



Arlington School Board

COMMITTED TO THE SUCCESS OF ALL STUDENTS

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

Calendar

- Sept. 5 Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 6 First Day of School
- Sept. 8 School Board Meeting
- Sept. 12 Open Office Hours with Barbara Kanninen 5-7 p.m.
- Sept. 13 ACI Reception 6 p.m. Syphax Center
- Sept. 19 Open Office Hours with James Lander 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 23 We Are All Arlington! Understanding and Celebrating our 40-Year Legacy of Immigrants 6-9 p.m. Wakefield HS
- Sept. 26 Open Office Hours with Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez 5-7 p.m.

Share your pictures with us!

#APSBBack2School

School Board Leadership for SY 2016-17

During its annual organizational meeting on July 1, 2016, the Arlington School Board elected **Nancy Van Doren** to serve as chair for the 2016-17 school year. Nancy Van Doren was appointed to the School Board on September 12, 2014. She is an education advocate with 10 years of experience as a parent, volunteer and leader in APS.



At the July 1 meeting, Nancy shared plans for the coming year: "In my year as chair, we will strengthen our foundation for the future growth of our school system. We will meet the capacity needs of our expanding student population through the many projects recently approved in our Capital Improvement Plan. Instructionally, we will begin the re-design of our high school curriculum based on new Virginia standards. We will ensure efforts are undertaken to strengthen instruction, target student support, and improve staff development. We will engage the community in a process to re-envision Drew Model Elementary School. We will update policies to reflect the needs of our growing and changing school system. We will do this within the context of a multi-year plan that outlines the school system's work through 2021. Throughout all this growth and change, we will stay focused on what is most important – our students and their success."

The Board also elected **Dr. Barbara Kanninen** to serve as Vice Chair of the School Board. Barbara joined the Arlington School Board on January 1, 2015.

As a member of the School Board, Barbara has served as liaison to the South Arlington Working Group, Whole Child Working Group, Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, and Student Advisory Board. She knows that every child is more than a test score and she is committed to expanding opportunities for all students to develop their critical thinking, creative, technical, and job skills. She will continue to tackle overcrowding with constructive, positive community engagement and make sure APS always focuses on what matters most: supporting teachers and students in the classroom every day.



Contact the School Board:

1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22207

Voice: 703-228-6015 Fax: 703-228-7640 Email: school.board@apsva.us



APS School Board
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Academic Performance

At the August 18 School Board meeting, Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, provided a summary of recent data on student performance on the 2016 Standards of Learning (SOL) test results in reading, math, science and social studies. Based on preliminary data, all schools will be fully accredited this year. Dr. Natrass emphasized that the data presented is one of many sources of information analyzed to measure student achievement. Data disaggregated by school will be available in September at www.apsva.us/statistics.

New Official Sport - Ultimate Frisbee

The School Board voted to make Ultimate Frisbee a new official athletic co-curricular activity in middle and high schools. This addition to APS school sports provides another opportunity for students to participate in activities that help them develop as well-rounded adults and addresses students' interests and needs. The season is expected to begin in October.




School Board FY 2017 Priorities

Every Year the School Board establishes annual priorities to assist in keeping the Board's work focused, effective and aligned with the Arlington Public Schools Strategic Goals. This year's School Board Priorities are built around the overall goal of ensuring that every student is valued and encouraged to succeed. The Board will present their FY 2017 Priorities as an information item on September 8 and will move to approve the priorities on September 22. The draft priorities will be posted on the School Board site at www.apsva.us/schoolboardnews.

Options for Balancing High School Enrollment

The Board is reviewing recommendations presented at the August 30 Work Session on Instruction and Facilities, and is also deliberating on options for future high school boundary changes. The Board will act on these changes later this year after a community engagement process, and will make a decision before High School Information Night. The changes would only affect students entering high school as rising ninth graders in the fall of 2017. Additional adjustments to the admissions and transfers policy will also be considered to allow students a choice in high schools with transportation to the extent capacity allows.

For up-to-date information, feel welcome to visit the More Seats for More Students web page at www.apsva.us/more-seats-for-more-students/ for the latest information.



WE ARE ALL ARLINGTON!

Understanding and Celebrating our 40-Year Legacy of Immigrants

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23, 2016 • 6 - 9 PM • WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
1325 S. DINWIDDIE ST., ARLINGTON, VA 22206

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Arlington community is invited to attend "We are all Arlington! Understanding and Celebrating our 40-Year Legacy of Immigrants," a program combining performing and visual arts, history, and public dialogue. This event will place a special focus on the immigrant experience and milestones of the past 40 years.

We are all Arlington will be held on Fri, Sept. 23 from 6-9 p.m. at Wakefield High School. For more information, visit WeAreAllArlington.org or call 703-672-1541.