A Regular Board Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on November 11, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mrs. Diantha McKeel; Mr. Eric Strucko; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; and Mr. Harley Miles.

ABSENT: Mrs. Mouly and Mr. Price.

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

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting

At 5:45 p.m., Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to 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 7 to consult with legal counsel and staff to discuss pending employment litigation. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion**, and the motion passed with Mr. Strucko, Mrs. Mouly and Mr. Price**.

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Certify Closed Meeting.

At 6:30 p.m., Mrs. McKeel 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 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. Koleszar **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mrs. McKeel, Mrs. Moynihan, Mr. Miles and Mr. Koleszar.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: Mr. Strucko.
ABSENT: Mr. Price and Mrs. Mouly.

Motion carried by a 4:0:1:2 vote.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m. Mr. Strucko, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item No. 1.4. Pledge of Allegiance.
Agenda Item No. 1.5. Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 2.1. Agenda.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
3.2 Education Jobs Fund
3.3 Personnel Action
3.4 Resolution for American Education Week

3.5 Additional Holiday Leave for 12-month Employees

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

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Dr. Moran said that she and Mrs. Moynihan visited three schools this morning. She also thanked Mrs. Moynihan for her military service on Veteran's Day.

Dr. Benson said that this week we are celebrating Farm to School Week.

Dr. Benson said that the Division has received a grant in the amount of $211,000 from the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy. The grant will pay for solar equipment and a wind turbine within the Division and students will be able to use them to gather data.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with information on the implementation of new schedules within the high school this year. The presentation included background information on how the change came about, information on the hybrid 8-period schedule, the work of the design team, short-term goals, long-term goals, information on semester and year-long courses, and survey results. After the presentation, Board members discussed his or her thoughts on whether courses should be semester long or year-long.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Ms. Debbie Gordon Patashnik is a parent. She spoke about the schedule. She said that she looks forward to an open dialogue on the schedule issue.

Ms. Kelsey Johnson spoke to the Board about a Dark Skies, Bright Kids Program with the goal of building collaborations within the Division. She invited the Board to the Family Observing Session at Red Hill Elementary School on November 12, 2010.

Ms. Rachel Beaton is a volunteer for the Dark Skies, Bright Kids Program. She outlined some of the successes of the program.

Ms. Mary Drawsbeck spoke about the Dark Skies, Bright Kids Program. She spoke a book that is was written and is being published. The goal is to get the book in the library of every public school in Virginia.

Ms. Rebecca Carter spoke about the Dark Skies, Bright Kids Program. She spoke about the need for volunteers from the school community in order for the program to flourish.

Ms. Carmen Garcia is a parent. She thanked the Board for agreeing to hold a special meeting on semesterization of classes. She asked that CASE be allowed to present their research to the Board. She also asked that community members be allowed to interact with the Board by having a dialogue with Board members on the issue.

Ms. Rachel Bosley is a student at Albemarle High School. She feels that the schedule last year was less stressful on students. There is less time to learn the material this year. She said that she had scheduling issues.

Ms. Ginny Echelberger is a parent. She addressed the use of student time in class. She asked that teachers and students time be used wisely. She also shared with the Board information on the graduation materials that were provided to students at Albemarle High School.

Ms. Candice Smith is a parent. She spoke about semesterization and its impact on learning. She then provided the Board with input on what the Board should consider as a format for the work session. She asked that the rules be kept simple for the work session.

Mr. Mark Echelberger is a parent. He provided input on how he felt the work session be conducted regarding semesterization. He asked that public comment be allowed at this work session as well.

Ms. Becky Dameron is a parent. She that there are many concerns about the schedule which parents would like to share with the Board. She asked that public comment be allowed at the special work session.

Mr. Henry Aires is a parent. He spoke about the schedule change. He requested that the Board allow the public to participate in the special work session.

Mr. Michael Lasko is a parent. The School Board should be directive rather than suggestive in policy decisions. He questioned the use of semester classes at the high school level.

Ms. Kim Taylor is a parent. She said that visual presentations were not allowed for public comment even though she prepared one. She asked what is the cost of the new course offerings in the High School Program of Studies. She also asked at which schools the courses would be taught.

Dr. Lori Balaban is a parent. She spoke to the Board about the stress of the new schedule on students. She thanked the Board for holding the special work session and asked that Public Comment be allowed at the work session.

Another parent whose name is inaudible is a parent. She spoke about the scheduling issues that her daughter had this year.

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

Dr. Benson said that we have a request for consideration from AEA regarding the current calendar. They are asking if the sequence of make-up days between the April 1 and June 13 be flipped. They are asking for this change because the marking period ends on March 31 and would like to try to protect the April 1 day because there have been issues with using the new student information system. This proposal will be placed on the next consent agenda for approval.

Dr. Benson said that in order for the Division to get the information needed by local government for inclusion in the five-year financial plan it will need to be to them by December 1.

Mrs. Moynihan said that she enjoyed visiting schools with Dr. Moran today. She shared information about the visits.

Mr. Miles said that on November 3 he was able to sit in with the State CTE committee that was visiting at CATEC. They presented some of the same concerns that we have regarding career and technical education and preparing students to be college and workforce ready after graduation.

Mrs. McKeel said that in looking forward to the budget cycle, she asked for a list of central office staff and the assignment areas covered by each administrative employee.

Mr. Strucko congratulated Dr. Luvelle Brown for his offer and acceptance of the Superintendent position for Ithaca City Public Schools in New York.

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Comprehensive High School Program of Studies Course Additions for 2011-12.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with a presentation on the Comprehensive High School Program of Studies course additions for 2011-12.

Board members noted or asked the following: 1) are the courses only offered at certain high schools or are they open at all high schools, 2) with the new schedule shouldn't the Division be able to allow virtual classes, 3) there seems to be a lack of offerings and opportunities that allows students to learn about other cultures and religions, and 4) will the Program of Studies show designation of classes taught on a semester basis or on a year-long basis.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. High School and Middle School Fees.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with a presentation on the high school and middle school fees.

Board members noted or asked the following: 1) the changes from CATEC were not clear as to what they were or where they were going to, 2) on creative writing, why is there a supply fee, 3) are the fees tied to specific material, 4) the need for the supply descriptions to be more detailed, and 5) the $35 parking fee and how it should be increased.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee Considerations

Dr. Benson and Mr. Letteri provided the Board with an overview of proposed changes to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee. The proposal outlined the mission, membership composition and expectations, process and function, expected work products, and communications flow of the committee. All of which are written to improve the existing structure of the committee.

Board members noted or asked the following: 1) the need for the committee charge to be clear, 2) add in notification to the Board member on which appointees are not attending the meetings, 3) are there too many at-large members appointed by the Superintendent, and 4) the idea of increasing transparency of the committee and its work within the community.

The Board provided consensus on the proposal for the committee and staff will bring back policy changes to implement the proposal.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Break (Taken after Public Comment)

There was a break from 7:59 p.m. until 8:21 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. 2011/12 Budget Direction and September 30th Enrollment

Dr. Benson said that the Board is being asked to amend the budget calendar to have the Superintendent's Funding Request to January rather than December. Mr. Zimmermann then asked the Board for budget direction for the development of the Superintendent's funding request.

Board members asked if pushing the presentation to January compress the schedule for budget work. **There was Board consensus for the Superintendent to develop a needs-based budget.**

There was Board consensus for the Superintendent to develop the budget using the Human Resources recommendation for compensation, but to have the costs for one percent raise available for consideration.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** that the Board approve the budget calendar of meetings as amended. Mr. Miles **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Mr. Zimmermann provided an overview of the September 30 enrollment. Board members asked that on the September 30th enrollment could a column be added that shows the difference between last year actual and this year actual.

Agenda Item No. 8.6. VSBA Policies and Resolutions for Annual Conference Delegate Assembly

Mr. Koleszar asked if there were any questions regarding the proposed changes to the VSBA Policies and Resolutions. There was discussion about the change recommended regarding land use and the tax break recommendation.

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

Mr. Strucko provided the Board with an overview of the recommendation for the special work session agenda on November 16, 2010. Dr. Haas provided information on his discussion with the CASE group regarding what they would like to see changed in the agenda. Board members agreed that the agenda is acceptable and the Board is willing to allow public comment if it is offering new information, not information that has been previously presented or discussed. Mr. Paul Halliday of CASE shared with the Board what it is that CASE would like to present at the special work session. Board members noted that they did not want a presentation on the report provided by CASE. Dr. Moran said that staff will work on finalizing the agenda. The location of the meeting will be determined on November 12, 2010 now that the agenda has been determined.

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

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment

At 10:45 p.m., Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to adjourn the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

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Chairman

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Clerk