

MINUTES
CLOSED MEETING WORK SESSION OF THE
ALBEMARLE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Thursday, September 25, 2025
[Meeting Video Link](#)

Roll Call - UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

Board Members - Dr. Kate Acuff, Ms. Judy Le, Ms. Ellen Osborne, Mr. Graham Paige, Ms. Leslie Pryor, and Ms. Allison Spillman, Student School Board Representatives; Ms. Amy Wang, Mr. Maximilian Kofler, Ms. Claire Curry, and Mr. Leyton Cox

Absent – Dr. Rebecca Berlin

Staff Members - Superintendent Matthew Haas; School Division Counsel Josiah Black; Assistant Division Counsel Erin Stone; Assistant Superintendent Daphne Keiser; Assistant Superintendent Chandra Hayes; Chief Operating Officer Rosalyn Schmitt; Chief of Human Resources Dan Redding; Acting Public Affairs and Strategic Communications Officer Jennifer Butler; Clerk of the Board Christine Thompson; and Administrative Support Specialist Lauren Crawford

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1.0 OPENING ACTIVITIES

Agenda Item No. 1.1 Call to Order - At 6:30 p.m., Chair Acuff called the Albemarle County School Board meeting to order.

Agenda Item No. 1.2 - Roll Call

Agenda Item No. 1.3 - Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item No. 1.4 - Moment of Silence

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Ms. Le offered a **motion** to approve the agenda. Ms. **Osborne** seconded the **motion**. **A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously (6-0)**. [Dr. Berlin was absent]

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Agenda Item No. 3.1 School Board and Superintendent Business

Dr. Jolanda Rollins-Fells, President of the Virginia School Boards Association, addressed the Board to honor Mr. Graham Paige for his years of service to VSBA and to public education. She extended the Executive Committee's deep gratitude on behalf of the association, noting his lasting impact on both Albemarle County and the Central Region.

Dr. Rollins-Fells highlighted Mr. Paige's service since 2019, including roles as Regional Nominating Committee Chair, General Assembly Delegate (2020, 2023), and Central Region Chair (elected in 2023). She also recognized his multiple VSBA Academy Awards: Award of Excellence (2023), Award of Honor (2024), and Award of Distinction (2025).

She presented Mr. Paige with a plaque acknowledging his commitment, leadership, and dedication to advancing K-12 education across the Commonwealth and invited him forward to accept the award.

Chair Acuff thanked Dr. Rollins-Fells for honoring colleague Graham Paige. She noted that, having served alongside Mr. Paige for the past ten years, she can attest that he is deeply deserving of this recognition and many others. She expressed her gratitude for the presentation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT - No Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.1 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 5.2 Personnel Action
- 5.3 Approval of the Minutes
- 5.4 For Action: Local Gifted Plan
- 5.5 Personnel Action: Athletic Coaches
- 5.6 For Action: Policy Review and Revisions

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6.0 ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA - Ms. Le moved to approve the **Consent Agenda**, with an amendment requested by Ms. Spillman to pull Item 4.4 (Local Gifted Plan) for further information and discussion at the October 9, 2025 meeting. Ms. Le accepted the amendment. Ms. Osborne seconded the **motion**. The **motion** passed unanimously by voice vote (6–0). [Dr. Berlin was absent]

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.0 CLOSED MEETING

Agenda Item No. 7.1 Convene Into Closed Meeting - Mr. Paige offered a motion that the School Board of Albemarle County, Virginia 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:

1. Subsection 1 for the discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment and the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; the purpose of this item is to discuss two personnel issues and the application of School Board policy;
2. Subsection 8 for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel; the purpose of this item is for School Division Counsel to provide an update on collective bargaining with the Albemarle Education Association; and
3. Subsection 19 for discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel or law-enforcement or emergency service officials; the purpose of this item is for staff to advise the School Board regarding safety protocols at its meetings and regarding measures to prevent the theft or misuse of confidential documents and data.

Ms. Le seconded the **motion**. A roll call vote was taken, and the **motion** passed unanimously (6–0). [Dr. Berlin was absent]

Agenda Item No. 7.2 Security & Safety Protocols at School Board Meetings - This session was designed to provide School Board members and Cabinet leadership with guidance on how to respond effectively in situations involving potential threats or intended harm by an individual or group. The Albemarle County Police Department provided training on emergency response protocols, including best practices for situational awareness, threat assessment, and coordinated response.

Agenda Item No. 7.3 The Board took a break from 7:37 p.m. to 7:43 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 7.4 Digital Security - The Department of Technology facilitated an informational and educational session around digital security, including topics about internet filtering and firewall, data privacy, and phishing.

Agenda Item No. 7.5 Collective Bargaining Update

Agenda Item No. 7.6 Closed Meeting Certification - Mr. Paige offered a motion that the School 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. Ms. Le seconded the **motion**. A roll call vote was taken, and the **motion** passed unanimously (6–0). [Dr. Berlin was absent]

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item No. 8.1 Other Business by Board Members and/or the Superintendent - None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.0 ADJOURNMENT - At 9:20 p.m., hearing no objections, Chair Acuff adjourned the meeting of the Albemarle County School Board.

Chair

Clerk