

A Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on March 22, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., Room 241, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Ned Gallaway; Mrs. Diantha McKeel; Mr. Eric Strucko; Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; and Mr. Jason Buyaki.

ABSENT: Mrs. Pamela Moynihan.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pamela Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Matt Haas, Executive Director; Mr. Vincent Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Josh Davis, Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Chris Brown, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting.

At 5:30 p.m., Mr. Gallaway 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 appointment and performance of teachers, and the performance of specific administrative employees. Mrs. Mouly **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Certify Closed Meeting.

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. Buyaki **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mrs. McKeel, Mrs. Mouly, Mr. Gallaway, Mr. Strucko, Mr. Buyaki, and Mr. Koleszar.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mrs. Moynihan.

Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to approve the personnel actions pertaining to reduction in force and licensure as presented by staff. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m. Mr. Koleszar, 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.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Reimbursements to Albemarle High School
- 3.3 Reimbursement to Burley Middle School
- 3.4 Personnel Action

- 3.5 Donation to Henley Middle School
- 3.6 One-Time Funding of Some Athletic Purchases from the Athletic Fee Collection for 2010-11 School Year
- 3.7 KOVAR Grant
- 3.8 Release from Compulsory Attendance

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda minus the donation to Henley Middle School and the State Farm Grant – M³ – Men, Math and Mission Program. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.1. State Farm Grant – M³ – Men, Math and Mission Program.

Mrs. McKeel said that this is a \$40,000 grant which is wonderful. She wanted to make sure that the Office of Community Engagement was overseeing this grant. Dr. Moran said that is correct.

Agenda Item No. 4.2. Donation to Henley Middle School

Mrs. McKeel said that this is a donation for classroom projectors. This is the second significant donation by the PATSO of technology and she is concerned about the digital divide in our schools due to donations. Mr. Strucko said that the budget for the school for technology could be adjusted. Mrs. McKeel said that we need to make sure that it gets into the inventory. Mr. Scheivert said that this is alternate funding and we are looking at the operational charge backs for technology provide outside his department.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to approve the State Farm Grant and the donation to Henley Middle School. Mr. Gallaway **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Dr. Haun said that the Albemarle High School Jazz Ensemble went to the Chantilly Jazz Festival and earned top honors.

Dr. Haun said that there is a new orchestra teacher in the southern feeder pattern. She took a combined orchestra of Monticello High School, Walton Middle School and Burley Middle School students and went to the district festival. They earned superior ratings at the festival.

Dr. Haun said that the Henley Hornet Choir, the Henley Morning Singers and the Western Albemarle Choir to the district music assessment. All received superior or excellent ratings.

Dr. Haun said that the high school spring musicals are going on and always great performances.

Dr. Moran said that the elementary honors choir was last night. All elementary schools were represented and the music they presented was complex.

Mr. Scheivert said that the division is entering into the second phase of the SOL writing tests on-line.

Dr. Moran said that John Hunter, teacher at Agnor-Hurt Elementary School, developed the World Peace Game. Mr. Hunter was featured in a documentary on the World Peace Game. While at a conference he was approached by a person who worked at the Pentagon and she requested that he visit. This week students who participated in the World Peace Game visited the Pentagon and they shared their work and asked questions.

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

Agenda Item No. 7.1. Proposed Changes to Building Capacity Methodology.

Mr. Davis provided the Board with a presentation on the proposed changes to the building capacity methodology. The presentation included the purpose and approach, definitions, Virginia Department of Education Guidelines on Capacity, review of the current capacity policy and the proposed methodology.

After the presentation, Board members asked or noted the following: 1) how office space works into the utilization factor, 2) does the adjusted classroom multiplier take into account differentiated staffing, 3) what is the square footage of a room that can hold 25 students, 4) do resource or rooms used for such things as gifted and Title I have to be as big as a regular classroom, 5) how often would the multiplier be reviewed, 6) what would capacity look like over the last 10 years if the proposed multiplier is used, 7) how often would the multiplier be reviewed, and 8) was there discussion about students who are not in the building for the entire day and how is that addressed.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. Break

There was a break from 7:54 p.m. until 8:05 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 7.3. Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee.

Mr. Davis led the Board and Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee in a discussion on the Board's view on the following questions: 1) In the strategic plan, goals 4 & 5 (world-class education system vs. efficient systems...) can often be at odds with each other. Keeping these goals in mind what strategies are you willing to consider for long term facility planning: A. Maintenance of existing community schools & recommendations (i.e. additions, redistricting, etc.) once more seats are required B. Strategic consolidation of schools for more efficient operations. Are you willing to reconsider the closing of small schools at this time especially with the increasing costs of maintaining these schools? C. Strive to achieve parity between & modernize existing school facilities.; 2) Goal #4 in the Strategic Plan states: "Achieve recognition as a world-class education system". What would you consider a world-class education *facility*? Do we have one (or part of one) now in the county? If so, where and should it be implemented elsewhere?; 3) What is an acceptable percentage (i.e. 5%, 10%, 15%) over capacity and for how long before action is needed?; 4) As we are analyzing capacities, how should we take into account trailers? Sometimes it is an inevitable solution, but how long is too long to rely on trailers?; 5) Last year the board expressed the willingness to consider redistricting to utilize existing seats rather than building seats. We are working under the assumption that this is still the case. Related, are you willing to consider split feeder patterns to efficiently use existing spaces?; 6) If more high school seats were deemed necessary, how large are you comfortable making Albemarle High School? Related, for long term planning we would like to investigate land acquisition for a future school site in the northern part of the county.; 7) Last year we recommended an addition onto Henley Middle School to provide additional gym space. It was removed from the CIP along with the other additions. Should the LRPAC consider this project again or was this removed for other reasons?

Agenda Item No. 8.1. Public Comment.

Mr. Jim Stern spoke to the Board about Monticello High School male students running cross country and track in girls uniforms.

Ms. Ginny Echelberger spoke to the Board about the proposed capacity formula and its impact on teacher load. She also spoke about the land surrounding Albemarle High School and its use by other school division departments.

Mr. Mark Echelberger spoke to the Board about the proposed capacity formula. He feels the formula is based on discretionary information and can be manipulated easily.

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

Dr. Haas said that the Charlottesville City Schools decided not to use April 9th as a make-up day rather use time already accrued to make up the missed day. Our Board will continue to use the April 9th date as a make-up day.

Mr. Koleszar spoke about the bill that was passed about passing on a 5% payment to VRS to employees. This will cost the County and will decrease take-home pay for employees. He would like to write a letter to the Governor about the impact of this decision on Albemarle County School Division employees. **There was Board consensus to write a letter.**

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting. None.

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

Agenda Item No 12.1. Adjournment

At 9:42 p.m., Mr. Koleszar, hearing no objections, adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk