

APS Staff Response

Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC)

Annual Report 2016-2017

Recognitions

Staff would like to acknowledge the contributions of the following departing FAC members and to thank them sincerely for their time and efforts: Greg Greeley, Ron Molteni and Heather Obora who have each served six years, Pam Silberstein who has served five years, and William Schimmel who has served two years. Staff would like to acknowledge in particular the service of Greg Greeley who has served as chair of FAC for the past year, previously served as chair of the South Arlington Working Group, which led to County Board approval for construction of the new Alice West Fleet Elementary School on County land adjacent to the Thomas Jefferson Middle School and Community Center, and is currently serving as Vice Chair of the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC).

FAC Work

FAC members have provided outstanding support to the School Board and staff over the course of the year as APS continues to address its sustained enrollment growth. Many members helped to manage and acted as ambassadors during community meetings for the high school boundary process.

A sub-committee, led by Lois Koontz, evaluated potential sites for the 1,300 high school seats included in the FY 2017-26 CIP. The sub-committee's evaluation was impartial as to instructional program and preferred site selection and focused on APS sites. The work provided a valuable foundation upon which the Department of Instruction evaluated possible instructional programs for each site, and greatly facilitated keeping the process on schedule for the School Board's decision in late June. This important work which was followed by several FAC meetings, in which the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and the Arlington Council on Instruction (ACI) chair and co-chair also participated, and by the first joint ACI/FAC meeting. These meetings signaled a new degree of collaboration between the Departments of Instruction and Facilities and Operations, in which instructional decisions lead facilities decisions as far as possible.

FAC members shared their work with JFAC members. Having the FAC chair also serve as vice-chair of JFAC ensured that APS interests were considered throughout JFAC's deliberations over County acquisition of and potential County and APS uses of the Buck and Virginia Hospital Center sites.

Construction Manager at Risk

We appreciate FAC's support for Construction Management at Risk (CMR) procurement methodology, which we propose to adopt on all projects over \$10 million in construction cost in accordance with the APS Purchasing Resolution. Although actual construction on projects using this methodology is only now commencing and no projects have yet been completed, our current projects have attracted the highest quality construction managers, who have all provided outstanding services to date.

Program Management

At every FAC meeting we have provided updates on the status of all of current capital projects. We know that FAC understands the workload that continued enrollment growth is imposing on Facilities and Operations, and supports the contract for Program Management (PgM) services that the School Board awarded on June 15 that will help us to manage that workload. The Program Manager will provide us with valuable technical expertise, benchmarking of costs, educational specifications and other data and processes against other school districts around the country, prepare documents including a procedures manual and subsequently a design standards manual, and supplement APS staff both part-time and full-time on site and at the Trades Center. The Program Manager will support both the Capital Construction and the Minor Capital/Major Maintenance (MC/MM) programs.

Minor Construction and Major Maintenance

We particularly appreciate FAC member John Giambalvo's enthusiastic and supportive participation in the MC/MM project prioritization process this year, as we continue to keep all of our facilities functioning as well as possible for our students.

Looking Forward to 2017-18

We look forward to the contribution of FAC to the upcoming middle and elementary school boundary change and the FY 2019-28 CIP processes scheduled for the 2017-18 school year.