr. Haas said that the size of Albemarle is the reason why 9th grade sports are not being eliminated because with the larger population 9th grade students are less likely to make JV sports teams at Albemarle.

Mr. Wheeler asked how dropping the two 9th grade programs at Monticello and Western Albemarle would impact scheduling. Mr. Bicknell said that it is difficult to schedule that level games for Monticello and Western Albemarle.

Dr. Benson and Ms. Kim provided an overview of reduction in force and furloughs.

Mr. Wheeler said that furloughs would be something that needed to be done in year 2 and it is easier to communicate.

Mr. Zimmermann said that straight salary reductions are feasible.

Mr. Strucko said that we need to think about the impact of children not being in school for a week would have on families.

Ms. Kim provided the Board with information on draft language that may be used to amend the reduction in force policy. Board members agreed that staff could look at making revisions to the reduction in force policy.

Mr. Strucko asked if the 8-period day could be accelerated to next year. Mr. Haun said that two of the three high school principals have been asking for this for several years. The principals are going to develop a mock schedule to see what it would look like. There is a strong consensus across two of the high schools that this is the way to go. He said that it could be done in the next year; it would require staff to go back and do some things with registration.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Public Comment (heard out of sequence).

Mr. Peter Wurzer said that he has been around awhile. One of the things that came out of the resource utilization study was the idea of staffing for content area. Has this been looked at? Secondly, he has listened to discussions about synchronizing the high school schedules, and if this is the opportunity to help with class sizes then the Board should look at this as a possible idea.

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

Mr. Koleszar said that the Audit Committee met today. The audit shows that we have a well managed finance department.

Mr. Koleszar said that there was an Access Albemarle meeting this week. The Board of Supervisors will not be using Access Albemarle for their budget this year as previously expected.

Mr. Koleszar provided an update on what was discussed at the PREP meeting this week as well.

Mrs. Moynihan said that the CATEC Board met last week and she was elected as the vice-chairman of that board.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.

Mr. Strucko 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 consult with legal counsel and staff regarding pending employment litigation and personal injury litigation, and to consult with legal counsel regarding a contract for telecommunications leasing. Mr. Wheeler **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting.

Mr. Strucko offered a **motion** that the Board certify by recorded vote that to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters 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. Wheeler **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mrs. McKeel; Mr. Wheeler; Mrs. Moynihan; Mr. Strucko; Mr. Koleszar; Mr. Price; and Mrs. Mouly.
NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment

At 10:44 p.m., Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to adjourn the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Chairman

Clerk