

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
June 1, 2017

Item C-1-b

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 6:07 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
Tannia Talento, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

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 consider the appointments of Principal, Williamsburg Middle School; Assistant Principal, Wakefield High School; one administrative reassignment; and appointments to the Advisory Council on Instruction, the Budget Advisory Council and the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Ms. Talento. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting.

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:40 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. Lander and adopted in a vote of 5-0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Mr. Lander – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

Ms. Van Doren called for a brief recess for Board members to attend a reception for APS retirees.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING

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.

Also present were:

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Cintia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
David Webb, Director/Purchasing Agent, Finance and Management Services
Dr. Brenda Wilks, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services and Special Education

1. Call to Order: 7:05 PM
2. Presentation of the Colors
3. Recognitions

The Superintendent and Board members recognized APS retirees, thanking them for their dedication and contributions over the years to Arlington Public Schools.

4. Student Advisory Board Annual Report

Members Graham Weinschenk, Sophia Anderson and Mahia Ahmed presented the Student Advisory Board annual report, sharing information about three topics the group focused on this year: Diversity in APS, revisions to School Board Policy 10-6.5 Student Advisory Board, and student engagement. They also highlighted student participation at Board meetings and reviewed next steps for the SAB.

Ms. Talento and Dr. Kanninen, who served as liaisons to the SAB, appreciated the devotion and hard work of the students. Ms. Van Doren asked for more information on how their statement about diversity was developed, and the students described their efforts, including outreach to all of the high schools. The Board appreciated the students for their work.

5. Announcements: (7:44 PM)

Meetings:

- June 5, 2017 Closed Meeting, School Board Conference Room, 7:30 PM
- June 9, 2017 Committee of the Whole, School Board Conference Room, 8:30 AM

Dr. Kanninen announced National Gun Violence Awareness Day, explaining the history of Wear Orange Day, and encouraged all to participate in events and activities. Dr. Kanninen and Ms. Talento described recent trips they took to Sister Cities as representatives of the County. Dr. Kanninen visited Aachen, Germany, and Ms. Talento traveled to Rheims, France.

Dr. Murphy spoke about recent SOLs, thanked Food Services for providing free breakfasts during the testing, and announced summer school registration options. Recognizing the dangers of illegal drugs in the community, he described the

partnership between APS and County Police in efforts to keep the schools and community safe. He also shared end of year celebrations and dates.

Social Studies Supervisor Kathy Hix and community members Kevin Clark and Michael Jones described local history lessons being developed to be incorporated in the curriculum in Arlington Public Schools.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:10 PM)

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. May 30, 2017 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Classification Request
Coordinator, Federal Programs
- 4 Changes In Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Extension of Probationary Period
- 1 Nonrenewal of Contract

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Retirement
- 1 Termination

3. Grants and Restricted Programs
Project #19 – Champions Together 2016-2017 at Washington-Lee and Yorktown
Project #20 – Upgrade of Wakefield High School’s Weight Room Equipment
Project #21 – Homeless Assistance-Arlington Community Foundation

4. Receive Briefing Reports
 - a. Social Studies Update
 - b. World Languages Update
 - c. ~~Graduation Task Force Update~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

5. Appointment of Budget Advisory Council Chair / Vice Chair

6. Appointment of ACI Co-chair

7. Appointment of Chair/Vice Chair of the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs

8. Personnel Matter FY17-02
9. Personnel Matter FY17-03

Ms. Van Doren announced that as a part of consent, the Board accepted briefing reports on Social Studies and World Languages. She also announced that Bryan Boykin was appointed principal, Williamsburg Middle School, and Frances Lee was appointed Assistant Principal, Wakefield High School. The Board also made appointments to the BAC, FAC and ACI.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:18 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Mary Van Dyke, resident: asking for dedicated staff and funding to support outdoor learning, which supports the whole child and shared ideas for opportunities for outdoor learning.

Juliet Hiznay, resident and parent: stating concerns about students' civil rights, specifically as affected by the initiative to bring police dogs into the schools. She also stated concerns about interrogating students without representation.

LuAnn Oliver, parent: appreciating the recent community meeting on personalized learning, encouraging staff to survey parents for feedback; sharing concerns discussed, and encouraging the Board to pause the 1:1 initiative until more safeguards are in place.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:30 PM)

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

Dr. Murphy presented the update, sharing what has been accomplished so far this year on several initiatives, and noting items that will be presented later in the meeting. He also forecasted future efforts and processes that will begin in the coming year. He reviewed documents that outline these initiatives as well as timelines for the upcoming processes and projects. He also highlighted additional opportunities for engagement.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:34 PM)

1. Revision of School Board Policy 25-2.2 Enrollment and Transfers for Schools and Programs

Ms. Stengle provided a brief update and summary of the initiative to revise SBP 25-2.2. She outlined goals of the effort and reviewed community engagement including meetings and electronic communications. After explaining the outcomes of the policy changes, she confirmed that staff will continue to work on a proposal for a lottery process and will look at the definition of option schools, and will bring information back to the Board in the fall. She also reviewed timing considerations for moving forward. In closing, she highlighted cross-departmental teams, reviewed next steps, and confirmed that this policy will support future initiatives.

The following speakers addressed the Board, opposing the proposed revisions, asking the Board to delay the vote until more study is done on the impact of changes on Arlington Science Focus and Key Schools. Speakers recognized the strength and diversity of the schools and were concerned about a negative impact on diversity:

Sonali Korde, Arlington Science Focus School
Benjamin Harris, Arlington Science Focus School
Lynne Smullen-Volz and Rabia Oubenadi, Arlington Science Focus School
Dima Hakura, Arlington Science Focus School
Steve Leutner, Arlington Science Focus School
Heidi Fitzharris, Arlington Science Focus School

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

William Gillen, parent: stating support for the policy revisions, recognizing the size and complexity of the current policy, encouraging all to look at the broader picture, and recognizing that this change will affect many schools.

Michael Beer, parent: appreciating the work on revising the policy, but expressing concern that diversity was not included as a primary consideration in this process and encouraging the Board to continue to support diversity in all of the schools.

Mr. Goldstein asked about how the policy change affects plans to accommodate continued growth. Ms. Stengle confirmed that staff is working to address this growth, and will gather data and work with Instruction to determine the best tools and actions to use. Responding to questions, Dr. Murphy confirmed that significant community engagement will take place and stressed that staff will develop proposals for Board consideration, as is the usual process. Dr. Kanninen noted community concerns about grandfathering, and Ms. Stengle confirmed that the plan is to grandfather in younger siblings, who will be able to stay at the new school until they move to the next level. The group also discussed Immersion and how to balance enrollment of Spanish and English speaking students. The group also considered enrollment projections and recognized other tools that help balance capacity. Dr. Murphy explained how decisions are made that focus on providing appropriate staffing and quality instruction at all schools. He recognized special programs such as exemplary projects available at many schools, and Mr. Lander noted that APS is moving towards a STEAM focus across many schools. Dr. Natrass then outlined next steps to build the K-12 instructional focus, including defining option schools.

Mr. Lander made the following motion:

To help APS prepare for 30,000 + students, while:

- *Providing a blend of neighborhood and option schools*
- *Ensuring more equitable access, and*
- *Simplifying the policy and standardizing practices,*

I move that the School Board approve the proposed changes to policy 25-2.2 found in draft 9, which includes changing the title from “Enrollment and Transfers for Schools and Programs” to “Options and Transfers”.

These changes will apply as students enroll for 2018-19 and subsequent years.

In addition, the policy changes will not apply to:

- *Students enrolled at a school/program prior to the 2018-19 may continue through that school's grade levels*
Note, these students are defined as grandfathered students"
- *Siblings of "grandfathered students" may enroll at a school if they will be concurrently enrolled with their "grandfathered sibling"*
- *"Grandfathered students" enrolled at the school/program prior to 2018-19 will continue to receive transportation*
- *Siblings of "grandfathered students" are eligible for transportation as long as the "grandfathered student" who was enrolled at the school/program prior to 2018-19 remains at the school.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento.

Mr. Goldstein proposed the following amendment:

I move that the text of the proposed SBP 25-2.2 draft #9 be amended as follows: Under the heading "Admissions", in paragraph "B", in the 3rd bullet, insert the word "elementary" between the word "same" and the word "school", so the amended sentence reads: "Siblings who will be concurrently enrolled at the same elementary school will receive priority in admission."

The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Mr. Goldstein stated that this amendment will continue current practice. Ms. Talento stated her support for the amendment but asked how this affects enrollment. While appreciating the value of siblings at the same school, Dr. Kanninen acknowledged community concern about the impact of grandfathering on crowding and access to choice programs. She asked that research be done on this and stated her support for the original motion. Mr. Lander also felt that grandfathering siblings at the secondary level should be carefully considered, and noted the importance of consistency and equity across the county. He reiterated concerns about managing enrollment growth. Ms. Van Doren opposed the amendment, stating that grandfathering at all levels supports the whole child, strengthens family engagement, reflects community interests, and provides equity at all schools and all levels. Mr. Goldstein appreciated the comments and looked forward to more conversation about options and enrollment.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote on the proposed amendment and the motion was adopted in a vote of 3-2, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively, and Mr. Lander and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

Mr. Goldstein then made a statement concerning diversity in APS, pointing out that it is a core value of the Board and is strongly supported throughout the community. He acknowledged feedback from the Student Advisory Board about the importance of diversity and the impact it has had on students' educational experiences. While recognizing that Arlington values diversity, he expressed concern about demographics

and housing patterns that do not reflect an inclusive community and result in segregated schools. He recognized dedication to the whole child and acknowledged that wraparound services are provided to meet each child's needs, but stressed the importance of opportunities for students to be together to learn how to understand, communicate, and work with a broad range of people. He suggested using the Options and Transfers policy as a tool to enhance diversity by allowing families flexibility in selecting which school to attend. Recognizing that implementation would be determined by staff, Mr. Goldstein proposed the following:

Accordingly, in keeping with APS' mission to prepare students to be responsible and productive global citizens, APS' vision to be a diverse and inclusive school community, and APS' core value of diversity, I move that we insert the following sentence after the second paragraph in the proposed draft #9 of SBP 25-2.2.:

“The implementation of this policy will include steps to enhance diversity in our option schools and through our transfer practices.”

The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Opposing the amendment, Mr. Lander stressed that the Board's focus is on instruction and on providing each student, regardless of socioeconomic status or race, with the education they need and deserve. Ms. Talento also stated her opposition, reiterating that the Board must provide equal opportunities to each student to meet their individual needs, regardless of their ethnicity. She agreed that diversity is important, and encouraged in-depth discussion of diversity in the community and support for diversity in school policies. Ms. Van Doren opposed the amendment from a process perspective, stating that the proposal should have been brought forward earlier in the process for discussion and consideration in the community prior to action. She also stated her commitment to celebrating differences and recognized that each individual and community has different strengths. Dr. Kanninen supported the amendment, as she felt it would provide needed direction in policy to guide efforts to address diversity. Mr. Goldstein thanked his colleagues for their comments.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote on the proposed amendment and the motion was failed in a vote of 2-3, with Mr. Goldstein and Dr. Kanninen voting affirmatively, and Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

Stating that although he will support the adopted policy, Mr. Goldstein noted concerns with the policy and process, specifically about transparency and a lack of trust in the community. He thanked staff and the community for their work, engagement and passion. Mr. Lander acknowledged similar concerns, but recognized that the unprecedented growth in enrollment has resulted in the need for APS to consider different approaches to balance enrollment. He recognized excellence in all the schools, and assured the community that the Board's primary commitment is to provide the best education to each child. Commenting on correspondence received on the policy revision, Dr. Kanninen assured all that the Board appreciated and considered all input. She summarized concerns that were heard and recognized that the policy revision will help address crowding and balance enrollment. She reiterated

the Board's commitment to maintaining the quality of all schools, and stated that the policy revision helps build the foundation for work that needs to be done. Ms. Van Doren also appreciated that this action will strengthen equity in the schools and agreed with her colleagues' comments on the quality and strength of all APS schools.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote on the original motion as amended, and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Ms. Van Doren called for a 5 minute break.

2. Revision of School Board Policy 20-1.210 Award of Credit, Non-Core Courses:
(10:33 PM)

Dr. Natrass presented one slight change to the proposed revision, which was to clarify the appeal process.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 20-1.210 Award of Credit, Non-Core Courses, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Mr. Goldstein commented that he will vote for the revised policy at this time but suggested a future revision to align the appeals processes in all policies. Staff agreed to bring an update on how this change affects students once it has been implemented.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:34 PM)

1. High School Options

Dr. Natrass presented the High School Options, first reviewing estimates of countywide and school enrollment growth in the coming years. She highlighted past studies, community feedback, and staff analysis that informed development of the options being proposed to add 1,300 secondary seats. Three sites, Kenmore, the Career Center and the Education Center, were identified as potential locations for additional seats. As the sites were analyzed, a fourth hybrid option was also explored, that would renovate the Education Center, adding 500-600 seats, and also renovating the Career Center to add 700-800 additional seats. Staff continues to analyze the options and to consider additional feedback. Dr. Natrass then outlined the criteria used in site analysis and based on that analysis, the Superintendent recommended the hybrid option. The Superintendent also recommended continued consideration of other sites for future needs. Dr. Natrass then described work that continues to address capacity needs, such as the Joint Facilities Advisory Council's efforts to identify potential sites.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Lois Koontz, parent: expressing concern with the recent hybrid option and asking for more study and clarification around costs and feasibility of this option before a decision is made.

Michael Beer, parent: stating concerns that school sites are not being maximized for adding capacity and encouraging the Board do more to address crowding.

Staff responded to questions on topics such as further consideration of these sites, the number of seats being proposed, and the financial feasibility of the plans. Ms. Talento asked about increasing the size of the Career Center, and Dr. Murphy agreed provide additional information about the site. Staff also agreed to bring back cost projections for the hybrid option. Responding to Dr. Kanninen, Dr. Murphy confirmed that the hybrid option does not hinder APS from doing additional renovation or expansion at either the Education Center or the Career Center site in the future. Additional topics discussed were community interest in additional smaller programs, the difference between the County population forecast and APS projections, and the importance of working as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible.

2. Instructional Resources Adoption: (11:08 PM)

Introducing this item, Dr. Natrass described the approach APS takes to identify resources that will meet all needs as well as help APS meet Strategic Plan goals. After reviewing key terms and the resources needed, she described the selection process, highlighting the rubric used to analyze materials and describing opportunities for public input. Resources are being recommended for Science, Language Art and History, and Dr. Natrass shared the specific materials that are proposed for these instructional areas. In closing, Dr. Natrass spoke briefly to future needs.

Board members were interested in the selection of culturally relevant materials and how culturally relevant instruction is provided in classrooms. Dr. Murphy agreed to bring back examples that address this inquiry. Dr. Natrass provided information about authentic texts and next steps being taken to find resources to address the identified future needs. She also described in more detail the community engagement that occurred. The group discussed how materials will be provided to families who are not able to access digital information. Ms. Van Doren was concerned about the lack of recommended materials for students with special needs and English language learners, and Dr. Natrass confirmed that staff is working hard to meet this need.

3. Adoption of the Name for New School at Jefferson: (11:43 PM)

Annie Turner, Principal at Patrick Henry Elementary School, presented the proposed name for the new elementary school to be built at the Jefferson site. After describing the membership of the naming committee, she shared a brief history of Patrick Henry Elementary School, which was the first elementary school in Arlington and has been designated a Blue Ribbon School. After sharing highlights of the name selection process, she confirmed the group is recommending the school be named the Alice West Fleet Elementary School. In closing, Ms. Turner shared information about Ms. Fleet, a long-time Arlington resident and APS teacher who made many valuable contributions to the County.

Ms. Talento thanks Ms. Turner and the committee for their work and for sharing the history of the school and the story of Ms. Fleet's contributions to Arlington.

4. Revision of School Board Policy 30-2.2 Boundaries: (11:51 PM)

Ms. Stengle presented proposed changes to School Board Policy 30-2.2 Boundaries, stating that staff believes the overall policy is sound. A few minor suggestions were made to refine some terms and to clarify the policy language. Reviewing next steps, Ms. Stengle confirmed this revision will support upcoming boundary processes.

Ms. Van Doren asked staff to continue to work towards consistent language throughout all policies. Mr. Goldstein shared some thoughts on what are currently called criteria in the policy, and the Board encouraged community feedback.

5. Revision of Select School Board Policies: (11:56 PM)

Dr. K. Murphy presented recommended revisions to three policies that prohibit discrimination, describing proposed changes to School Board Policy 10-13 Human Rights, School Board Policy 25-1.15 Student Equal Education Opportunities/Nondiscrimination, and School Board Policy 35-4/4 Employee Relations – Equal Employment Opportunity.

Ms. Van Doren encouraged soliciting input from the community and Dr. Murphy agreed to share proposed changes widely to encourage input. The group also discussed why there are different compliance officers for staff and for students.

6. Construction Contract Award for the Kenmore Middle School Internal Modifications: (12:04 PM)

Mr. Jeffrey Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented this item, reviewing the background, bid review process, and proposed budget and funding costs. In closing he summarized the staff recommendation.

7. Construction Contract Award for the Wakefield Internal Modifications: (12:06 PM)

Mr. Chambers presented this item, reviewing the bid review process, proposed budget and funding costs, and summarizing the staff recommendation.

Responding to questions, Mr. Chambers confirmed both that modification projects will be done this summer. Staff agreed to provide the Board with the list of businesses that bid on these projects.

8. Contract Award for Job Order Contracting: (12:09 PM)

Mr. David Webb, Purchasing Director, presented this item, explaining the services covered and the selection process for awarding the contract. He confirmed this is the first time APS has used this approach, and agreed to provide additional information in writing about how the job order contracting process works.

9. Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 2 for the New School at Wilson: (12:13 PM)

Mr. Chambers presented the proposed contract, explaining services to be provided through this contract. Staff shared costs and recommendations, and confirmed that the costs do not exceed the proposed budget.

10. Contract Award for Pre-Construction Construction Management at-Risk Services for the Career Center Renovation: (12:17 PM)

Mr. Chambers reviewed the proposed contract for capacity expansion at the Career Center, reviewing the services selection process and the staff recommendation.

11. Term Contract Award for Program Management Services: (12:18 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented the proposed contract award, explaining this will help staff manage the many projects underway. He briefly explained the services that will be provided and how they will be funded, as well as describing the selection process and staff recommendation for award.

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board