A Budget Work Session of the Albemarle County School Board was held on February 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m., Room 241, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Ms. Kate Acuff; Mr. Ned Gallaway; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Mr. Jason Buyaki; Mrs. Barbara Massie Mouly; and Mr. Eric Strucko (arrived at 6:35 p.m.).

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent**;** Dr. Billy Haun, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Executive Director of Fiscal Services; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Matthew Haas, Assistant Superintendent for Organizational and Human Resource Leadership; Mr. Vincent Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Call Order.

Mr. Gallaway called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 1.2. Approval of Agenda.

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

Agenda Item No. 2.1. FY2014/15 Funding Request Worksession.

Mr. Gallaway asked if the Board wanted to send the funding request on to the Board of Supervisors as is or if there were adjustments that the Board would like to make.

Mr. Koleszar said that he agrees that we do not have a spending problem as much as we have a spending problem. He feels that the Board should lay out the types of cuts that may be needed if the request is not funded completely.

Mr. Strucko said that he does not agree completely that it is a revenue problem. The Board has an obligation to look at the spending side. There are spending increases that the Board should evaluate. He provided the Board a spreadsheet of his suggestions for reductions. He is not in favor of sending anything forward without looking at the spending side of the request.

Ms. Acuff said that the Board needs to have a serious focus on the revenue side. We cannot continue to keep cutting.

Mr. Buyaki said that the last few years have been challenging. He feels that the budget should reflect the times that we live in. He is not in favor of a tax increase. He would like the Board to review expenditures and identify areas to be cut in line item budgets. He feels that VRS will continue to be a problem for public education.

Mrs. Moynihan said that at this point it would be hard to send a balanced request to the Board of Supervisors. She thinks that the Board should send something that reflects decisions that the Board will have to make.

Mrs. Mouly said that she is persuaded that the VRS mandate, the growth in the division, and the growth in certain populations within the division have led to majority of the increases within the funding request.

Mr. Gallaway said that he too is persuaded by Dr. Moran’s presentation on the increases in the funding request. He feels that the request should be sent forward the way that it was presented because revenues are not final at this time.

Mr. Koleszar **offered** a motion to send to the Board of Supervisors the Superintendent's Funding Request with the addition of where the Board would potentially make cuts if the funding bodies choose not to provide adequate funding for education in the County. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion. Mr. Gallaway asked for discussion. Mr. Koleszar said that the funding request reflects what is valued in the County. In the County we value excellent education, we value high performance in our students and it is incumbent on the Board to reflect that value in the funding request sent to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Strucko said that the last part of the motion talks about adequate funding. Mrs. Mouly asked that the motion be amended to remove the last part about providing adequate funding. Mr. Buyaki said that including the reduction list should be removed as well. Ms. Acuff said that she does not see how the Board can be specific about cuts when the final revenues are not known, therefore, there should be two separate motions. Mr. Koleszar accepted the friendly amendment. **The motion is to send to the Board of Supervisors the Superintendent's Funding Request with the addition of where the Board would potentially make cuts if the funding bodies do not fund the request. Roll was called, and the motion passed by the following recorded votes:**

AYES: Mrs. Moynihan, Mr. Strucko, Mr. Koleszar, Mr. Gallaway, Mrs. Mouly, and Ms. Acuff.
NAYS: Mr. Buyaki.

Motion carried by a 6:1 vote.

Mr. Tistadt said provided information with the Board on staffing and class size. Dr. Haun reviewed with the Board information on projected class size based on the proposed budget and what incremental increases would look like.

After reviewing the information, Board members discussed or asked for additional information on the following: 1) information on the formula used to determine average class size, 2) what would happen to class size if it was targeted at the middle and high school levels only, 3) is it possible to hold differentiated staffing harmless, 4) would an increase in a particular level be more disruptive than another, 5) what is the cost of one teaching FTE, 6) lapse factor should be considered when looking at ways to reduce the funding request, 7) medical costs increases should also be considered when looking at the funding request as well, and 8) when do teachers provide notice that they will be retiring.

Mr. Gallaway asked the Board to review the issue of the athletic budgets. Board members then discussed whether he/she supports the reduction in the athletic programs. Board members asked for additional information on the athletic budgets. There was also discussion about increasing the fee for athletic participation.

(There was a break from 8:12 p.m. to 8:28 p.m.)

After returning from the break, Board members discussed whether or not to include a tiered list of potential reductions or just a list of areas that may be considered for reductions.

There was Board consensus to provide a list of potential reductions but not to tier the reductions.

Mr. Strucko shared with the Board his line item analysis of where the budget could be reduced. Dr. Moran noted that the only increases in the budget are those related to growth or are included as an initiative.

Mrs. Moynihan requested information on where the family support workers are located within the budget and what is the cost of these positions.

Board members noted that they are willing to take the reduction of the swim and dive program off of the reduction list at this time.

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.

Mr. Koleszar noted that he attended the last meeting of the Access Albemarle Committee.

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Adjournment.

At 9:33 p.m., hearing no objections, Mr. Gallaway adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk