

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Arlington School Board

**From:** Family and Consumer Sciences Advisory Committee

**Date:** November 3, 2014

**Subject:** Recommending Year Report for 2014-2015

### **Introduction**

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) Advisory Committee focuses on the FACS instruction in both middle and high school as well as the Even Start Family Literacy and Teen Parenting Programs. The committee is made up of 9 members with a broad range of experiences within the Arlington community. Our members have backgrounds in business, non-profits, government and community organizations. To get a better understanding of the importance of FACS curriculum, the committee meets monthly at FACS locations. We have met at each of the middle and high schools, the Even Start Family Literacy Program and the Teen Parenting Program with presentations from teachers, staff and students. A list of committee members is provided in Attachment A.

FACS provides programs and instruction to help students to become healthy and productive through developing skills for interpersonal relationships, resource management, self-esteem and nutritious living. FACS also includes certification and dual enrollment courses in teaching, early childhood education and childhood development. In addition, FACS is responsible for overseeing Even Start Family Literacy Program and Teen Parenting Program. The Even Start Family Literacy Program provides adult, early childhood and parenting education. The Teen Parenting Program provides support services, infant and child care, health education, community resources and outreach services which enables the mothers to receive an education and become better parents and providers for their children.

**Recommendation: Provide full-time supervisory staffing to support FACS programs and instructional needs as is done for other subject areas.**

**We recommend that APS remain committed to providing supervisory oversight by providing 1.0 FTE dedicated to the FACS area to ensure that the curriculum and programs continue to grow to support the needs of the student body.**

**Continuing the current situation (one 0.5 FTE to provide supervisory oversight over the curriculum of FACS which includes TPP and Even Start and the curriculum of Business & Information Technology, Computer Science and Marketing Education areas) seems unlikely to produce high quality education.**

Trying to develop, supervise and lead the FACS and the Business & Information Technology, Computer Science and Marketing Education areas with the 0.5 headcount will seem to only result in a caretaker role for both of these areas.

These are precisely the courses that need to be updated on a continual basis as technology changes both the content and the delivery system of each. A list of the courses supported by the FACS and Business & Information Technology, Computer Science and Marketing Education Supervisors is provided in Attachment B.

There are many challenges facing the Arlington school system such as increase in number of students, additional requirements for graduation and ability to identify changes to continue to challenge and engage students. Such challenges require supervision, leadership and expertise. This is particularly important for the instructional areas and programs of FACS.

- Starting last school year, the State of Virginia requires that every freshman who graduates with a standard diploma must have one state approved industry certification to help them be more prepared for life after high school either in the workforce or in higher education. The classes that provide the option for certification are primarily in the area of FACS and Career and Technical Education (CTE). Last year 34% of the graduates received a standard diploma or approximately 523 of the 1,541 seniors. Therefore FACS and CTE areas of studies will need to provide the courses to fulfill the certification

requirement which is often completed through a sequence of classes and testing.

- As part of FACS, the Teen Parenting Program (TPP) just completed its first year at the Career Center (CC) after transitioning from Reed. This was a significant change to the program. All the staff involved worked diligently to complete the transition and to integrate the teen mothers into the three academic programs at CC (Arlington Mill, Academic Academy and Hilt) while continuing to provide child care and support services. For this year, the principal at the CC and the staff have initiated dedicated time to allow for tutoring sessions and parenting groups which are positive steps. The majority of TPP students (60% in 2013-2014) were assigned to Arlington Mill and we are hopeful that they will also be receiving these support services to help them graduate. The performance of TPP students needs to be evaluated and the program components need assessment and oversight on an on-going basis to ensure that the mothers are successful.
  
- To continue to be relevant to the students, the FACS courses offerings should continually be evaluated to determine best practices, identify areas of improvements, and ensure that the latest technology is available. They must be up to date and reflective of what students will find when they enter the workforce or decide to pursue higher education if they are to have value to a student. It is also important to identify ways that the students can see how the skills learned in FACS classes are applied in careers through such avenues as internships, business involvement and mentoring. New offerings need to be investigated and implemented as appropriate.
  
- In addition to APS funding of the Even Start Family Literacy Program and Teen Parenting Program, additional funding is sourced by the FACS Supervisor through non-profit and government grants. This requires the identification of grant opportunities, the development of submissions in response to available grants and the management of the monitoring and reporting to meet the requirements of each grant. In 2013-2014 school year, these programs were

supported by grants totaling \$114,212. The list of the grants is provided in Attachment C.

For these reasons we recommend that the position of Family and Consumer Sciences Supervisor be fully funded.

**APS 2011-2017 Strategic Plan Alignment:**

Goal One: Ensure that Every Student is Challenged and Engaged

Goal Two: Eliminate Achievement Gaps

Goal Four: Provide Optimal Learning Environment

Goal Five: Meet the Needs of the Whole Child

Budget Implications: \$120,000 (estimate)

- The cost of the salary and benefits for the full-time position for FACS Supervisor.

## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **List of Members of the FACS Advisory Committee**

Sally Brady, Chair

Darlene Bakke

Kristin Bruce

Renee Henning

Luann Moy

Nancy Pilchen

Sharon Tessman

Linda Wardle

Jenn Vogel, ACI Liaison

APS Liaisons

Marilyn Scholl, Supervisor, Family and Consumer Sciences, Teenage Parenting Program

Kris Martini, Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education

## ATTACHMENT B

### Course Offerings for FACS and Business & Information Technology, Computer Science and Marketing Education

#### A. High School and Career Center Course Offerings

##### A.1 Family and Consumer Sciences Courses

Course Name	Course #
Child Development and Parenting I	28230
Child Development and Parenting II	28231
Food and Fitness I	28272
Food and Fitness II	28273
Interior and Fashion Design	28287
Teachers for Tomorrow	29062
Independent and Family Living	28225 or 28209
Life Planning	28227
Family Management	28279
Early Childhood Education I	28235
Early Childhood Education II	28236

##### A.2 Business & Information Technology, Computer Science, and Marketing Education Courses

Course Name	Course #
Computer Keyboarding I	26151
Computer Keyboarding II	26152
Computer Information Systems I	26612
Computer Information Systems II	26613
Computer Networking and Internet App Design, Multimedia, and Web Technologies	29800
Entrepreneurship	26630
Introduction to Information Technology	29094
Advanced Topics on Business and Marketing	26116 or 28483
Advanced Topics in Information Technology	28137 or 28138
Computer Science I	26645
Computer Science II	26640
Computer Science, AP	26641
IB Computer Science Part I	33185
IB Computer Science Part II	36560
IB Business and Management	26570
IB Information Technology in a Global Society	36114
Intro to Business and Marketing	36613
Computer Programming	26112
Computer Hardware, Networking, and Cyber Security	26647
	26635

## ATTACHMENT B (continued)

### B. Middle School Course Offerings

#### B.1 Family and Consumer Science Courses

Course Name	Course #
Life Management Skills	18244 and 18245
Taking Charge	18201
Teen Living	18207 and 18206
Exploring Family and Consumer Sciences	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade

#### B.2 Business & Information Technology, Computer Science, and Marketing Education Courses

Course Name	Course #
Computer Applications and Internet Technologies	13106 and 13107
Digital Input Technologies	16617 and 16607
Exploring Computer Keyboarding Applications	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade

## ATTACHMENT C

### FACS Grants 2013-14

<b>Source of Funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>
USDA	\$ 25,782.25
Washington Forrest Foundation	\$ 9,0000.00
Resource Mothers	\$ 59,430.00
Family Literacy Grant	\$ 20,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 114,212.25</b>