

A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on November 10, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Jason Buyaki; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mrs. Diantha McKeel; Mr. Eric Strucko; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly; and Mr. Harley Miles.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Matt Haas, Executive Director of Secondary Education; Mr. Vince Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Chris Brown, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Koleszar 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. Approval of Agenda.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Donation to Murray High School
- 3.3 Donation to Red Hill Elementary School
- 3.4 Exemption from Compulsory Attendance
- 3.5 Personnel Action
- 3.6 Personnel Action
- 3.7 Dominion Virginia Power Easement for Walton Middle School Cellular Antenna Installation
- 3.8 Re-appropriation of Miscellaneous Grant Funds FY 10-11
- 3.9 Release from Compulsory Attendance
- 3.10 Operating Agreement for the Piedmont Regional Education Program
- 3.11 Additional Holiday Leave for 12-month Employees

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda minus the Monticello High School Health and Medical Sciences Academy, the Comprehensive High School Program of Studies Course Additions, the revised FY2012/13 budget calendar, the proposed baseball field, fence and dugouts, the learning resources selection and adoption, the policy review and revision, and the allocation of Board Reserve. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.1. The Monticello High School Health and Medical Sciences Academy Executive Summary

Mr. Strucko said that the item is for information. He asked if more information would be provided. Mr. Koleszar said that there is a presentation scheduled at a future meeting.

Mr. Strucko offered a **motion** to receive the Monticello High School Health and Medical Sciences Academy Executive Summary for information. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion. Mrs. Moynihan asked if the item will come back. Mr. Koleszar said yes, it is only for information. **The motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.2. Comprehensive High School Program of Studies Course Additions for 2012-13

Mr. Strucko asked if these were additional course offerings. He asked if the division would do something out of turn. Dr. Haas said that the item is for first review. These courses are in addition to what is already in the Program of Studies. Mrs. Moynihan said that putting things on the consent agenda means that it will not be discussed even if it is for information.

Mr. Strucko offered a **motion** to receive the comprehensive high school program of studies course additions for 2012-13. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion. Mrs. Moynihan asked if there would be a chance for public input prior to approval. **The motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.3. Revised FY2012/2013 Budget Calendar.

Mr. Strucko said that he liked budget decisions be made in January. He suggested shifting the budget meetings down one day through the end of February. Dr. Moran said that the calendar is backward mapped based on legal requirements. Mrs. Moynihan said that this item has not been available for review. Mr. Koleszar said that it was on a previous agenda for approval.

Mr. Miles offered a **motion** to approve the revised FY2012/13 budget calendar. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.4. Proposed Baseball Field, Fence, and Dug Outs

Mr. Koleszar said that he pulled this item because Sharon Wood at Stone Robinson has the volunteers ready to go for this item, and there had been a miscommunication in protocol. He asked that the Board approve this item on first reading.

Mr. Miles offered a **motion** to approve the proposed baseball field, fence, and dugout at Stone Robinson Elementary School. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.5. Learning Resources Selection and Adoption

Mrs. Moynihan said that the public needs to know that these items are being considered for adoption, and that they can review the items. Mr. Koleszar said that it is being presented for information, and the public can review the materials.

Mrs. McKeel offered a **motion** to receive the learning resources selection and adoption for information. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.6. Policy Review and Revision: Policy GCQC, Coverage of Schools Due to Weather and/or Emergency

Mrs. Moynihan said that this item should be on the agenda prior to being placed on the consent agenda. Mr. Koleszar said that he would like for this to be brought back on the December agenda for approval.

Mrs. Moynihan offered a **motion** to accept the policy review revision for Policy GCQC for information and to be placed on the December 1, 2011 agenda for approval. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 4.7. Allocation of Board Reserve.

Mrs. Moynihan said that she had asked for this item to be placed on the regular agenda for approval because staff is asking for money to be allocated for School Board Office assistance. She said that the Board does

not have a good understanding of the work of the Board Clerk. She would like to see a breakdown of the work that is currently being done by the Clerk.

Mr. Miles offered a **motion** to approve the allocation of \$4,000 from Board Reserve to provide assistance to the School Board Clerk. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion. Mr. Miles said that we need to review the work of the Clerk of the Board, but we also need to bring minutes up to date. Mrs. McKeel said that there is not support in the office. She would also be interested in information on the workload of the Clerk's Office. **The motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Announcements.

Dr. Moran said that she attended the Honors Band Concert for the middle schools. They guest conductor was impressed with the level of playing the students were playing in their music. The event took place on November 9, 2011.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Mr. Wally Adesena is a teacher. He spoke about the eight period schedule. He asked that the Board make their decision be made on sound educational policy. Teachers are complaining about the workload.

Mr. Brian Vest is a local government employee. He asked that the Board consider reviewing the tuition policy for County employees.

Ms. Carmen Garcia is a parent. She spoke about teacher load and class size.

Mr. Tim Dodson is a student. He spoke to the Board about the schedule change. He said that teachers are stressed and are not teaching to the best of their ability.

Ms. Patti Flynn is teacher. She spoke to the Board about the non-resident tuition policy for Albemarle County employees. She asked that the Board review the policy.

Ms. Charlotte Allen is a student in Buckingham County. She asked that the Board review the non-resident tuition policy for Albemarle County employees.

Ms. Mary Spencer is a parent. She shared that the schedule change has allowed for an increase in music participation in the high schools and middle schools. Her daughter spoke about her experience with the shared choral teacher at Henley Middle School.

Mr. Mark Echelberger is a parent. He spoke to the Board about the schedule change. He urged the Board to return to the seven period schedule.

Ms. Katina Dudley is a teacher. She spoke about workload and the impact it has on the teacher including the work that is done in classes. She encouraged the Board to re-evaluate the cap for the number of students that teachers teach.

Ms. Robin Sealy is a parent. She said that teachers are afraid to speak out against the changes in the schedule. She said that Central Office is in charge of School Board when it is supposed to be the opposite.

Mr. Steven Turner is a teacher. He spoke to the Board about the schedule change. He encouraged the Board to trust the input of their teachers.

Mr. Salvatore Giordano is a teacher. He spoke to the Board about the schedule change.

Ms. Candice Smith is a parent. The School Board and Superintendent should work together to implement what is best for the students of Albemarle County. She also noted that the School Board should not trust everything that central office staff provides without doing additional research on their own.

Ms. Mary Dedda is a parent. She asked that the School Board use critical thinking by supporting their decisions on the schedule with evidence.

Ms. Ginny Echelberger is a parent. Many school divisions across the schedule are moving away from the 4X4 schedule. She encouraged the Board to return to a seven period schedule.

Ms. Rebecca Damron is a parent. Trust and respect are essential to functioning groups of people. The Board has lost her trust because of the actions of the administration. She asked that the Board not rush another decision regarding the schedule.

Ms. Leanne Brubaker is a teacher. She feels that the eight period day is the schedule that allows for student loads to be reduced for teachers.

Mr. Mike Glazier is a parent. He said that he does not like the eight period schedule.

Mr. Rich Lindsay is a teacher. He said that his teaching has been impacted negatively by the change in the schedule.

Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board/Superintendent Business. None.

Agenda Items No. 8.1. Non-Resident Tuition for Albemarle County School and Local Government Employees

Dr. Haas provided the Board with a presentation on the non-resident tuition for Albemarle County School and local government employees. The presentation included a review of the current policy, market research, the current numbers of employees taking advantage of the benefit, the results of a staff survey on participation if the policy remained the same or changed, and the costs associated with the current policy and potential costs associated with a policy change.

After the presentation, Board members asked or noted: 1) what is the amount of money the state receives per child in Albemarle County, 2) is it possible to provide a marginal cost analysis, 3) the need to see how many would take advantage of the policy and the actual cost for this benefit, 4) is placement of an out-of-district student based on space availability, and 5) what would it look like for this to be a cafeteria plan benefit.

There was Board consensus for additional information to be provided at a future meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. 2012/2013 Budget Direction. (Heard after the break)

Dr. Moran and Dr. Haun provided the Board with a presentation on teacher class load. The presentation included a breakdown of a teacher's day (in percentages) at both the elementary and secondary levels, and samples of teacher class loads as presented in the class load report.

After the presentation, Board members asked or noted the following: 1) the need for more explanation on some of the data in the teacher class load report, 2) which middle schools are double blocked, 3) what is the normal workload of a physical education teacher, 4) how is it determined that a collaborative teacher comes in and teaches with a teacher, 5) how does this data compare to the data from last year, 6) define SCHD in the report, 7) are teacher loads up from last year at the high schools, 8) was Murray High School and the Community Public Charter School data included in the data, 9) how can a Board member know which information is for which school, 10) from each principal, what are the pros and cons of the eight period schedule, 11) is the increase in some elective classes due to a forced selection, 12) has there been an increase in the number of students taking a

study hall, 12) have teachers thought through the fact that there is less time to teach and how to best take advantage of the time and teach the items that are most important, 13) is there a fear of teachers to speak out against the schedule change, 14) what would the workload be if there was not an increase in class size during the last budget development, 15) the reason behind the resignation of teachers over the last year, 16) do middle school principals feel that all classes should be taught on a semester basis, and 17) what is the ideal class size at the elementary level.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Break (Taken prior to the Budget Direction agenda item)

There was a break from 8:41 p.m. until 8:51 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Legislative Packet

Ms. Mary Huffard Kegley, Legislative Assistant, and Mrs. McKeel provided the Board with information on the proposed legislative packet.

Board members noted that the following were the topics they wished to focus on: 1) unfunded mandates to include physical education, 2) composite index, 3) the Bell amendment, 4) Virginia Retirement System, and 5) the board of education issue about using a single measure college and career readiness.

Mrs. Mouly offered a **motion** for the school board to support the Bell amendment again. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Miles abstaining.**

There was Board consensus for the Board to oppose HB2395 in its present form.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. VSBA Policies and Resolutions.

Mr. Miles provided an overview of the proposed changes to the VSBA Policies and Resolutions.

There was Board consensus for the Board to oppose the study and/or adoption of the Common Core Standards.

Agenda Item No. 8.6. School Board Member Orientation Committee Recommendation for January Retreat.

Mr. Miles said that the committee met and there was discussion about the need for a retreat at the beginning of each year soon after the organizational meeting to review policies, board member expectations, and other matters related to being a Board member. He asked the Board to support this recommendation. **There was Board consensus for this retreat to take place.**

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

Mr. Miles said that he is the Board's representative on the Commission on Children and Families. They are looking at reorganizing the committee to be a smaller group. The next meeting is on January 4, 2012, and he will no longer be on the Board. He said that there should be an alternate to attend this meeting. Mr. Koleszar asked for anyone interested to contact Mrs. Johnston.

Mr. Koleszar said that one of the priorities was to be better about communicating better with stakeholders. He feels that a committee needs to be formed to develop a plan to address this priority.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.

At 11:49 p.m., Mr. Miles 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 employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting.

Mr. Miles 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. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion. **Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mrs. McKeel, Mr. Strucko, Mr. Buyaki, Mrs. Mouly, Mr. Miles, Mrs. Moynihan, and Mr. Koleszar.
NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 11:57 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Koleszar adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk