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 December 10, 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 Operations and System Planning; Mr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Luvelle Brown, Chief Information Officer; Ms. Annie Kim, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call to Order.

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

Mrs. McKeel 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 Donation to the Albemarle High Turf Project
3.3 Donation to Henley Middle School
3.4 Virginia Commission for the Arts Grant
3.5 Kids Care Clubs Grant – Yancey
3.6 Child Obesity Task Force Grant – Scottsville
3.7 State Farm Grant – Agnor Hurt
3.8 National Board Incentive Bonus Payments
3.9 Release from Compulsory Attendance
3.10 Comprehensive High School Program of Studies
3.11 School Fees
3.12 Personnel Action
3.13 Personnel Action
3.14 October 2009 Financial Reports
3.15 Donation to Red Hill Elementary School
3.16 Donation to VSBA Green Schools Award
3.17 Donation to Sutherland Middle School

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

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements. None.
Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment. None.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board and Superintendent Business.

Dr. Moran said that we have been trying to build a relationship with realtors. She asked Mrs. McKeel to discuss the partnership. Mrs. McKeel said that staff had a productive meeting with realtors, and we are planning for a realtor tour on February 3rd. We will be visiting three schools. More information will be provided when the date gets closer.

Dr. Moran said that we work to educate the whole child. One of the areas is when we think about our core values is when we are made aware of the need to give back to the community. We have every school in the division has been working hard to be involved in service activities that are giving back to those in need. She spoke about the leadership team participation in Toy Lift and the work with other organizations.

Ms. June Jenkins provided the Board with information on the Safe School/Healthy Students Grant.

Mr. Haun said that staff has been reviewing school improvement plans. It is important to have these plans address the School Board/Superintendent Priorities.

Mrs. McKeel reminded CATEC board members of the meeting next Tuesday.

Mr. Wheeler recognized and thanked Mr. Stokes for his service on the Board. Mr. Stokes' term will end December 31, 2009.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Legislative Packet Follow-up: Revenue Sharing and Composite Index

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

Ms. Mary Huffard Kegley Scott said that the other initiatives that were discussed at the meeting with legislators are ready to go; the decision regarding composite index will be added once a decision is made tonight.

Dr. Benson said that staff estimates \$2.6M or \$2.7M if the composite index was adjusted to take into account the revenue sharing agreement with the City of Charlottesville.

Mr. Wheeler provided an overview of the budget amendment and how it does not take into account the revenue sharing agreement with the City of Charlottesville.

Mr. Stokes asked if the Board was asking Delegate Bell to put in a budget amendment asking that the composite index adequately reflect the revenues that Albemarle County is receiving. He asked if it mentioned what the City of Charlottesville was receiving. Mr. Wheeler said it does not but Delegate Bell was clear that his approach would involve drafting a budget amendment that took those funds from the City of Charlottesville. The alternative approach as suggested by Delegate Toscano was to take a small amount of funds from other jurisdictions except Charlottesville. Mr. Stokes said that it is up to Delegate Bell on how he wants to approach it. Mr. Koleszar said that his feeling is that Delegate Toscano's approach would fail. It would be appropriate to take Delegate Bell's approach. He does not think that when the agreement was signed, those involved were not aware of how large the amount of money would get. In addition, the City is more vibrant and financially viable now. Mrs. Mouly asked if those who studied the agreement, what was contemplated in terms of future changes. Dr. Benson said that they cannot find anything that shows what the impact on education funding would be in terms of state revenue. Mr. Wheeler said that he and Ned Michie spoke about this matter and Mr. Buck – who was mayor – was aware of the education funding. This budget amendment would go against the spirit of the agreement. Mrs. McKeel said that she sees the revenue sharing agreement and the composite index as two separate issues. She said that you could make an argument that the formula recognizes the intent; you could make an argument for the opposite. This is not an easy decision for the School Board to make. Mr. Wheeler said that it does not impact the revenue sharing agreement.

Mr. Stokes said that at the last joint meeting there was discussion about determining the tax base of the land. We are not getting the taxes that the state thinks we are getting because of land use decisions made locally. Are we going to do a similar request about the land use issue? Mr. Wheeler said that the Board of Supervisors is going to ask for that in their legislative packet.

Mr. Wheeler said that Mr. Rooker said that the approach of pursuing the land use amendment was preferred over the School Board's request. Mrs. McKeel asked for clarification. Mr. Wheeler said that approval was going to be difficult. He then continued to summarize the discussion that took place at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mr. Koleszar said that Delegate Toscano suggested that the City and County should review the revenue sharing agreement. He agrees that we should look at the best ways to cooperate.

Mr. Koleszar said that he supports the proposal, but we also need to look at the agreement and what needs to be done to have a healthy relationship between the two localities.

Mrs. Moynihan said that she agrees mostly with Mr. Koleszar. The revenue sharing agreement is the elephant in the room. We are affected by it. We need to be cooperating better. Cooperation has been superficial while she has been on the Board. She feels that this will make both parties take another look at the agreement and what it means to both localities. She said that she has thought about how this will impact the relationship with the Charlottesville School Board, but she has to look at it in terms of how it impacts our students. She is willing to meet the City half way, and it is time to work together.

Mr. Price thinks that mutual collaboration would be a better route to go. We have a fiduciary responsibility on this Board. He is concerned that Delegate Toscano wants to protect one side of his constituency and the other one out. There are no winners when we share. The bottom line is what is best for the kids.

Mrs. Mouly said that her sense is that the City School Board would feel obliged to fight against this legislation but would not take it personally. She wonders what fall out may come from the legislators. Delegate Bell must have some sense of support for such an amendment but she does not have a sense as to if it would succeed.

Mrs. McKeel said that she is concerned that if our entire delegation is not behind the amendment then it may not succeed. We do not know where Senator Deeds would stand on this issue. In weighing the decision, if we are not confident that it will go anywhere is it worth the hard feelings. Would it be advantageous to put this on hold and meet with the City School Board to further discuss this issue? Mr. Stokes asked where the discussion would lead. They have a revenue surplus, and it is because of the County giving them money. Mr. Stokes asked if the issue is bigger than the School Board. We represent the citizens of Albemarle County and we need money. This is one way of pursuing getting additional funds.

Mr. Wheeler said that he has spoken to many people about this issue. He is not surprised that the City will fight this legislation. There has also been more talk about cooperation and what can be done together better. He feels that the Board of Supervisors understands our pain, and the City School Board understands why we are asking for this. He has come to the conclusion that this is not the right time to pursue the budget amendment. He would like to see the two School Boards get together and see where there are areas for cooperation among the two divisions.

Mr. Koleszar said that the revenue sharing agreement has increasingly weighed on him as being unfair to the County. The attitude of the City to get over it does not set well with him. We need to have a dialogue about the issue. We are providing more than the City needs since they have a surplus.

Mrs. Mouly said that the agreement notes that it could change if the City and County agree to change the agreement. If we are comparing money to money, then we should be comparing the revenue sharing agreement with the change in the composite index. She does not see how to compare it to goodwill. She is not sure that she is ready to back off from the issue this year.

Mrs. McKeel said that we have to be careful when we speak about the money that we need. The issue is a multi-prong problem. The Board of Supervisors has other ways to increase revenue. Even if this passes, we are not solving all of our problems.

Mr. Stokes said that if it is tabled, what are we hoping to accomplish. Mrs. McKeel said that she is interested in having the dialogue but she is not sure what they could do to help. Mr. Wheeler said that we have not had those conversations. To him, it could a discussion about consolidating school divisions. He does not think that the discussion or action would lead to renegotiating the revenue sharing agreement. He thinks future conversations will be more difficult if the Board goes forward with the budget amendment. Mrs. Moynihan said that the agreement says that we should be looking at areas of cooperation and areas for potential consolidation. Mr. Wheeler said that they have looked at areas and decided not to consolidate. Mrs. Moynihan said that she sees us being two separate jurisdictions with no discussion on ways to work together. Mr. Wheeler said that it is risky to put the amendment forward. We are the leaders of the School Division and if we want to cooperate more with the City then we need to start those discussions.

Mrs. McKeel said that she remembers a few years ago, the Board looking at combining with the City Schools to save on health insurance but the reality was that it would cost more to consolidate insurance. We have to be careful when proposing ideas.

Mr. Stokes said that he was on the fence until it was stated that the agreement would not be reopened. The composite index should take into account what the City is getting.

Mr. Price said that if legislation could be focused on the composite index calculation taking into account revenue sharing agreements. If we do not do this now, he does not see it going forward next year.

Mr. Wheeler said that if you vote in favor of the amendment, then you have to believe that it will pass. If you do not believe that it will pass, then you should vote against the amendment.

Mr. Price said that he disagrees. This is not going against the revenue sharing agreement; it is asking that the composite index be an accurate reflection. They are two separate issues.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to request Delegate Bell to move forward with the budget amendment. Moynihan **seconded** the motion. **The motion passed with Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Stokes and Mrs. McKeel voting no.**

Agenda Item No. 8.2. Virginia's Race to the Top Grant Application

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

Mrs. Mouly asked how you adopt a set of standards but still hold on to another. Dr. Moran said that she sees them being mapped to the state standards and if there is a gap then they could bring in the national standards.

Dr. Moran asked if the Board was okay with Mr. Wheeler and herself signing the memorandum of understanding. Mrs. Mouly said that she is concerned about national standards. Dr. Moran said that all nations have national standards, and it will be a challenge to get all to agree to the national standards. We are trying to increase the rigor and relevance of the work that students are doing.

Mrs. Moynihan asked how much money is there a potential to get. Dr. Moran said that we have the opportunity to get some individual money for the County and the potential to get some additional state money. How much money is available will be done through a formula. Is the money tied to No Child Left Behind? Dr. Moran said it is coming out of the Department of Education through ARRA funds.

Mrs. Moynihan said if we get some of this money, will the division be able to determine where to use it. Dr. Moran said that we will have the capability to describe the areas where we would like to do additional work. There may be some areas that the State may ask for some help in an area.

There was Board consensus for Mr. Wheeler to sign the application along with Dr. Moran.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Break (Taken prior to Item 8.2)

There was a break from 7:54 p.m. until 8:10 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Mid-Year Review

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

Mr. Wheeler suggested that the date of the data be provided on the charts and information.

Mr. Koleszar said that the pictures scrolling in the background are distracting. Mr. Price said that he likes to pictures, maybe slow them down.

Mrs. McKeel said that it would be nice to know how many students are chronically tardy.

Mr. Price said that there needs to be more focus on retention in Goal 3 priorities.

Mr. Wheeler said that the availability to search and have the results come back to a clickable result. It also comes across as two different silos of information. It would be good to build in links between the two sites.

Mrs. Moynihan asked if the department goals and metrics are being tied to performance appraisals. Dr. Benson said that these are new to the departments. Staff is working to figure out how they will enter into performance across the department. Mr. Price said that he thinks that work will be made easier with a human capital management system.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Revisions to Personnel Policy

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

There was Board consensus to place this item on the next consent agenda for approval.

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

Mr. Koleszar said that Dr. Haas said that there are a lot of students that bounce from school to school. We need to work on a strategy that those students who are highly mobile are supported by allowing them to stay in the school that they are currently attending.

Mr. Stokes said that it has been a privilege to serve on the School Board and to work with staff. He looks forward to continuing to be involved in Albemarle County schools.

Dr. Benson said that he received a resignation from Darren Collins.

Mr. Wheeler thanked the Board for letting him serve as Chair of the Board for the last two years.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting. None.
Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting. None.

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment.

At 9:41p.m., Mr. Stokes offered a **motion** to adjourn the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board. Mr. Price **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Chairman

Clerk