



# Board-to-Board

January, 2017

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

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**New Board Posts**—The School Board during their first meeting of the new year named Dr. Kate Acuff as chair, and Jonno Alcaro as vice-chair. Both Steve Koleszar and Jason Buyaki will remain on the Legislative Committee, and Jason Buyaki will remain on the CIP Oversight Committee. Additionally, Dave Oberg, Pam Moynihan, Kate Acuff, and Steve Koleszar will represent Albemarle County Public Schools on the CATEC Center Board.

**Funding Request**—Superintendent Dr. Pam Moran has presented a \$180.8 million funding request to the School Board. This marks a 4.7 percent increase over the previous year's adopted budget, and leaves the school division with an anticipated \$691,261 shortfall against expected revenues. Drivers of the funding request include rising healthcare costs, compensation and benefits, and a growing population of students who require significant additional services, such as ESOL instruction or intervention and remediation services.

This year's funding request includes one new initiative, which addresses equity and access for students, and is aimed at improving numerous outcomes for at-risk students. The \$1.27 million initiative will launch with pilot program that will create the Social-Emotional-Academic Development team (SEAD) for the division's four urban ring elementary schools: Agnor-Hurt, Woodbrook, Greer, and Cale. After an initial piloting period, the division anticipates a SEAD team to work with each feeder pattern. The School Board will present their budget to the Board of Supervisors in late February.

*Daily Progress Coverage:* <https://goo.gl/gZ36iW>

*Charlottesville Tomorrow Coverage:* <https://goo.gl/0IbW9D>

**High School 2022**—Beginning with the freshmen class of 2018, the high school experience for Albemarle students will look and feel different from today's program of studies. In accordance with new state legislation signed by Governor Terry McAuliffe this past year, the state Board of Education has recommended that a new Applied Knowledge and Skills Competency be part of the Commonwealth's high school diploma requirements for all students who will graduate in 2022 and later.

On Tuesday, January 17 at Monticello High School the school division held a community input session for students and families. The session included a screening of the documentary *Most Likely to Succeed*, which focuses on project-based, experiential learning, as well as breakout sessions.

*Daily Progress Coverage:* <https://goo.gl/0ymovn>

**Praise for ACPS**—Niche, a national education assessment organization, which each year evaluates more than 60 million K-12 school reviews and survey responses to identify the Best Public School Districts in America, has ranked Albemarle County Public Schools among the top five school divisions in Virginia, and among the top five percent of all school divisions in the nation.

Niche says its decisions are based on a rigorous analysis of academic and student life data from the U.S. Department of Education, along with test scores, college data, and ratings collected from millions of Niche users. The organization says it selects each ranking's factors to represent a healthy balance between statistical rigor and practical relevance.

Among those factors, Albemarle County Public Schools earned an A+ for the college readiness of its students, as well as an A for academics, teachers, health and safety, and athletic programming.

***Congressional Visit***—In mid-January, newly-elected Congressman Tom Garrett visited all four high schools in Albemarle County. Rep. Garrett met with students and staff at each school, and spent time listening to students, as well as learning about Albemarle's approach to education. Among Rep. Garrett's committee assignments is the House Education Committee, so Albemarle County Schools looks forward to serving as a resource for Rep. Garrett on federal education policy issues.

*School Board website:* <http://www2.k12albemarle.org>