

**Kindergarten through Grade 8 Options Zones** Zone 1 (West) Zone 2 (East) Abingdon-Arlington Science Focus-Ashlawn-Barcroft-Barrett-Drew-Carlin Springs-Glebe-Discovery-Hoffman-Boston - Jamestown-Long Branch-McKinley-Oakridge-Nottingham-Patrick Henry-Tuckahoe-Taylor-Reed IB-Randolph IB-Claremont Immersion-Key Immersion- Montessori, Campbell, & ATS- Kenmore STEAM-Stratford STEAM-Swanson IB-Jefferson IB-Williamsburg Immersion-Gunston Immersion- Montessori & H-B Woodlawn

Strengths	Challenges	Other Thoughts
		<p>Feel strongly that parents should have a say or a "vote" in what Options focus path their neighborhood school is "assigned" to. Also, more clarity is needed on how students in their neighborhood MS will opt in/or opt out of the Option provided at that MS? More info should be provided in the briefings on what IB and STEAM would entail.</p>
<p>Interesting. Would like to learn more about this option. Like having the IB option for two Middle Schools. Nice to be able to move from ASFS to a Science Focused MS.</p>	<p>Being true to the IB middle school years program and not keeping the same curriculum of teaching to the SOL test in all Middle Schools.</p>	<p>What language would Williamsburg immersion be?</p>
		<p>siblings must be guaranteed admission to ASFS no matter what school zone they are currently in. If ASFS is to become a neighborhood school as proposed, it is essential that a walk zone be created around the school.</p>
<p>Terrible idea</p>	<p>It doesn't make sense to have Abingdon and CIS kids who are from South Arlington neighborhoods (e.g. Claremont, Fairlington, and Columbia Forest neighborhoods) be bussed all the way north to Williamsburg. Ditto for kids who attend Taylor - bussing them all the way south to Gunston doesn't make sense.</p>	<p>The more viable option would be to have Spanish immersion at a CENTRALLY located MS - e.g. TJ or Kenmore. Adding immersion is a good idea, but placing two immersion MS's at the farthest north and south ends of the county is a transportation nightmare, for students and for parents.</p>

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	how can you turn Key (an elementary school that your own numbers say will be the 2nd largest in the county) from a neighborhood school into a countywide program. Won't this mean that Science Focus and Taylor will have more than 850 kids?	
I like that children would stay within a single school pyramid from elementary through high school (for neighborhood schools) and thus would not lose half of their friends to a different school.	I do not like the limitation of secondary offerings as: STEAM, IB, or Immersion.	Grow the programs that have wait lists. Build another HB Woodlawn AND increase capacity at the HB Wilson site.
looks good		
easy to understand		
	immersion needs to be at 1 middle school -- too hard to find qualified teachers; spanish resoures (books) are very expensive	
		Please change the attendance zone of ASFS so kids who live walking distance from it can attend. And as a resident of Lyon Village, I can promise you that parents here are not going to let their kids cross Kirkwood, so as long as kids are getting on a bus, have the bus go to Taylor.

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Might be thought to have the appearance of addressing Arlington's North-South divide in education quality	Could prompt white flight out of Arlington Science Focus and Taylor attendance areas	Instead of two zoned STEAM schools, two zoned IB schools, and two zoned Spanish-only "immersion" schools, have one or more countywide option schools focused on STEM, Fine and Performing Arts, IB, vocational/technical education, and world languages (immersion or non-immersion) including but not limited to Spanish
love it - I think it is great.		
Balanced	Traffic north and south seems hard. Globe and Carlin springs are tough. Balancing enrollment. Also Williamsburg immersion seems like a long trip	Co locate the k-8 immersion programs?
none	many	As a parent, I would withdraw my child from the immersion program when they enter MS in order to avoid the hassle of transportation to/from a school at the other end of the county
	What a nightmare for southwest families to try to get to northwest schools.	Please consider sibling preference for secondary schools as well.
None	Complicated. Unnecessary. How will you ever get enough qualified teachers? Will create a lot more special interest groups as each school community advocates for itself. The traffic in Arlington will be a nightmare with this plan	Focus on the basics of a good education. Choice schools have created many problems within our county and this is not going to do much to help.
I think it a great way to break the north/south divide at last!		

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Clarity and transparency.	Not	Has county surveyed residents about preferences for option versus neighborhood schools at the elementary level? Not sure that there are sufficient options. Immersion may need more. Not sure that there will be high demand for elementary school IB. Would prefer more immersion, maybe another language?
		What about current strengths in neighborhood schools like CETA and other special classes
	You continue to sort schools and opportunities by home value with these options which is truly disappointing.	
Clear, straight forward.	What to do with the students in the Rosslyn -Clarendon corridor who lack a natural neighborhood school. How many will go to Taylor vs. ASFS vs. want to go to Key (and probably not many more than already choose Key)	If Science Focus is to be a neighborhood school, it MUST have as a MINIMUM an APS-standard size "walk zone" that constitutes part of the bigger neighborhood it serves.
	1. It is not clear what percentage of each Middle school will have the "focus"-- will it be 100% or some lesser amount? If a lesser amount, this seems unfair because those students in Williamsburg, for example, who do not elect the Immersion Track would then automatically be excluded from any "special focus" option (such as STEAM or IB) unless they elected to leave their Neighborhood school, which most kids/families do not want to do (or cant logisitcally). 2. Would Yorktown also be immersion?	Wouldn't it be possible to offer a "track" of each (STEAM, IB, and Immersion) at each neighborhood MS so all students would have an equal chance at each option.

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		ASFS is excellent school and students test very high on standardized tests compared to Key. Not sure how that will change if ASFS becomes neighborhood school, where currently parents are opting out of Key and other schools so their children can go to ASFS. The overall committment of the families with the students brings a stronger sense of community to the school and the children excel more.
Creating a second immersion middle school would be a big help for immersion families on the west side of Arlington for whom the commute to Gunston is prohibitive		
	this downgrades ASFS from an Intel-award winning science elementary school (rare in the US) to a traditional school without any explanation or transparency in process	
Better than the 4 zone breakout used for the last 5 years.		
Very good idea, addresses diversity and inclusion issues well.	Do not combine Montessori middle school with Montessori elementary. Asking 7 and 8th graders to stay at the smallest elementary school in the county along with lower lementary students a few peers will kill the program, which is currenlty excellent. Grow the Montessori program, not shrink it, to meet the demand.	
I like the idea of IB elementary and options for middle schools.	Will certain options appeal to certain types of students, thus creating disparities in the middle schools?	

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Seems ideal for most programs.	Immersion should not be divided in MS because it would weaken the program.	
	poor division.	
None		First graders and eight graders are so mentally different they should not be in the same schools.
diversity; creating equal access to specialized programs	complicated decision making; heightens competition to choose/get in to "right" elementary, middle and high school; and weakens neighborhood school community and morale	prefer all schools be raised up instead of siloing options. Does a kid or parent know what kind of program to choose?
SAME AS ABOVE. I like the expansion of the immersion programs.		
It is at least an attempt to re-think what our quickly changing County looks like now compared to 30 years ago.	At the elementary level, the line-up seems to still reflect an economic disparity. Has anyone looked at the economic basis? Does it really accomplish anything?	School program profiles need to be carefully digested by residents before making a final decision.
I like the concept		
		Unclear from the information whether all options in one's zone will be available to all students. And how does this relate to neighborhood alignment of "focus schools" outlined above?
I'm in West zone (Abingdon) and like the options that I would have. My kids are currently PK and 2; if these zones are finalized I would opt for Kenmore STEAM for my current 2nd grader and either Claremont-Williamsburg or for my current PK kid (with IB as second choice).		

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		I don't think there is either a need or an ability to create a second middle school immersion program. the numbers from elementary school drop off at the transition to middle school in immersion for all sorts of reasons, not just the location of Gunston. and it is very difficult to get qualified teachers who can teach immersion at the MS level (and even more so at the HS level). makes more sense to have one ALL immersion MS, more centrally located, if necessary.
	TERRIBLE and compicated..	OPPOSE
simplfies	TOO MUCH communing north and south, too much money for busses and too high of an environmental impact busing kids	
	May get pushback if parents don't like a particular school in their zone. For example, children who live near Taylor would have to travel further for an Immersion program (Gunston vs. Williamsburg)	
there are no apparent strengths, the time and resources used to develop this could have been better utilized to improve learning outcomes or improve quality of life in the County.	Wow- It is so obvious that the land grab of HB Woodlawn was a political move by a small group of deep pocketed well connected folks who want their perfect kids to walk to a perfect STEAM school that they don't have to pay tuition for. Rich people used to send their kids to private school when I was growing up.	Honestly, these Zones are a BAD IDEA. Ultimately this will create a divided,not complementary, APS. It is so obvious that this is what a lot of people in the county are going for, because traditional geographic delineations no longer hold true- everywhere is prime real estate now. Get the real estate development political lobbyist element out of APS!!

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		Are these balanced socioeconomically?
		Ridiculous. The taxpayers need clear, well articulated explanations as to the need for this adjustment. The school system has not presented viable information to support these positions.
Nothing outright objectionable		See above
		oppose, many of us purchased to go to our neighborhood schools
		Would like Stratford to be ib.
this seems like it's potentially a better way		
provides more options/programs for folks interested	will get tricky moving entire Elem schools through one zone - it does some automatic redistricting; for example there are planning units that go to glebe but are a 3-4 block walk to Swanson and currently districted for YHS but would then get moved to Stratford and have to be bused over and then also changed to WL. I am sure this is not the only example.	hope that Williamsburg immersion is optional
	this proposal has another brand new school, Reed, being slated as a option school. this is unfair to the students that surround Reed and are walkable to it; overall this plan will will create the need for more busing all over the county	what is the real benefit of an IB program at the elementary level, especially with the spanish program currently in the schools

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		Arlington is already so divided with "haves" and "havenots" mentality (right or wrong). Adding the east/west divide further segregates our community, and leaves us open for more criticism like "well of COURSE the IB for elementary is at Reed...that's the north WEST portion of arlington. Why didn't they put it in south west ...." etc.
IB programs in each zone, immersion in each zone	inequity	
	Your data will never tell you where parents will want to send their kids to school in relation to "choice or option" schools.	Dividing the county by an east/west line is appalling. You are trying to change demographics of the schools by making this dividing line --- you have no way of guaranteeing what "choice or option" schools parents will choose, if any. This will not help with overcrowding. Focus on neighborhood schools that provide the same learning opportunity.

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	Swanson, for example, is already crowded. Where will the IB students fit? I doubt enough Swanson students will be siphoned off to STEAM or immersion programs to make room for many extra IB students	The concept is convoluted and will likely cause problems with overcrowding in the more popular programs. Will Reed have a neighborhood preference? What has happened to McKinley Elementary, with enrollment numbers greatly underestimated and then NOT CORRECTED is unconscionable. Reed absolutely should be brought on-line with the first priority relieving overcrowding at McKinley. Why are we discussing all of these options rather than fixing immediate needs NOW?
		don't have special schools for immersion or steam. Teach all kids spanish, math, science, technology arts, and engineering
I think this is a smart way to divide the county that doesn't further entrench segregation, and that attempts to balance our imbalanced neighborhoods (both in population and in socioeconomic status)	I don't know whether it will work, but it's worth a try	I like Reed and Randolph as option schools. Due to their locations in very segregated parts of Arlington, it's the only possible way to promote diversity and integration by choice.