



Board-to-Board

August, 2015

A monthly report from the Albemarle County School Board to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

Long Range Planning Recommendation—The Board has received a recommendation of \$123 million dollars in capital projects from the Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC). In their report, the committee noted the impacts of continued enrollment growth, investment in existing facilities, and funding challenges. In addition to continuation projects, such as maintenance, security improvements, and projects to address enrollment growth and overcrowding, the recommendation included a comprehensive learning space modernization that would provide classroom improvements in each division school. The Board will review the committee recommendations before finalizing a capital project request at the August meeting.

Summer Learning in ACPS— More than 1,000 students across the division are taking advantage of summer learning opportunities at the elementary and secondary levels. These include the Fine Arts Academy, which provides opportunities to focus on various visual and performing arts, including creative writing, drama, and jazz; the popular CoderDojo workshop, which provides students from all levels and backgrounds the opportunity to learn computer coding, and the Leadership Academy, which is aimed at high school students and is co-facilitated by a recent graduate of Western Albemarle High School.

State Conference—The Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association (VTEEA) annual conference was hosted by the division last week, drawing more than 200 teachers, the largest group in years. Educators, administrators, and industry participants will learn about Albemarle's diverse career and technical education programs, maker curriculum in grades K-12, and the collaboration with neighboring school divisions and UVA on the Investing in Innovation (i3) grant project during conference sessions led by division educators and students.

Shannon Grant Recipients—Twelve teachers across the division received funding from the Edgar and Eleanor Shannon Foundation for Excellent Education totaling \$8,869.00. The funds will be used to support innovative project-based learning in each classrooms, including classroom garden projects, student designed maker spaces, and a weather station. The winners include:

Lee Owen, Baker-Butler Elementary School
Lisa Baker, Baker-Butler Elementary School
Lisa Harman, Baker-Butler Elementary School
Beth Kavounas, Red Hill Elementary
Angie Foreman, Stone-Robinson Elementary
Leslie Wills-Taylor, Woodbrook Elementary
Tony Zentgraf, Burley Middle School
Rob Dent, Jouett Middle School
Lisa Boyce, Henley Middle School
Caroline Bertrand, Western Albemarle High School

Leadership Team Changes—

Henley Middle School: Following the move of Dr. Patrick McLaughlin to become the division's Strategic Planning Officer, Dr. Beth Costa has named principal at Henley Middle School. Dr. Costa has been an assistant principal at Monticello High School since 2012, where her responsibilities have included managing the transition of middle school students to high school. She also has overseen instructional programs in English, English as a Second or Other Language (ESOL), and math, and supervises the school's college-readiness program. Dr. Costa began her career in education as a high school English teacher in 1998. She also has been an English department head, adjunct professor of English, and a program coordinator in Language Arts, in addition to serving as a lead coach and assistant principal.

Stone-Robinson Elementary School: Kristen Williams has been named principal at Stone-Robinson Elementary School following Dr. Nicholas King's move to the central office to become the division's Student Services Officer. Williams joined Albemarle County Public Schools in 2000 as a kindergarten teaching assistant at Woodbrook Elementary School, where she subsequently served as the literacy specialist for seven years. She became the division's Elementary Language Arts Coordinator before taking on the role of Lead Instructional Coach. As a member of that team, she assisted in the design and implementation of the coaching model. She also serves as the division's K-12 Language Arts Coordinator and as both the Title I and Preschool Coordinator. In each of these responsibility areas, Williams closely worked with teachers and principals on oversight of the language arts curriculum, improving assessments of student progress, and in implementing instructional best practices.

Associate/Assistant Principals:

Reed Gillespie, Monticello High School
Ashby Johnson, Monticello High School
Tireese Lewis, Burley Middle School
William Schaffer, Jouett Middle School

School Board website: <http://www2.k12albemarle.org/Pages/default.aspx>