

An Organizational Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on January 14, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

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

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Bruce Benson, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Systems Planning; Mr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Luvelle Brown, Chief Information Officer; Dr. Matt Haas, Director of Secondary Education; Ms. Kimberly Suyes, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Joe Letteri, Director of Building Services; Ms. Annie Kim, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

### **Agenda Item No.1.1. Closed Meeting.**

At 5:15 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 appointees to the long-range advisory and school health advisory committees; and subsection 7 to consult with staff about litigation regarding the condemnation of real property. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item No. 1.2 Commendations.**

At 5:45 p.m. the Board held a reception to recognize the individuals below.

1. For over twenty years, the Virginia Model United Nations Conference (VAMUN) has been hosted by the International Relations Organization (IRO) at the University of Virginia. In November 2009, Monticello High School students received the most awards since they began participating in the MUN conference. The following students were awarded verbal commendations:

- **Connor MacDonnell** and **Patrick MacDonnell** who represented Israel on DISEC
- **Sean Knightly** and **Max Hoffman** who represented Japan in ECOFIN
- **Dominic Scerbo** who represented Japan in ESCAP crisis committee

The following student was awarded honorable mention:

- **Joe Genest** who was the Minister of Narcotic Control in the Paskistani Cabinet

The following students were awarded as outstanding delegates:

- **Christine Wener** who was Justice Stephen Breyer on the US Supreme Court
- **Samantha Lin** who was Fritz Beyerlein, head of Nazi Panzer Divisions in the Normandy simulation

2. **Melissa Anderson**, systems coordinator for the School Division, was recognized with the Region 5 Educational Technology Leadership Award during Virginia Tech's Educational Technology Conference. The educational technology leadership awards recognize individuals who demonstrate leadership by assisting school divisions in education technology planning and implementation. Recipients are chosen for their success in helping school divisions improve teaching and learning through the use of instructional media and technology.

3. Monticello High School juniors **Christine Huff** and **Danielle Scott** were awarded the only acting awards in the AA District VHSL Theater Festival. In addition, **Sophia Heinecke**, who is the playwright, was recognized for having the first original script to go to Regionals. The director is **Madeline Michel**.

4. Albemarle High School's **Jeremy Weiss** and **Brandon Blake** received best actor awards from a group of more than 100 at the Virginia Theatre Association competition. **Fay Cunningham** is the director.

5. **Graham Doby** and **Spencer Hadley** were selected to the All-Virginia Jazz Ensemble. There were only 23 students accepted from all of Virginia, and Albemarle High School was one of only three high schools in the state to admit two students to the Ensemble.

6. **Kristie Obrecht**, a teacher at Yancey Elementary School, earned her National Board Certification in Library Media.

7. Sixty-five Albemarle County high school students were selected to the 2010 All District Choir. Only 200 members are selected through an audition process from the entire District which is comprised of 17 high schools. Albemarle County students will comprise one-third of the choir. The following students are being recognized:

**Albemarle High School**

Aarati Sriram  
 Krista Edenfield  
 Naomi Miller  
 Samantha Shifflett  
 Sarah Bergstresser  
 Katya Van Eersel  
 Morgan Glennie  
 Callie Murray  
 Chiaka Chuks  
 Courtney Fraser  
 Emily Shepherd  
 Taylor Gaines  
 Austin Patterson

Tyler McPhillips  
 Joe Kellenberger  
 Alex Krone  
 Kalin Morris  
 Daniel Desmond  
 Austin Suhler  
 Cody Purvis  
 Kevin Harris  
 Austi Davies Brittany  
 Conrad Dawn Seto  
 Emily Wicks  
 Kaylee Yeatman

Kiera Kelly  
 Kiersten Lamb Kimberly  
 Morris Lindsey Nuckols  
 Naomi Wells Peyton James  
 Halley Gilbert Julia Laffond  
 Amanda Parmiter Katie  
 Kellenberger Madeline  
 Tornrose Shira Goldeen  
 Aileen Echelberger

Anna Dinwiddie Carol  
 Dougherty Chelsea Baine  
 Chelsea Reece Lizzy Ramey  
 Mackenzie Jones Maggie  
 Wilson Micaela Miller  
 Rachael Heeschen Veronica  
 O'Brien

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

At 6:33 p.m., Dr. Moran called the meeting back to order.

**Agenda Item No. 1.4. Certify Closed Meeting.**

Mr. Koleszar 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. Mrs. McKeel **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. 1.5. Pledge of Allegiance.****Agenda Item No. 1.6. Moment of Silence.****Agenda Item No. 1.7. Organizational Meeting – Election of Officers.**

Dr. Moran summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. She then opened nominations for Board Chairperson. Mrs. McKeel **nominated** Ron Price. Mr. Wheeler **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed unanimously.**

Dr. Moran then turned the meeting over to Mr. Price.

Mr. Price opened nominations for Board Vice-Chairman. Mr. Wheeler **nominated** Mr. Strucko. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed unanimously.**

Mr. Wheeler thanked the Mr. Wheeler for his service as chair for the last two years. He also welcomed Mr. Strucko to the School Board.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to appoint Jennifer Johnston as Clerk. Mr. Wheeler **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item No. 1.8. Establishment of Meeting Time, Date and Place.**

Mr. Price summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. Mrs. Johnston pointed out that there was a retreat date scheduled. Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the meeting time, dates, and place as presented. Mrs. Mouly **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

**Agenda Item No. 1.9. Appointments to the PREP and CATEC Boards.**

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

Mrs. McKeel noted that last year Mrs. Mouly indicated she may be interested in serving on the CATEC board. Mrs. Mouly said that she is not sure of her work obligations so she will pass on serving again.

Mr. Wheeler **nominated** Mrs. McKeel to serve on the CATEC board. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

Mr. Strucko **nominated** Mr. Koleszar to serve as the representative on the PREP board. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

Mr. Strucko **nominated** Mrs. McKeel to serve as the alternate on the PREP board. Mr. Wheeler **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

**Agenda Item No. 1.10. Discussion of Other Board Appointments.**

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

Mrs. McKeel asked how often the Commission on Children and Families meet. Mr. Price said that they meet about four times a year, but they also ask that you participate in a work group or a committee. The meetings typically begin at 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. McKeel **nominated** Mrs. Mouly to serve on the Commission on Children and Families. Mr. Price **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

Dr. Moran asked if there was a Board member who would be willing to serve on the Quality Council. **Mr. Strucko will serve on this Council.**

Mrs. McKeel asked about who should serve as the representative on the Charlottesville-Albemarle Public Education Fund. Mrs. Mouly said that she is not able to attend the meetings so she is not sure she should continue to serve as the alternate. **Mrs. McKeel will continue to serve as the representative. Mr. Wheeler will serve as the alternate.**

Mr. Koleszar said that he is interested in continuing to serve on the Audit Committee. Mrs. Mouly **nominated** Mr. Koleszar as the representative on the Audit Committee. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

Mrs. McKeel said that we need to fill the vacant position on the CIP Oversight Committee. Mr. Strucko said that he would be happy to serve on this committee. Mrs. McKeel **nominated** herself and Mr. Strucko to serve on the CIP Oversight Committee. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

Mrs. Mouly **nominated** Mr. Koleszar to serve as the representative on the Access Albemarle Committee. Mr. Strucko **seconded** the nomination. **The nomination passed.**

**Agenda Item. 2.1. Approval of Agenda. (Heard before the Organizational Meeting item)**

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to approve the meeting calendar as presented. Mr. Price **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

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

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Donation to Albemarle High School Turf Project
- 3.3 Approval for Amphitheatre Project at Walton Middle School
- 3.4 Release from Compulsory Attendance Student 1
- 3.5 Release from Compulsory Attendance Student 2
- 3.6 Crozet Meadows Deed of Easement
- 3.7 Revisions to Personnel Policy
- 3.8 Superintendent's Designee to Attend Board Meetings in Her Absence
- 3.9 VSBA Code of Conduct

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

**Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.**

Dr. Benson said that staff has worked with a variety of groups to gather input into the development of the Superintendent's Funding Request. We have had some creative suggestions be presented. Dr. Benson also spoke about the telephone employee forum that staff used to gather input. The forum was at no cost.

Dr. Benson said that a draft calendar will be presented to the Board in the next couple of weeks. Staff has been soliciting feedback through the website.

Mr. Haun said that Monticello High School marching band will be participating in the Inaugural Parade for the Governor.

Dr. Haas said that the High School Program of Studies has been completed. He provided the Board with a copy of the document.

**Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.**

Ms. Hannah Bailey spoke on behalf of guidance staff at Monticello High School. She spoke about the relationships that counselors create without students. The guidance department is her first line of defense when dealing with students and new teachers at the school.

Ms. Kristy Lancaster is a Henley Middle School counselor. She thanked the Board for their continued support of the counselors. She focused on the role of the counselors to teachers in the schools.

Ms. Carol Fox is a professional school counselor. She spoke about the work that counselors do in the schools. She also spoke about the responsibilities that are taken on by counselors on a daily basis.

Mr. Sherman White spoke to the Board about the Historical Black Colleges and Universities festival. It is time for the division to get on Board. He also said that all students should see the film "Locked Out" about massive resistance.

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

Dr. Moran thanked the school counselors for the work that they do in our schools.

Dr. Moran said that she attended the honors band performance this past Friday. It speaks to the commitment that we have to making sure there is an outlet for this type of interest.

Dr. Moran said that we received a number of awards for several of our schools. She recognized the schools that were recognized by the Governor and State Board of Education through their Educational Excellence Awards.

Ms. Mary Huffard Kegley Scott provided the Board with an update on the work that she is engaged in on behalf of the Board. There is a lot going on in terms of legislation related to education. Mrs. McKeel asked if it would be helpful if the Board took positions on some of the legislation. Mrs. Kegley Scott said that it would be helpful.

#### **Agenda Items No. 8.1. Request to Name Field and Gym at Burley Middle School**

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

Mr. Price read the resolution that the Board was asked to approve. Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the request to name the gym and field at Burley Middle School after Robert Smith, Clarence Jones, Albert Moore and Walter Green, respectively. Mr. Wheeler **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. James Holland thanked the Board for taking this action to honor the individuals listed in the resolution.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.2. World Peace and Other 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Achievements**

Dr. Moran introduced Mr. John Hunter, teacher at Agnor-Hurt, and Mr. Chris Farina spoke about the World Peace game that he uses with his classes at Agnor-Hurt Elementary School and the documentary that was produced around this game. He shared the film trailer with the Board. Mr. Farina provided the Board with information on the film.

Mr. Wheeler thanked and congratulated Mr. Farina on this project.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.3. Crozet Elementary School – Site Improvements Schematic & Design Development.**

Mr. Letteri summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office. He then asked the architect for the project, Jim Boyd, to provide the Board with an overview of the scope of the work.

Mrs. Mouly commended the architect for a creative solution to a problem.

Mrs. McKeel said that this project was already in progress when the CIP budget was basically eliminated. Mr. Letteri said that is correct, and the project is fully funded.

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to approve the schematic design for the Crozet Elementary School site improvements. Mr. Strucko **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.4. Break**

There was a break from 8:13 p.m. until 8:36 p.m.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.5. Albemarle County Schools Human Resources Annual Report.**

Mrs. Suyes summarized the staff report, which is on file in the School Board Office.

Mr. Wheeler said that during public comment, there was a citizen who spoke about the Historical Black Colleges and Universities festival. He asked if the Human Resources Department was involved. Mrs. Suyes said no. Dr. Moran said that she can contact Dr. Hairston for more information.

Mr. Price said that he thinks back to the meeting with the NAACP earlier this week where the speaker said that there are more minority teachers looking for positions that we are thinking due to the current economic situation. We need to continue focusing on minority recruiting. He also said that he would like to see a SMART goal for principals related to minority recruiting.

Mr. Koleszar asked how closely we follow the students in our teacher cadet programs in schools. Mrs. Suyes said that we identify students with an interest in teaching, so we identify them and follow them through college.

Mr. Wheeler said that he is not happy with the minority data either. We need to think differently how we communicate when we do not hire a minority for an administrative position. We need to ask what these new hires do with achievement gap and minority recruiting.

Mrs. Mouly asked if there was a way to dovetail minority recruiting with looking for those looking for a desire to teach. Mrs. Suyes said that we need to exhaust all options.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.6. Mid-Year Review.**

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

Mr. Wheeler said that the Balanced Scorecard needs to have the Java Script removed because it jumps around. The page is too simple for the Java Script. He said that the tag cloud is odd to have as a navigation tool and it is lost on the page. Dr. Brown said that we are working with a consultant to build it out further. Mr. Wheeler said his suggestions are simple fixes. Dr. Moran said that we may need to look at designing an app to make it work effectively.

Mr. Koleszar expressed concern that on the Balanced Scorecard there should be some metrics that are not measured quarterly. On the Annual Progress Report, he thinks the goals need to be added instead of just the goal number.

Mr. Wheeler also suggested that the Quarters be identified in terms of months.

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to receive the mid-year report. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 8.7. Policy Review and Revision.**

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

Mr. Koleszar said that on Policy GCJB, he understood that there was a requirement that high school teachers only teach five out of seven periods and that is not reflected in the policy. Mr. Haun said that the SOQs do state that they teach 5 out of 7 but there are some other options.

Mr. Koleszar said that on Policy JEC, we have a high transient student rate. The Board should look at a policy or process that allows transient students to stay in the school they start in at the beginning of the year in order to provide some stability. Ms. Kim said that he raised a good point but the McKinney Vento Act captures that in regards to students that are identified as homeless. Mr. Koleszar said that there may be times when these students are not identified as homeless. Mrs. McKeel said that Mr. Koleszar is correct. Teachers tell you that it is difficult to keep a support system in place for these students. Mr. Koleszar said that this is a discussion that should be had with the City School Board. Dr. Benson said that there is a provision for students who move after

the end of the first system where they can petition for the child to stay in the school through the end of the school year. Dr. Moran said that transportation would be an issue. Mr. Koleszar said that it would be based on real need. Mr. Wheeler said that he feels it would be difficult to administer. **There was not Board consensus for staff to research this suggestion further.** Mr. Price asked if staff could poll other divisions to see how they handle this type of situation. Mrs. Mouly asked if community organizations could be engaged to do something on a volunteer basis to help with helping these families.

Mr. Wheeler said that on Policy JEC, page 4, it speaks about tuition for students of employees. He said that if we allowed for the tuition to be lower or removed in order to add this as a benefit to employees. Can the policy be pulled in order for staff to provide some additional information? Ms. Kim said that there are some legal issues that really need to the policy to be approved then it could be amended further. Mrs. McKeel said that she would support making such a change. Dr. Benson said that there are a small number of employees that take advantage of it. Further analysis would need to be looked at in terms of fiscal impact. **There was Board consensus for staff to look at reducing tuition or removing tuition for employees and providing information on the fiscal impact of such a change.** Mrs. Moynihan asked if staff could look at allowing all out-of-district students to apply for admission to Albemarle County Schools on a space available basis in order to generate revenue.

Mrs. Moynihan asked about GQCB. She said that the language is very legal and difficult to understand. Ms. Kim said that if a teacher is working on assessment questions to be shared then Albemarle County owns it. She said that she tried to make it clearer, and it is part of the copyright law. Mrs. Moynihan asked if a teacher worked on the laptop at home then who owns the information. If the work is personal, it does not mean that the division owns it. Mr. Strucko said that it gets gray and there are many factors.

**There was Board consensus for these policies to be placed on the next consent agenda for approval.**

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

Mr. Koleszar asked that the agendas be approved as items are ready. He would like to see what items are coming up on future items. Ms. Johnston said that the agenda is built out as items are presented. The agenda could be published but items that are not approved will not be accessible.

Mrs. Mouly said that she read a book called *Reviving the Soul of Teaching*. She suggested that Board members read the book.

Mrs. McKeel said that CATEC sent out a flyer about a Haitian Relief fundraiser.

Mrs. McKeel said that she appreciated the County Student Council minutes.

Mrs. Moynihan said that the Board has received some emails from Susan Reid regarding the concerns the Woodbrook Homeowners Association has with the planned ball field at Woodbrook that the Carson Raymond Foundation is planning to put in. They are concerned with some of the improvements such as the dugouts. They are concerned with the attraction of crime and vandalism. She asked that the Board reassess this issue and hold a community forum. Mr. Price asked if there was a public meeting already. Dr. Benson said that they understand some of their concerns. Staff does want the community involved, and will continue to work on the issue. Dr. Moran said that anything built will have to go through the proper process. Mr. Strucko said that he is having trouble understanding the community concerns. It is a t-ball field. Mrs. McKeel said that the field needs to be updated because it is in terrible condition. Mr. Wheeler said that this is school property and if want to build an addition then we could build it. Not everyone is going to be happy about the upgrades. He does not agree that the dugouts will be inviting crime and vandalism into the community. Dr. Moran said that Dr. Sterrett said that there were 35 community members at the meeting last night. Some additional changes will be made, and then submitted to the homeowners association for further input, and then they will move forward.

**Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.**

At 10:18p.m., Mr. Wheeler offered a motion that the Board go into closed meeting as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia under subsection 29 to discuss the award of a public contract for legislative services as well as its terms and conditions; subsection 7 to consult with legal counsel and staff regarding pending employment litigation; and subsection 2 to discuss disciplinary and other matters concerning a high school student; and subsection 1 to discuss appointees to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee and School Health Advisory Board. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting.**

At 11:09 p.m., 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. Mrs. McKeel **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.**

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to appoint the following citizens to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee: Brian Kennedy (Equity and Diversity At-Large member); Dean Riddick (Scottsville member); Michael Coppola (At-Large member); Anne Shipe (Jack Jouett member); Beth Hochstetler (Rio member); Tiffani Barber (Samuel Miller member); and Peter Wurzer (White Hall member). Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to appoint the following individuals to the School Health Advisory Board: Dr. Thomas Pajewski (Rivanna member); Kimberly Colley (Scottsville member); Dr. Martha McKechnie (At-Large member); Dr. Lori Balaban (Albemarle Medical Society Representative); Jeff Aaron (Jack Jouett member); Dr. Suzanne Coffey (Rio member); Diane Aritakas (Samuel Miller member); Priya Mahadevan (White Hall member); and Kathy Floyd (Other Health Professional member). Mr. Strucko **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

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

At 11:12 p.m., Mr. Wheeler offered a **motion** to adjourn the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board. Mr. Strucko **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

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Chairman

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Clerk