

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
April 6, 2017

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at 6:34 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Reid Goldstein, Member
James Lander, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING: (6:35 PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to discuss the assignment of several employees as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting.

The closed meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Van Doren moved to certify that to the best of her knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting and only such public business matters that were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered, seconded by Mr. Goldstein and adopted in a vote of 4-0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Mr. Lander – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

Ms. Van Doren called for a brief recess.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING

Also present were:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Cintia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services

¹ Video clips of regular School Board meetings can be viewed on the APS Web site at the following link: <https://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/view-school-board-meetings/>
DVDs of all regular School Board meetings are also available for viewing in the School Board office.

Paul Jamelske, Director, Special Education
Terance Proctor, Director, Service Support Center and Infrastructure Services

1. Call to Order: 7:30 PM

Ms. Van Doren called the meeting to order and announced that Ms. Talento was not able to attend as she was out of town.

2. Presentation of the Colors

3. Recognitions

Mr. Jamelske and Washington-Lee High School students recognized teacher Lester Albers in honor of Military Child Month. Ann Daffen, Schools Liaison from Joint Base Ft. Myer/ Henderson Hall, presented Mr. Albers with a certificate to thank him for his support for military families. Pam Farrell, Supervisor, Visual and Performing Arts, and Michelle Picard, Supervisor, English/Language Arts, then recognized students who received Scholastic Arts Awards.

4. Announcements: (7:54 PM)

Meetings:

- April 18, 2017 Enrollment and Transfer Work Session, 7 PM, Room 101

School Board Budget Calendar (Meetings in Rm. 101 A/B at 7 PM):

- April 7, 2017 Joint School Board/County Board Budget Work Session, 9 AM, County Board Room
- April 25, 2017 Budget Work Session #5 if needed, 5:30 PM
- April 20, 2017 Public Hearing on School Board Proposed 2018 Budget
- May 4, 2017 Board Action Item - School Board's Adopted FY 2018 Budget

Important County Budget Dates:

- April 22, 2017 County Board adoption of FY 2018 County Budget

Dr. Murphy announced upcoming events and recognized student achievements. He announced the Week of the Young Child and Summer School Registration. After reviewing the FY 2018 Budget calendar, he encouraged students and families to talk about celebrating safely and being respectful.

Mr. Lander thanked staff and participants for the successful Aspire to Excellence event. Mr. Goldstein shared highlights from the Antarctica Night presentation at Washington-Lee and appreciated Assistant Principals in recognition of Assistant Principal Week. Dr. Kanninen shared details about meetings being presented by Yorktown students on building respect.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:09 PM)

Mr. Lander moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. January 26, 2017 ACI Work Session
 - b. February 28, 2017 Budget Work Session #2
 - c. March 10, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting
 - d. March 21, 2017 Budget Work Session #4
 - e. March 31, 2017 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

2 Retirements

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

2 Appointments
1 Change from Retirement to Resignation
6 Resignations
1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
2 Retirements

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

1 Appointment
1 Change In Position/Salary
1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
1 Retirement
3 Suspensions (Without Pay)

3. ACI Appointments
4. Perkins Grant
5. ~~Receive Briefing Report:~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
6. Contract Amendment for Pre-Construction Construction Manager at-Risk Services for the New School at Wilson

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:10 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board stating concerns about technology use/screen time in the schools, encouraging APS to carefully control the applications students can access, and encouraging developing and implementing best practices in the schools:

Ann Marie Douglass, parent
Julia Young, Drew parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Graham Weinschenk, Student Advisory Board (SAB): updating the Board on the two focuses of the SAB, which are to sponsor conversations about what diversity means to students, and to propose revisions to School Board Policy 10-6.5 Student Advisory Board.

Michael Nardolilli, Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA): announcing that in celebration of 50 years' partnership with APS, the AOEA is dedicating two 'tiny houses' at the Outdoor Lab for staff, and inviting all to attend the spring Open house on May 20.

Ms. Van Doren announced that the Board will hear Action and Information before Monitoring Items.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:24 PM)

1. School Board Proposed FY 2018 Budget

Ms. Peterson presented the School Board Proposed FY 2018 Budget, explaining changes that were made to the Superintendent's Proposed Budget. These were a modest increase in state revenue and reduced expenditures resulting from changes based on the spring enrollment update. She then summarized the budget as revised.

Ms. Van Doren moved to adopt the Superintendent's Proposed budget as updated totaling \$616,047,024, seconded by Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. Lander moved to amend adding a Technology Efficiency of \$1,800,000 to the baseline budget, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Board members confirmed that this change will incorporate savings realized through adjustments to the procurement process that result in reduced costs. Dr. Kanninen clarified that this is not a change to the 1:1 technology initiative.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote, and the motion to amend was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Mr. Lander moved to amend the budget as follows:

- *Adding a 1.0 FTE Transportation Planner to support comprehensive multi-modal transportation planning for APS and the work of the County-Schools joint Committee on Transportation Choices (ACTC) at a cost of \$97,820.*
- *Eliminating a 1.0 FTE School Board Assistant at a cost of \$90,440.*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. Lander stated his belief that the transportation planner should take priority over additional staff in the Board office at this time. Board members agreed that the planner position reflects community interest in stronger collaboration with the County and will support the work of the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote, and the motion to amend was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Mr. Lander moved to amend the budget as follows:

- *Realigning the following reductions:*
 - *Move the reduction of psychologists and social workers from Tier 1 to Tier 2*
 - *Move the reduction of 2.0 FTE Curriculum STEM Specialists from Tier 1 to Tier 2*
 - *Move the reduction of the utility efficiencies from Tier 1 to Tier 3*
 - *Move the reduction of the after school activity buses from Tier 1 to Tier 3*

I also move to amend the budget by:

- *Adding the following reductions to Tier 2:*
 - *Eliminate the addition of 1.0 FTE AETV position*
 - *Reduce 1.0 FTE Technician position*
 - *Eliminate the addition of 1.0 FTE Central Registration position*
 - *Adjust utility reductions in Tier 3 to \$200,000*

The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Board members confirmed that this amendment adjusts allocations among the three tiers identified for potential reductions if the budget is not fully funded. It was also noted that any cuts that directly impact students were moved to the last tier.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote, and the motion to amend was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Ms. Van Doren restated the main motion, moving to adopt the School Board's FY 2018 Proposed budget as amended in the amount of \$614,254,404 which includes additional funding from the County in the amount of \$11,176,571.

Thanking Ms. Peterson and Finance staff for their work and the community for their input, Dr. Kanninen stated her hope that the County Board will fully fund this Budget. She confirmed plans to evaluate the 1:1 technology initiative to ensure that it supports student learning and Dr. Murphy agreed to update the Board on this initiative. Mr. Goldstein also appreciated the staff, County Board and community for their participation in the budget process and efforts to address the budget gap.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote, and the motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Looking forward to the Joint Budget Work Session, Ms. Van Doren thanked staff, Board members and the community. She also appreciated the County Manager's efforts to meet the Schools budgetary needs.

2. Revision of Select Student Services School Board Policy: (8:44 PM)

Mr. Jamelske confirmed that there are no updates to this policy revision.

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board approve the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 25-1.8 Opening Exercises, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (8:46 PM)

1. Amendment to Purchasing Resolution

Mr. David Webb, Director of Purchasing, presented the proposed amendment to the Purchasing Resolution, explaining that this amendment will allow APS to purchase renewable power at a more affordable cost. Staff recommends approval of this amendment. Responding to questions, Ms. Peterson confirmed that the Board will be involved in all decisions related to installing solar panels.

The following speakers addressed the Board in support of the amendment, recognizing the savings that can be realized by using solar energy, and encouraging the Board to expand use of solar panels throughout the schools:

*Will Driscoll, parent
Katie Casey, 350 Arlington*

2. Revision of School Board Policy 25-4.3 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: (8:54 PM)

Mr. Jamelske briefly reviewed the policy changes that are being proposed to Policy 25-4.3, which are minor grammatical corrections or language changes.

Ms. Van Doren commented on the recent Supreme Court decision related to services for students with disabilities and Dr. Murphy confirmed that this policy revision will address these changes.

3. Contract Award for Pre-Construction Construction Management at-Risk Services for the Relocation of Administrative Offices to Sequoia Plaza Two: (8:57 PM)

Mr. Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented the proposed contract award for pre-construction construction management at-risk services for relocation of the administrative offices to Sequoia Plaza Two, reviewing the selection process and sharing staff recommendations. Responding to questions, he described the services that will be provided through this contract.

4. Lease Agreement with Arlington County Government for the Thomas Jefferson Property to Construct the new Elementary School: (9:00 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented the proposed lease agreement with the Arlington County Government for property at the Thomas Jefferson Middle School site. He confirmed that the 75-year lease will enable APS to build the new elementary school at the site, and APS will pay no rent as a result of this lease.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:03 PM)

1. APS 3-5 Year Plan Superintendent's Update

Dr. Murphy presented the update, briefly reviewing the plan and initiatives that support it. Noting that the areas of engagement are complex and overlapping, he reviewed the status and timeline for the initiatives through 2022-23. He also shared APS projections for growth in enrollment and summarized County population forecasts. He also highlighted plans to add capacity and the work of the Joint Facilities Advisory Council and longer-term planning.

Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Evaluation, updated the Board on revision of the enrollment and transfers policy, highlighting the goals of the revision as well as community engagement and feedback opportunities. Dr. Natrass then presented an update on the high school instructional focus which is looking to identify a location and program for 1,300 additional seats. She also shared the concept being considered for a K-12 instructional vision. In closing, Dr. Murphy reviewed next steps and online opportunities for information and engagement.

The proposed K-12 instructional vision was discussed and Dr. Murphy confirmed that there will be ample opportunity for providing feedback. He noted how this initiative relates to revision of the enrollment and transfer policy, and reiterated that the options being considered for high school seats are not ranked. The group discussed the timelines for Board decisions, and Dr. Murphy confirmed that the processes underway will inform these decisions. Board members appreciated the recent community sessions on the revision of the enrollment and transfer policy, noting the meeting structure provided the community with opportunities to learn and provide input.

2. Projections Report: (9:42 PM)

Dr. Murphy introduced Dr. Richard Grip, who conducted a review of APS projections processes. Dr. Grip described his review process, which included a site visit and conversations with staff, Board members, County staff, and community stakeholders. He confirmed that his review of the APS fall projections process indicates that the projections are sound and use methods standard in the field of school demography. He then shared recommendations for improvements to the process in the areas of building confidence in the projections, providing transparency and improving communications, and implementing improvements defined by the Community Facilities Study. Dr. Grip also reviewed the APS-County data sharing agreement that will support and enhance projections. The implementation plan for the upcoming fall and spring projections were also presented, and in closing, Dr. Grip reiterated his key findings.

Board members appreciated the report, and Dr. Grip responded to questions, explaining why projections at the division level are significantly more accurate than at the school level. He confirmed that projections will never be completely accurate as there are so many variables that can affect the population. The group discussed variability in capacity resulting from various factors such as site topography. Also discussed were the current planning units and whether APS should adjust them to a more standard size, and other approaches to redistricting. Recognizing interest in improving projections, Dr. Grip noted that APS is making a good effort to ensure that seats are being planned for the growing enrollment. The group also discussed how best to balance the longer term and shorter term projections, and Dr. Grip reiterated that the farther out the projections are done, the less accurate they will be. He also noted that high school projections are more predictable as they look at students currently in the system. Dr. Grip also spoke briefly about his recommendations, noting that increasing transparency was the top focus.

Dr. Murphy thanked the planning staff and Dr. Grip for their work, and confirmed that APS continues to work on improving projections. He confirmed staff is working with the County to implement recommendations from the Community Facilities Study, and will continue to collaborate and receive input from stakeholders in the community. Staff will also present a response to this report at the next Board meeting.

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board