A Business Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on February 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., Lane Auditorium, Albemarle County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mr. Jason Buyaki; Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Mr. Stephen Koleszar; Mr. Graham Paige; Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Ms. Kate Acuff; and Mr. David Oberg.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Matt Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Vince Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Sheila Hoopmann, Capital Projects Manager for Building Services; Mr. Jay Thomas, Principal of Albemarle High School; Mr. John Blair, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk to the School Board.

Agenda Item No. 1.1. Closed Meeting – if needed. None.
Agenda Item No. 1.2. Closed Meeting Certification. None.

Agenda Item No. 1.3. Call to Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Acuff, Chairman, called the meeting to 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. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Mrs. Moynihan **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 3.1. Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
3.2 The Shannon Foundation for Excellence Grant FY15/16
3.3 Investing in Innovation Grant
3.4 Minutes – 2015
3.5 E-rate Program Funds
3.6 Donations and Reimbursements to School Division FY16 – 2nd Quarter
3.7 Personnel Action
3.8 Personnel Action – Athletic Coaches
3.9 For Information: Policy Reviews and Revisions.

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

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda. None.

Agenda Item No. 5.1. Spotlight on Education.

Dr. Haas said that on behalf of the entire School Division team, he thanked the Board for their leadership and thoughtful direction and input as we worked through another funding request cycle. This is among the most important contributions made to our students each year but hardly the only way in which you influence the quality of education in our schools. Not only do we appreciate the role you play in developing our funding request and ultimately, our budget, but we are grateful for your support of so many of our programs.

So, February being School Board Appreciation Month, we'd like you to hear from some our students about the difference you are making in their lives through the two programs that received Magna Awards from the National School Board Association.

We've noted it before but it's worth repeating—Albemarle County Public Schools is the only school division in our nation—and there are more than 13,500 school districts across the country—we are the only one to have received two Magna Awards for program innovation and excellence.

With us this evening is Josh Beidler, an Albemarle High School sophomore and an alum of the M-Cubed Program, and two Monticello High School seniors, Noah Borgersen and Liam Snyder, who are veteran Learning Commons enthusiasts. They were then asked to share with the Board thoughts about their participation in these two world-class programs.

Dr. Haas then recognized the School Board members with their "academy awards" from the Virginia School Boards Association.

Dr. Acuff then recognized Mrs. Johnston for School Board Clerk Appreciation Week. She presented a resolution to Mrs. Johnston.

Agenda Item No. 5.2. Announcements.

Dr. Haas noted that Dr. Moran is not in attendance at the meeting. She is in Phoenix, Arizona with the American Association of School Administrators to find out who will be the National Superintendent of the Year in which she is a finalist.

Mr. Tistadt said that it appears that the school division will be eligible for FEMA reimbursement from the recent winter storm.

Agenda Item No. 6.1. Public Comment. None.
Agenda Item No. 7.1. School Board/Superintendent Business. None.

Agenda Items No. 8.1. Red Hill Elementary ES Modernization – Design Development.

Ms. Hoopmann and Mr. Jack Clark, RRMM Architects, provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Red Hill Elementary School modernization design development. RRMM Architects presented the Red Hill Modernization project design development drawings for the School Board's approval. The project includes modernizing and furnishing 13 classrooms and the media center as well as providing a new controlled security entrance to direct visitors to the main entrance. This work will provide parity with other elementary schools in Albemarle County while meeting the following design imperatives of contemporary learning spaces: transparency, sustainability, flexibility, mobility/interactivity, making everywhere, problem/project/passion based learning, choice & comfort and inside/outside. Construction will begin in June, 2016 and will be phased through the summer, fall and early winter. The architect is working with school administration to schedule construction phasing to minimize the impact to school operations. The security entrance will be complete in November, 2016 and the modernization project is anticipated to be complete by December 1, 2016. The presentation included: 1) the scope of the project, 2) an overview of the existing floor plan of the school, 3) an overview of the proposed changes to the floor plan, 4) a proposal for phasing the project, and 5) a review of the probable costs for the project.

Mr. Buyaki asked about the add alternates and it is decided which one(s) will move forward if the bids are favorable.

Mr. Paige asked if the plans included something to address the high ceilings.

Mrs. Moynihan asked if there was a historical aspect of the school building that should be maintained.

Mr. Alcaro asked about the number of washrooms within the school.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to approve the design development drawings for the Red Hill Elementary School modernization project and provide authorization to proceed with the construction documents phase and bidding. Mr. Paige **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Agenda Item No. 8.2. Update from the High School Council.

Mr. Thomas provided the Board with an update from the High School Council. The High School Council, comprised of teacher, administrator, and counselor representatives from each of the division's three comprehensive high schools as well as Murray High School and CATEC, is working proactively to ensure quality and equity across our high schools. They provide a conduit for communication among the schools, Central Office, and all high school stakeholders to solicit feedback and share information. They identify significant issues relevant to the high schools, and research and make recommendations to the appropriate stakeholders. The HSC continues to value the process of faculty and school-based administrator driven innovation. This drives our process of:

❏ creating a tangible focus or project (ex. Culminating Alternative Assessment and Innovative Ideas, next step to look at Diploma Seal)

❏ brainstorming possibilities and analyzing current and desired states to uncover opportunities and challenges

❏ have critical, data driven conversations about change

❏ determining both shared elements and site based elements for implementation of new initiatives

❏ integrating a feedback and reflection process to get input from a range of stakeholders including students and staff

They have taken on important initiatives (our "hedgehog" concepts) with the council as highlighted below.

1. **"Pilot" End of Course Alternative Culminating Assessment – 2014/15 & continued in 2015/16**

In the spring of 2013, the High School Council (HSC) discussed the educational philosophy and instructional purpose of end of course assessments. After facilitating discussions and soliciting feedback from colleagues at each building, the HSC recognized that there were many concerns around traditional final exams. The group decided to spearhead an alternative assessment pilot in order to address those concerns and meet the needs of both students and educators. The following points highlight the most significant aspects of this pilot program:

● A culminating assessment at the end of a course provides students the opportunity to reflect on the content of the curriculum by synthesizing, applying, and analyzing course material.
● Given the Division's continuing work at CAI Summer Institutes on creating authentic assessments, the Design 2015 emphasis on performance or project based learning, and the ACPS commitment to Lifelong Learning Standards, teachers have the flexibility to determine the format of the culminating assessment, appropriate to the course content of their classes as well as the level of their students. The format could include but is not limited to the following:

❖ Portfolios

❖ Projects

- ❖ Presentations
- ❖ Simulations/Role plays
- ❖ Labs
- ❖ Problem solving activities
- ❖ Socratic seminars
- ❖ Performances
- ❖ Open forums and debates
- ❖ Papers

● All students in classes with an alternative assessment participate in this culminating event, which counts as their exam grade in the course.
● Students in the classes with teachers who choose to pilot an alternative assessment are exempt from the exam period during the last week of school.
● The majority of the preparation of the culminating assessment occurs during class periods prior to the last day of the course, and the final evaluation and feedback take place at the teacher's discretion once the assessment has been completed.

We are in our second year of the "pilot" as we continue with our plan/do/study/act model. At the end of last year we surveyed students and staff on the experience to help inform any needed adjustments.

We surveyed students to get feedback and directions for improvement for the next round of assessments this spring. The themes we found included a correlation between the timing and quality of assessment and students' favorable attitudes toward the change.

2. **Fostering a Culture of Innovation and Engagement within a Supportive Climate**

While the piloting of the alternative assessment program continues, the HSC is working to identify its next area of focus. Working within the PDSA framework, group members are gathering input from a range of stakeholders to inform the process of identifying and developing specific product or program initiative that will meet shared goals. To do so, the senior staff from central office has shared resources with HSC members and the HSC has partnered with student groups within each school to hear input and gain a better understanding of current state. Our goal is to synthesize stakeholder input and identify a tangible program or project that can be developed and implemented across all high school sites to move the work of the division forward. Specific areas of focus for input and reflection include...

● increasing student voice in our process
● examination of current and desired states in regard to work based learning experiences, as aligned with board priorities
● reimagining high school (Project XQ Grant Application)
● wellbeing of our students and staff
● instructional practices such as homework and grading practices
● strategic planning work on a diploma seal certifying lifelong learning competency aligned with the Board and division strategic Goal

Mr. Koleszar asked what the biggest challenge was to this type of work.

Mr. Paige asked about Team 19.

Mr. Buyaki asked about discipline and student engagement as it relates to the students in Team 19.

Agenda Item No. 8.3. For Action: Proposed 2016-17 School Calendar

Draft A Calendar Information

The Draft A Calendar is the result of two joint City/County Calendar Committee meetings that took place in November and December. The committee is comprised of teachers, Albemarle Education Association (AEA) leadership, and building and central office administrators. Multiple versions of the calendar were shared with the Teacher Advisory and Employee Advisory committees, which were surveyed in November, along with County Student Council, on calendar decisions.
Rather than show various drafts of the calendar to the public, we surveyed the community (through the Community Outreach Survey) on aspects of the calendar under consideration and received nearly 2,000 responses. Among the highlights:

- Nearly 70% of respondents are pleased or very pleased with our current school year calendar.
- We asked about reducing winter break by up to two days to end school earlier for the year and received a tepid response.
- The idea of adding five minutes to the school day to eliminate the two end-of-year make-up days by using the accrued bank time seemed popular.
- Having a ½ day for students followed by a ½ work day for staff also garnered support.

The Draft A Calendar is very similar to the current school year calendar (2015-16) with a few changes:

- To allow for greater Building Services and DART preparations, we eliminated two teacher workdays prior to school starting and moved the division-level professional development days to the second and third days of the pre-services week. The eliminated workdays will be recuperated as professional learning time aligned with division and school priorities.
- We reduced the winter break from 10 days to nine, so that we can finish the school year on June 8 and have the final teacher work day on June 9.
- We plan to add five minutes to each school day. This will add two banked days to our accrued clock hours and eliminate the need for the two make-up days we've been tacking on the end of the school year. We will have two make-up days during the third nine-weeks that can be used more purposefully.
- The last day of school attendance for student will be a ½ day on June 8. The last teacher work day will be June 9.

Draft B Calendar Information

After we posted and received feedback via e-mail and School Board discussion on the Draft A Calendar, we created a Draft B Calendar for your consideration. It also is very similar to the current school year calendar (2015-16) with a few changes:

- To allow for greater Building Services and DART preparations, we eliminated one teacher workday prior to the beginning of school. The eliminated workday will be recuperated as a green workday on January 2.
- We plan to add five minutes to each school day. This will add two banked days to our accrued clock hours and eliminate the need for the two make-up days we've been tacking on the end of the school year. We will have two make-up days during the third nine-weeks that can be used more purposefully.
- The last day of school attendance for students will be a ½ day on June 9. This also will be the last official day for staff.

- School will start on Tuesday, August 23, and end on June 9 to allow for a full, two-week winter break.

Mr. Oberg offered a **motion** to adopt the Draft B calendar as the approved calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion. Dr. Acuff asked for discussion. Mr. Buyaki said that his concern is the number of Mondays missed by elementary students who have certain specials on that day of the week.

Mr. Buyaki then offered an **amendment** to the motion that principals shift schedules to allow students to have the opportunities missed on those dates. Mr. Oberg asked if it needed to be addressed through an amendment since Dr. Haas has already addressed the issue with the elementary principals.

The motion and amendment were withdrawn.

Mr. Oberg then offered a **motion** to adopt Calendar B with the caveat that elementary schools will adjust weekly schedules on weeks without Mondays to ensure that there is consistent access to specials for all students. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

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

Mr. Alcaro asked program evaluations, and when the Board may begin looking at academic programs. Mr. Tistadt said that he will send to the Board the list of programs that are to be evaluated as approved by the previous Board.

Mr. Koleszar said that he attended the VSBA Legislative Conference, and he spent the day talking to legislators. He noted that the constitutional amendment regarding charter schools may not pass.

Agenda Item No. 10.1. Closed Meeting.

At 7:44 p.m., Mr. Koleszar 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 specific candidates for appointment to the Long Range Planning Advisory Committee and the School Health Advisory Board; and prospective candidates for employment as an administrator; subsection 2 to discuss and consider disciplinary matters contained in a scholastic record; and subsection 7 to discuss and consider consultation with legal counsel about the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Buyaki **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed**.

Agenda Item No. 11.1. Certify Closed Meeting.

At 8:10 p.m., Mr. Koleszar 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. Moynihan, Mr. Alcaro, Mr. Buyaki, Mr. Koleszar, Dr. Acuff, Mr. Paige, and Mr. Oberg .
NAYS: None.

Motion carried by a 7:0 vote.

Mr. Koleszar offered a **motion** to appoint Hal Hart to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee as the Scottsville magisterial district representative and Michelle Rindos to the School Health Advisory Board as the Scottsville magisterial district representative. Mr. Alcaro **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Mr. Buyaki offered a **motion** to appoint Daniel Steeper to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee as the Rivanna magisterial district representative and Christine Eagleson to the School Health Advisory Board as the Rivanna magisterial district representative. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Mrs. Moynihan offered a **motion** to reappoint Andrea Mejia to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee as the Rio magisterial district representative and Lisa Brown to the School Health Advisory Board as the Rio magisterial district representative. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed.**

Dr. Acuff offered a **motion** to appoint Tammy Moses to the Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee as the Jack Jouett magisterial district representative and Jody Reyes to the School Health Advisory Board as the Jack Jouett magisterial district representative. Mr. Koleszar **seconded** the motion, **and the motion passed**.

Agenda Item No. 12.1. Adjournment.

At 8:12 p.m., hearing no objections, Dr. Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk