

A Special Meeting of the Albemarle County School Board was held on February 4, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lane Auditorium, County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

PRESENT: Mrs. Pamela Moynihan; Mr. Steve Koleszar; Mr. Jason Buyaki; Dr. Kate Acuff; Mr. Jonno Alcaro; Mr. Dave Oberg; and Mr. Graham Paige.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Pam Moran, Superintendent; Dr. Matthew Haas, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Dean Tistadt, Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Vince Scheivert, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Jackson Zimmermann, Executive Director of Fiscal Services; and Mrs. Jennifer Johnston, Clerk.

Agenda Item No. 1.1 Call Order.

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Acuff called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item No. 2.1 Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 3.1 Moment of Silence.

Agenda Item No. 4.1. Agenda Approval

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

Agenda Item No. 5.1 Public Hearing on Proposed FY2016-17 Funding Request.

Dr. Acuff opened the public hearing on the proposed funding request.

Ms. Kathryn DeAtley is a teacher at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request especially as it relates to compensation, professional development, and elementary foreign language.

Ms. Destinie Thomas is a teacher at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request. She noted her support for funding of professional development, payment for health insurance, keeping small class sizes, and elementary foreign language.

Ms. Carrie Taylor is a teacher at Western Albemarle. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request. She noted that she would like to see more funding going to non-VHSL activities such as robotics and Destination Imagination.

Ms. Cheryl Harris is the vice-chair of the Teacher Advisory Committee and a teacher at Sutherland Middle School. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request.

Mr. Eric Swensen is a parent. He spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request. He asked that the Board look at funding that would support all students at Greer Elementary.

Mr. Jay Thomas is principal at Albemarle High School. He thanked the Board members for serving. He spoke in support of funding for professional development and school nurses.

Mr. Michael Irani is the principal of Meriwether Lewis Elementary School. He spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request. He would support increasing compensation more than the recommendation. The recommendation of funding health care increases, maintaining class size and a modest pay increase is the bare minimum that can be done for teachers.

Ms. Erika Herz is a Greer Elementary School parent. She asked that the Board fully fund schools for the upcoming year. She asked: 1) for the Board to take action right away on Greer Elementary because they need more space immediately, 2) that the Board work with City and private sector leaders to ensure that the division has the resources for the refugee and immigrant populations, and 3) to put effort toward a non-profit foundation to support Charlottesville City and Albemarle County Schools.

Mr. Jim Asher is the principal of Burley Middle School. He supports funding professional development to the fullest extent. He supports fully funding the Superintendent's funding request.

Ms. Peggy Williams is a parent at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School. She asked that the Board fully support Dr. Moran's funding request.

Ms. Robyn Bolling is the principal of Greer Elementary School. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request.

Ms. Lisa Molinaro is the principal of Woodbrook Elementary School. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request especially as it relates to funding for professional development.

Ms. Mary Barrick is a parent. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request.

Ms. Catherine Lochner is a parent. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request. She advocated for the following items that were not included in the request: a special education transition program, full-time nurses in all schools every day, technology, Title I funding, and CSA funding.

Ms. Cheryl Knight is a teacher at Yancey Elementary School and co-president of the Albemarle Education Association. She spoke to the Board about the importance of funding for professional development. She asked the Board to support the Superintendent's funding request.

Ms. Tammie Moses is a parent at Greer Elementary School. She asked the Board to support funding to support the needs at Greer Elementary. She spoke in support of the Superintendent's funding request and to fully support the Capital Improvements Program.

Ms. Ashby Kindler is the principal of Murray High School and the Community Public Charter School. She asked that the Board also pay attention to the items that were not included in the budget.

Dr. Acuff closed the public hearing. She then asked the Board for reflection or questions.

Mr. Alcaro asked about the Community Public Charter Schools desire for additional FTEs during the renewal process.

Mrs. Moynihan asked about the cost of extracurricular activities in terms of VHSL and non-VHSL.

Mr. Oberg noted that he would like to see additional funding for Destination Imagination and other non-VHSL extracurricular activities. Dr. Acuff asked about how Destination Imagination was funded in past years. **There was Board consensus to provide information on the funding of extracurricular activities.**

Mr. Buyaki asked for additional information on Destination Imagination and the Community Public Charter School staffing.

Mr. Paige said that he was impressed that all speakers supported the budget. He also asked about support for the Community Public Charter School. He noted that professional development, compensation and benefits are important for teachers.

Mr. Koleszar feels that the division is not supporting student learning to build future leaders of America. He would like information on the impact of staffing cuts - Assistant Superintendent and Staff Development Coordinator for example – on professional development.

Dr. Acuff said that she supports on-going professional development.

Agenda Item No. 6.1 Other Business by Board Members/Superintendent.

Mr. Zimmermann provided the Board with the answers to questions submitted to staff regarding budgetary items. He also noted that the Board is scheduled to adopt at the February 9, 2016 meeting.

Mr. Buyaki noted that he would like to put forward a balanced budget.

Mrs. Moynihan asked for information on how the proposed additional \$500,000 for professional development would be used. How did staff come to the amount of \$500,000?

Dr. Acuff noted that it may be helpful to have a work session on professional development.

Mr. Buyaki asked how much money is spent on staff to go outside of the County to provide presentations. He also asked about the total cost of translation services.

Mrs. Moynihan asked about the contract services for the alternative education program.

Mr. Buyaki asked about the breakdown of the funds associated with the principal interns.

Agenda Item No. 7.1 Adjournment.

At 8:32 p.m., hearing no objections, Dr. Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chairman

Clerk