

A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on December 12, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

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

ABSENT: Mr. Eric Strucko and 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. Kevin Kirst, Director of Special Services; Ms. Jennifer Sublette-Williams, Lead Instructional Coach; Ms. Charlie Price, Assistant Director of Strategic Planning and Organizational Improvement; Mr. John Blair, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk of the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Koleszar, Chairman, called the meeting back 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. Buyaki offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mrs. Mouly **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 3.2 Donations and Reimbursements to School Division – 2nd Quarter
- 3.3 Better Living Golden Apple Grant Awards
- 3.4 FIRST Grant
- 3.5 NEA Foundation Grant – Red Hill
- 3.6 Re-appropriation of School Bus Replacement Funds
- 3.7 VDOE Supplemental Grant – Murray High School
- 3.8 Club Yancey Revenue
- 3.9 July and August 2013 Financial Reports
- 3.10 June 2013 Audited Financial Report
- 3.11 Community Engagement Donation
- 3.12 For Action: Policy Review and Revisions
- 3.13 Personnel Action
- 3.14 Personnel Action – Coaches
- 3.15 Joint Letter to Legislators
- 3.16 Additional Holiday Leave for 12-month Employees
- 3.17 Bullying Prevention Month Resolution

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

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.

National Board Certified Teachers

Dr. Moran said that with us this evening is a very special group. In fact, they are part of the most exclusive achievement class among educators. Nationally, only 3% of all teachers are in this class and in Virginia, only 2% are members. We congratulate 14 teachers who have earned certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The board describes their extremely rigorous certification process as

“setting high standards for entry and advancement and recognizing accomplished teaching through a process comparable to those found in other premier professions such as medicine, engineering and law.” She then introduced the teachers: Terry Graff from Cale; Catherine Gray, Fatima Parker, Julie Stavitski and Melissa Taylor all from Jack Jouett; Stephanie Helvin and John Visel from Stone-Robinson; Leilani Keys and Lisa Killham from Albemarle High School; Carrie Mersch and Elizabeth Sweatman from Henley; Melissa Techman from Broadus Wood and Tres Wells from Stony Point. Dr. Moran added that nationally, less than 40 percent of teachers earn certification on their first attempt and here in our school division that percentage is closer to 70 percent. Our 14 newly-certified teachers bring our total in the division to 39, which on a percentage basis is higher than both the national and state averages. Dr. Moran then recognized Margie Shepherd, who is an invaluable advisor to our teachers.

Broadus Wood

Dr. Moran said that one morning last week, we all awoke expecting a normal day in our 26 school buildings. Immediately, these expectations were turned upside down because that is when we learned that a car had crashed into the front of Broadus Wood Elementary School, causing considerable damage to one of our classrooms. It is fortunate this accident happened overnight and no one was in the building at the time. Still, we had some 260 students arriving later that morning for what they believed would be a school day as usual. Despite spending some extra time waiting on their school buses in front of the school, it did turn out to be reasonably usual day thanks to the quick action, dedication and teamwork among several outstanding colleagues in our Transportation and Building Services Departments. They began work immediately to secure the location, install barriers and safely move learning tools and materials from the damaged classroom to a vacant classroom. She then recognized those who were responsible for keeping our students and staff safe and who allowed student learning to go forward almost without interruption - from Transportation, Charles Leathers, Denise Davis and Keith Harter; From Building Services, George Shifflett, Joshua Bench-Morris, Ben Carter, Joe Getchell, Austin Wood-Hoeckelman, Rich Howard, Earl Morris, Bill Price, Jeff Rohm and Tony Wilkerson.

A Gift for the Holidays

Dr. Moran said that last week was important for another reason in one of our schools because that is when Albemarle High School principal Jay Thomas announced that beginning with the next school year, a new Arts & Letters Pathway will be established at the school to expand opportunities for students to benefit from the school's extraordinary fine arts program. Members of the School Board certainly know this distinguished history of fine arts at Albemarle High School. This year alone, the school's drama program was one of two in Virginia to qualify for national competition, band director Greg Thomas received a Teacher of the Year award and two students were chosen for the All-State Jazz Ensemble. In celebration of the holiday season, we are joined by another championship team. Carrie Finnegan's strings program at Albemarle has won 11 consecutive titles and she has brought with her, some wonderfully talented musicians. So, thank you Carrie for joining us this evening and for our very special guests. Members of the string program performed for the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.

Dr. Haas said that the Board approved on the consent agenda a resolution for Bullying Prevention Month. He then read the resolution out loud.

Dr. Haun said that the students who built a replica of the telegraph on a 3-D printer were invited to present at the Smithsonian on how they recreated the replica. The presentation took place today.

Dr. Haun said that the division had visitors from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. They visited schools to discuss how they transform their learning spaces. Individuals from Harvard also visited.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment. None.

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

Dr. Moran introduced Dr. Toni Elitharp, new director of the Piedmont Regional Education Program. Dr. Elitharp talked about the work that is taking place at PREP.

Agenda Item No. 7.2. School and Department Strategic Brief.

Ms. Nancy Teel, principal of Hollymead Elementary School, provided the Board with an overview of Hollymead's School Improvement Plan. She also reviewed with the Board current challenges and current successes for the school.

Agenda Items No. 8.1. Special Education Advisory Committee Report.

Mr. Kirst and Ms. Katherine Lochner, chairman of the Special Education Advisory Committee, provided the Board with a mid-year report. The presentation included information on the work of the committee to date and a review of items that may have budgetary impacts in the coming year.

Following the presentation, Board members asked if funding for the parent resource center being eliminated.

Agenda Item No. 8.2. Midyear Review of the Gifted Advisory Committee.

Ms. Sublette-Williams provided the Board with an overview of the work of the Gifted Advisory Committee.

Board members asked what does the day in the life of a gifted resource teacher look like.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. Break. None.

Agenda Item No. 8.4. Strategic Plan Board Priorities Progress Report.

Dr. Haas and Ms. Price provided the Board with an overview of the Strategic Plan Board Priorities Report.

Following the presentation, Board members noted or asked the following: 1) parents feel a world languages program is important to the division, 2) is staff watching how the Cale world language program is impacting the individual school budget, 3) what is the definition that has been developed for contemporary learning spaces, and 4) many of the priorities are on hold because they are budget initiatives.

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

Mr. Gallaway said that he visited the chess club at Burley Middle School.

Mrs. McKeel thanked the Board and staff for their support over the last 16 years.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.

At 7:52 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 personnel issues related to the discipline of a specific employee. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 11.1. 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. Gallaway, Mrs. McKeel, Mrs. Mouly and Mr. Buyaki.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Strucko and Mrs. Moynihan.

Motion carried by a 5:0:2 vote.

Mr. Gallaway offered a **motion** that the School Board of Albemarle County authorize the Chairman and the School Board Attorney to execute all necessary documents to acquire the real property located at 7661 Porters Road, Esmont, Virginia. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed with Mr. Buyaki abstaining.**

Mr. Gallaway offered a **motion** that the School Board of Albemarle County appoint John Baldino and Karen Marcus as hearing officers to hear all employee grievances until the conclusion of the 2013-2014 school year. Mrs. McKeel **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 8:15 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Koleszar adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk