A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on October 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

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

ABSENT: Mrs. Pamela Moynihan.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Matt Haas, Assistant Superintendent for Organizational and Human Resource Leadership; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Vince Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Chad Ratliff, Assistant Director of Instruction; Mr. John Blair, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk of the School Board.

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 3 to discuss and consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, and subsection 1 to discuss and consider performance of a specific employee. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Certify Closed Meeting.

Mr. Gallaway 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 vote:**

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

Motion carried by a 6:0:1 vote.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Koleszar, Chairman, called the meeting back to order.

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

Agenda Item. No. 2.1. Approval of Agenda.

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

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
3.2 Minutes – 2013
3.3 Donation to Brownsville Elementary School: FY13-14
3.4 Payments to Hollymead Elementary and Stone Robinson Elementary for PreK Mainstream Inclusion – FY13-14
3.5 Reimbursement to Burley Middle School – FY 13-14
3.6 Increase Audio/Visual Technician Rate for Community Use

3.7 April 2013 (Unverified), May 2013 (Unverified), and June 2013 (Unaudited) Financial Report
3.8 Personnel Action
3.9 The Community Public Charter School FY13/14
3.10 For Action: Policy Reviews and Revisions

Mr. Gallaway offered a **motion** to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists

Dr. Moran congratulated our high school students across the division for their exceptional academic performance over the past year. It was announced a few weeks ago that our students scored a combined 1666 on the three SAT tests, well above the state's benchmark of 1550 and among the very best scores in the state and our nation. Also, our on-time graduation rate has improved to 93.4 percent, well above the statewide average of 89.1 percent for all school divisions. Tonight, we honor yet another group of extraordinary student leaders. Each year, about 1.5 million high school students across the country enter the competition to become National Merit Scholars. One percent of these students are selected as semifinalists based upon academic record, test scores, essays and demonstrations of leadership. She then introduced the seven National Merit Scholar semifinalists this year who are Albemarle County Public School students – Reese Echelberger, Olivia Lewis, Jesse Smith, Laura Ungar, Sharon Fernandez, Angela Li, and Sophia Webb.

Michelle Karpovich

Dr. Moran said that at our meeting in September, we had the opportunity to recognize the physical education teacher of the year at the elementary school level, Scott Williams, from Meriwether Lewis. Since then, Meriwether Lewis has been selected as one of our nation's prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools. Next month, the school's principal, Kim Cousins, will be among those honored at a Department of Education ceremony in Washington, D.C. This evening, we have the opportunity to congratulate yet another teacher of the year, Michelle Karpovich. Michelle teaches chemistry at Western Albemarle High School and she was chosen by James Madison University as the high school chemistry teacher of the year for Virginia. What especially is significant about Michelle's selection is that it is based upon the recommendations of JMU students. Professor Scott Lewis said in a note to us that, "Our intent is to conduct each year, a statewide canvas to find the teacher who best provides quality education on a consistent basis for the students who attend JMU."_Professor Lewis added that when JMU identifies students who excel at the university, they interview them about how they were so well prepared for success in college. Michelle's name was at the top of that list. Dr. Moran then introduced Ms. Karpovich who shared a bit about what works so well in preparing our students for post-graduate success.

Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.

Dr. Haas introduced Charlene (Charlie) Price as the new Assistant Director of Strategic Planning and Organizational Improvement.

Dr. Haun said that last week seven educators from Albemarle County attended the EdLeader 21 conference in Chicago. The Division did a fish bowl activity around curriculum and performance tasks.

Dr. Moran said that the Board has been provided a mini flyer on the Charlottesville Maker Faire. The event will take place this weekend at Monticello High School.

Mrs. McKeel said that next Tuesday there will be a joint CATEC Boards meeting.

Mr. Gallaway reminded the Board that the meeting was being live streamed. He welcomed those that were listening to the live stream.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment.

Mr. Fred Smyth spoke to the Board about ending the reporting of class rank for students.

Ms. Cian Wombacker spoke to the Board about the need to continue class rank of students because the students earn the ranking.

Ms. Amy Halliday spoke to the Board about ending the reporting of class rank for students.

Dr. Lori Balaban spoke to the Board about ending the reporting of class rank for students.

Ms. Carmen Garcia spoke to the Board about ending the reporting of class rank for students.

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

Agenda Item No. 7.2. School Improvement Plan Update.

Ms. India Haun, principal of Brownsville Elementary, along with Mr. Steve Saunders and Ms. Wendy Eckerle, assistant principals, provided the Board with an overview of the work Brownsville is doing in regards to school improvement planning.

Agenda Items No. 8.1. State of the Division Report.

Dr. Haun provided the Board with an overview of the State of the Division Report. The presentation highlighted the following areas: 1) SAT scores, 2) graduation rates, 3) drop-out rates, 4) AP scores, 5) national recognitions, 6) Fine Arts classes, 7) Career and Technical Education work, 8) CWRA work, and 9) performance tasks. The presentation also looked at areas of focus for the division including curriculum, career and technical education, virtual enrollment, Federal programs, and STAMP scores.

After the presentation, Board members noted or asked the following: 1) do the CTE competencies match up with the industry standards, 2) how do we gauge how we are doing, what are the benchmarks that we are trying to achieve, and 3) concern was expressed about declines in such things as languages and career and technical education courses.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. Resolution Concerning High Stakes, Standardized Testing of Virginia Public School Students.

Dr. Moran said that the Board is being asked to adopt the resolution concerning high stakes, standardized testing of Virginia public school students.

Board members asked that the word "strangling" be changed to "negatively impacting" in the first Whereas statement. They also asked that the word "boring" to "mere" in the thirteenth Whereas statement.

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

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Break

There was a break from 8:02 p.m. until 8:17 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. For Review: Comprehensive High School Program of Studies Course Additions for 2014-2015.

Mr. Ratliff and Dr. Haun provided the Board with a presentation on the comprehensive high school program of studies. The presentation included the highlights of the guide, a review of the new course selection process, a review of general edits, and a review of proposed changes to grade point average, weighted grades and rank in class language.

Following the presentation, Board members noted or asked the following: 1) will additional courses be developed for the environmental studies academy at Western Albemarle High School, 2) what is the collaboration for the digital music class and do the students work independently, 3) have any courses been removed from the offerings, 4) how many students are taking Greek, 5) do admissions officer talk about maximizing your schedule in high school, 6) why do admissions not compare students across all schools, 7) do admissions offices recalculate grade point averages for all students, 8) would it be beneficial for the division not to report class rank, does it benefit students, 9) does the Board want to direct staff to look at the weighting of classes for determining grade point averages, 10) do all colleges take the time to recalculate grade point averages for students, and 11) is there a way to satisfy both sides of the issue when it comes to reporting class rank.

Mr. Strucko offered a **motion** to adopt the recommendation in the High School Program of Studies regarding the reporting of class rank and apply it to the current school year. **Hearing no second, the motion died.**

Board members asked if it was too late to apply the change to the current year. Staff noted that some students have already submitted applications with the ranking reported.

Mr. Strucko then reoffered the **motion** to adopt the recommendation in the High School Program of Studies regarding the reporting of class rank and apply it to the current school year. **Hearing no second, the motion died a second time.**

This item will come back to the Board at its November business meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8.5. Safe Schools/Healthy Students Update.

Dr. Haas provided the Board with an overview of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant update. He shared with the Board the areas that would continue once the grant ends at the end of the fiscal year.

Board members noted or asked the following: 1) what did the grant enable the division to do, 2) how do we keep the program running after the grant runs out, and 3) could some aspects of this grant be funded through the Public Education Fund.

Agenda Item No. 8.6. Budget Initiative Input.

Mr. Koleszar asked if there were areas or items that the Board would like to see in the Superintendent’s Funding Request. Board members noted the following: 1) continuation of the work of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant, 2) world languages, 3) more time on a regular basis for teachers to reflect on professional development activities, 4) looking at the reductions from 2009/2010, are there any areas that can be recovered or should be considered for inclusion, 5) outreach to high school alumni, 6) more staff development money, and 7) cost of expanding the number of applicants accepted into the MESA program.

(Mrs. McKeel left the meeting at 9:45 p.m.)

Agenda Item No. 8.7. VSBA Policies and Resolutions for VSBA Delegate Assembly.

Mr. Koleszar asked if there were any concerns about the proposals. Mr. Buyaki said that he opposes the school bus stop arm cameras as he did when the Board discussed it earlier.

Mr. Buyaki offered a **motion** for the School Board not to support the legislative position on stop arm camera usage**. Hearing no second, the motion died.** The School Board upheld their previous action on the use of stop arm cameras on school buses.

Mr. Buyaki expressed concern about the position on funding for early education because it would be another mandate.

Mr. Koleszar expressed concern about the proposal on the A-F grading system.

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

Dr. Haun said that a team from Albemarle County participated in a high school of the future conference hosted by the Governor.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting – if needed. None.
Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting. None.
Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 10:06 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Koleszar adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk