



September 10, 2008

Dear ACI members and Advisory Committee members,

The School Board welcomes back returning members to ACI as well as new members. Your involvement is instrumental in helping the Board to understand parents' perspectives on instructional matters of importance to our children, schools, and community. Your dedication to this effort is appreciated. There are a number of initiatives that have been implemented over the years about which the ACI has provided valuable guidance. A few of these include:

- enhancements to transportation of students with disabilities to decrease travel time,
- expanded implementation of elementary Spanish instruction in addition to Spanish Immersion through the Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) program,
- the first of a proposed three-step phased implementation of dedicated computers for secondary students enrolled in foreign language and science courses.

We are delighted that Board Member Libby Garvey will once again be serving as the liaison from the Board to the ACI. Her service as liaison recognizes the importance Board Members place on issues and needs discussed by the ACI.

Board Members appreciate the responsiveness of ACI to our request to consider ways to make the ACI process as effective and efficient as possible. The ACI developed and piloted procedures last year for restructuring "ACI Night" as a School Board Work Session so that we could engage in conversation not only about ACI committee recommendations, but also about staff's response to those recommendations. We are pleased that we will be implementing the changed procedure this year and look forward to those discussions next spring.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the students, parents, and citizens of Arlington. My colleagues and I wish you much success this year. We look forward to working with you as we continue our efforts to provide a world-class education for the students of Arlington's world-class community.

Sincerely,

Ed Fendley, Chair  
School Board