

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and
Public Hearing on Options for High School Seats
June 15, 2017

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 7:00 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
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. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services
Dr. Brenda Wilks, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services and Special Education

A. Closed Meeting – None

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of the Colors
3. Recognitions

The Drew After School Choir performed for the Board. The Board then recognized students for achievements in world languages, visual and performing arts, and athletics. JROTC cadets were also recognized for their accomplishments. Ms. Van Doren then called for a moment of silence for the victims of a recent shooting.

4. Announcements: (7:44 PM)

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.

Meetings:

- June 28, 2017 – School Board and Executive Leadership Retreat 2:30 – 7:30 PM
Wakefield High School Rm. A134, 1325 S. Dinwiddie Street

Mr. Goldstein thanked Michael Nardolilli for his service as member and President of the Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA). Mr. Goldstein shared highlights of Mr. Nardolilli’s contributions to outdoor education in Arlington.

Dr. Murphy announced several end of year activities, a new program to encourage students to ride the ART bus, and APS initiatives highlighted on the “Engage with APS” webpage. He also highlighted graduations and promotions in the schools, summer school registration, and safety reminders as summer approaches.

**D. UPDATE and PUBLIC HEARING ON OPTIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SEATS:
(8:01 PM)**

Dr. Murphy provided a brief update, highlighting additional information that was provided based on Board input. Dr. Natrass then briefly reviewed enrollment projections and information that informed projections and site analysis. She reviewed four options that were considered and explained why the hybrid option is recommended by staff. She also confirmed that a suitable instructional approach can be identified for each of the proposed sites. Ms. Peterson then reviewed costs, financing, and phasing for each option. In closing, Dr. Murphy described the Joint Facilities Advisory Council (JFAC) and its role in long-range planning. He confirmed that JFAC advises both APS and the County, and will be looking at properties for potential future use for public facilities, including schools.

The following speakers addressed the Board, opposing the plan for an addition to the Career Center as it will negatively impact the neighborhood and sharing concerns about traffic and increasing the number of students at the Career Center. Many speakers supported building a comprehensive high school at the site which they believe would address long-term growth and provide needed amenities for students and the community. Speakers also asked for a feasibility study and long-term planning before a decision is made:

- Andrew Greenwood*, future APS parent
- Tatjana*, parent
- Kristi Sawert*, parent
- Christine Brittle*, parent
- Melissa MacGregor*, parent
- Megan Haydasz*, parent
- Peter Sawert*, parent
- Molly Calkins*, Arlington Heights Citizen Association
- Maya Dhavale*, parent
- Robert Rosholt*, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board, opposing options that add seats at the Education Center or nearby, as this would cause overcrowding and traffic issues at the Washington-Lee campus, especially with the additional private projects being planned in the area. Concerns with this plan included inadequate fields, common spaces and opportunities for extracurricular activities, and a negative impact on the Washington-Lee culture and broader community:

Vic Bowman, former APS parent and retired teacher
Ellen Greer, parent
Dawn Cooper, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board, opposing the Kenmore option, stating concerns about congestion and traffic. Speakers also shared concerns about having high school students on the same campus as elementary children, and inequity that would result as there is not space at Kenmore for all of the amenities at the other comprehensive high schools:

Will Bolhen, parent
Chandra Krohl, parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Cynthia Hilton, Vice Chair of the Aquatics Committee: stating concerns about the hybrid option and the impact more students at Washington-Lee campus have on the availability of the pool for public use.

Mary Kusler, parent: stating her disappointment with the parent engagement that has occurred throughout the high school seats process.

Susan Scott, parent: supporting additional seats at the Education Center and recognizing the importance of providing appropriate programs to all students, encouraging postponing a decision on the Career Center until alternate programs and opportunities can be explored.

Lesley Malis Reed, parent: asking for a fourth comprehensive high school, stressing the importance of meeting the needs of the whole child, and asking the Board to continue looking to build a fourth high school.

Nia Bagley, parent: President Ballston/Virginia Square Civic Association: in spite of concerns about safety near the Education Center, supporting the hybrid option and asking for continued collaboration with APS as plans move forward.

Nancy Iacomini, parent: supporting renovation of the Education Center but asking that APS maintain its historic structure; stating that the hybrid plan will improve two campuses and provide flexibility as the County develops additional long-term plans.

Staff responded to questions from the Board, confirming that the hybrid option would bring seats on more quickly than other options, and that APS has plans to accommodate the larger enrollment and to ensure co-curricular activities are available to all students. Staff agreed to provide information on funding available for these projects, and on the possible need for and cost of structured parking. The group also discussed whether the hybrid option was flexible enough to consider adding a high school at one of the sites at a later time and if there is funding to support that possibility. Dr. Murphy noted that as APS develops the next CIP, all long-term plans will be explored within the bounds of available funding.

D. CONSENT AGENDA: (9:29 PM)

Mr. Lander moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. 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. March 15, 2017 Work Session on Enrollment and Transfers for Schools and Programs
- b. March 23, 2017 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
- c. March 28, 2017 Personalized Learning Work Session
- d. May 31, 2017 Closed Meeting
- e. June 5, 2017 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 1 Extension of Interim Position

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Resignations

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Termination

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 3 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Resignation
- 3 Retirements

3. Grants and Restricted Programs:

Special Project #22 – Perkins Reserve Fund

4. Receive Briefing Report:

- a. Graduation Task Force Report

5. Planetarium Letter of Agreement

6. Contract Award for Job Order Contracting

7. Construction Contract Award for the Kenmore Middle School Internal Modifications

8. Construction Contract Award for the Wakefield High School Internal Modifications

9. Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 2 for the New School at Wilson

10. Contract Award for Pre-Construction Construction Management at-Risk Services for

the Career Center Renovation

11. Term Contract Award for Program Management Services
12. Notice of Intent to Consider the Renewal of the Superintendent's Contract
13. Certification of June 14, 2017 Closed Meeting

Ms. Van Doren announced that as part of consent, the Board accepted the Graduation Task Force report. She also confirmed that as a part of consent, the Board confirmed their intent to consider renewal of the Superintendent's contract at their June 29 School Board meeting, and she briefly described the process followed for contract renewal.

E. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (9:34 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board, speaking on the importance of supporting diversity and asking the Board to implement efforts to balance diversity in all schools:

Meghan Keller, Discovery parent
Symone Walker, Drew parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Joshua Folb, teacher, parent and member of Arlington Education Association (AEA): encouraging the Board to continue to look at compensation to ensure that staff are paid appropriately; also speaking to staff morale and flexible professional development.

Ruthann Caudill, resident: stating concerns about safety in the community, commenting on the County's ICE agent, and sharing a concern about police in Arlington and Fairfax.

Ann Marie Douglass, parent: supporting outdoor learning and the importance of exposing kids to nature.

Ingrid Gant, AEA president: encouraging the Board to continue its work to address compensation, especially for employees on the support scales, and stating concerns about poor communication about plans to address staff issues.

F. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:51 PM)

1. Annual Report: Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC) and Staff Response

Mr. Lander thanked outgoing chair Greg Greeley for his support and leadership on the Facilities Advisory Council and in other roles. He also appreciated FAC members for their efforts and their collaboration with other advisory groups, and acknowledged Mr. Chadwick's support. Mr. Greeley presented the report, recognizing unprecedented student growth in APS over the past several years and previewing challenges ahead to add facilities. He highlighted initiatives undertaken this year by APS to address capacity, and looked forward to additional processes next year. He also briefly

commented on the Joint Facilities Advisory Council (JFAC) and how that group will help support the schools address this growth in the coming years.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Van Doren thanked Mr. Greeley for his service and many contributions over the years, and looked forward to continued collaboration as he takes on a leadership role with the JFAC.

Mr. Chadwick presented the staff response, thanking Mr. Greeley and departing FAC members. Mr. Chadwick appreciated the increased collaboration of the FAC with the ACI, Department of Instruction and JFAC, and looked forward to the upcoming year.

2. Annual Report: Budget Advisory Council (BAC) and Staff Response: (9:59 PM)

Dr. Kanninen introduced Michael Shea, BAC Chair, appreciating his leadership this year. Mr. Shea presented the report, first thanking outgoing member Tina Kuklenski-Miller for her service. He also thanked the school leadership, and spoke to areas of focus for the BAC during the year. These included new schools and construction costs, providing services to meet the needs of the whole child, the compensation study and use of personalized devices. For the coming year, Mr. Shea encouraged APS to look at different ways to address areas of concerns and to meet goals.

Ms. Peterson presented the staff response, appreciating the work of the BAC, and confirming that staff is considering their recommendations on compensation, technology and construction costs. Ms. Peterson also thanked Mr. Shea for his service.

Dr. Kanninen appreciated the topics discussed by the BAC and confirmed the Board will be following through on recommendations, particularly in looking at the one-to-one initiative, and also will focus on efforts to manage construction costs.

3. Annual Report: Advisory Council on Instruction (ACI) and Staff Response: (10:07 PM)

Louisa Marinaccio, co-Chair of the ACI, presented the report, appreciating Ms. Van Doren as liaison and Dr. Natrass and instructional staff for their support and collaboration. Ms. Marinaccio thanked the Board for their receptiveness to the ACI recommendations focused on wellness, equitable access and personalized learning in the early grades. She then briefly reviewed the committee's activities, including exploring how to reorganize the ACI to work more effectively and strengthen the feedback they provide.

Dr. Natrass presented the staff response, sharing actions being taken by staff to respond to the areas of concern.

Ms. Van Doren thanked Ms. Marinaccio and Dr. Natrass for their efforts and looked forward to continued contributions from the ACI in the coming year.

4. APS 3-5 Year Plan Superintendent's Update: (10:12 PM)

Dr. Murphy briefly reviewed initiatives completed during the school year including high school boundary refinements, Drew Model School visioning, and revision of the Enrollment and Transfers policy. He also highlighted initiatives still underway such as the addition of high school seats, the K-12 instructional vision, resource adoption and the 1:1 initiative. In the 2018-19 school year, APS will undertake development of the new strategic plan, adoption of the next Capital Improvement Plan and boundary adjustments at the elementary and middle school levels. In closing, Dr. Murphy highlighted communications efforts through the Engage with APS web page.

5. One to One (1:1) Technology Update: (10:16 PM)

Dr. Natrass presented the update on the 1:1 device initiative, explaining why the initiative was implemented, what is working well, and areas for improvement. After reviewing the initiative's budgetary impact, she highlighted how devices support diverse learning and strengthen instructional practices. Community feedback on use of technology was gathered, and Dr. Natrass shared strengths and areas for improvement identified by this feedback. She then described how 1:1 supports teaching and learning and allows differentiation that better meets student needs. Areas of focus moving forward are to address concerns on safety of data, develop a technology use policy, and communicate strategies for supporting security at home. Dr. Natrass also explained how resources are selected that best support the instructional model. Additional work will focus on ensuring consistent practices in the schools and minimization of screen time and passive use of devices.

The following speakers addressed the Board, sharing concerns about screen time and over-use of technology at school, as well as noting safety and security concerns related to student data and access to inappropriate sites. Speakers suggested tracking student use of devices, surveying families for feedback on the program, and identifying unintended consequences of technology use:

Ann Marie Douglass, parent

Constance Chubb, Claremont parent, former teacher

John Lau, parent

Susan Kerin, parent

Mr. Lander recognized levels of community support for technology, and asked that information be shared on school web sites so families can be informed about what is used in their schools, and staff agreed to share information on web pages. Dr. Natrass responded to questions about professional development, opportunities for families to opt out of technology use, what apps are used, and how they are selected. The group agreed with the need to balance online and physical texts, and Dr. Natrass confirmed both are provided. Responding to comments, Dr. Natrass described the instructional vision for 1:1 devices and highlighted data on the effectiveness of learning through technology, confirming that APS continually monitors student learning to ensure that use of devices is effective. She also responded to questions on the effectiveness of instruction and provided additional detail about next steps. Other topics discussed were keyboarding, how resources about technology in the schools are shared with families, and safety and security of data accessible with devices. Mr. Adusumilli

provided substantial information about safety efforts in APS. Dr. Kanninen appreciated the presentation, but acknowledged work to be done such as development of the acceptable use policy. She encouraged broad outreach and involvement of the community and staff in this process to ensure that all concerns are understood and addressed. Ms. Van Doren also appreciated the presentation and encouraged continued work to ensure that technology is used appropriately throughout APS.

G. ACTION ITEMS: (11:44 PM)

Ms. Van Doren announced that the Board would revise the agenda and act on the adoption of the name for the new school first under Action Items.

2. Adoption of Name for New School at Jefferson:

Dr. Murphy confirmed that there are no changes to this item.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Melissa Hinkson, resident: stating Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's support for the proposed name for the new elementary school, and sharing some background information about Alice West Fleet.

Mr. Lander moved that the Board accept the recommended name of Alice West Fleet Elementary School for the new school on the Jefferson Site, 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.

1. Instructional Resources Adoption: (11:47 PM)

Dr. Natrass reviewed the recommendation, confirming that resources will be found to meet each student's needs, describing how the resources will be phased in and providing the budget estimate for the phases. Responding to questions, she provided additional detail about how the purchase will be funded.

Mr. Lander moved to approve adoption of the proposed Instructional resources, 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.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS: (11:57 PM)

1. Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted:

Cheryl McCullough, Gifted Supervisor, briefly reviewed the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted, which is required by state code. She noted key elements of the plan and highlighted changes including a more holistic and universal screening process, an oversight committee, a gifted behavior commentary form, and electronic screening. She also described changes to improve delivery of services, identification

and development of best practices resources, and addition of a twice exceptional committee. In closing, she highlighted updates to differentiated curriculum and instruction and to professional development provided to staff.

2. Revision of School Board Policy 10-6.5 Student Advisory Board: (12:06 AM)

Thanking him for his leadership this past year, Ms. Johnson introduced Graham Weinschenk, Vice Chair, Student Advisory Board (SAB), who presented proposed changes to School Board Policy 10-6.5 Student Advisory Board. Changes include moving managerial items to a Policy Implementation Procedure (PIP), and efforts to increase and strengthen membership and participation.

Ms. Talento appreciated the clear, concise language in the proposal and especially the focus on including representatives from all secondary programs on the SAB. Dr. Kanninen appreciated the hard work of the SAB. Responding to a question, Mr. Weinschenk explained that the students were also interested in having liaisons to other Board advisory groups, but not necessarily as appointed members of those groups.

3. School Board Policy 25-3.11 Threat Assessment Team: (12:12 AM)

Ms. Johnson presented this new policy, required by state code, to establish a process for an assessment of students who staff perceive may be a threat. She reviewed the components of the proposed policy, including a central oversight committee, teams throughout the division, and team members with expertise, including expertise about students with IEPs or 504s. Ms. Johnson confirmed that further work is planned to align this policy with other policies in place, but noted this is being brought forward now to ensure compliance with state law.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Nicholas Walkosak, Chair, Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC): sharing feedback on the proposed policy related to identifying adults that are trusted by the student involved, parent opt-in options, and suggesting that related policies be consolidated.

Ms. Johnson confirmed that the policy and PIP will be brought back to the Board if needed after further review, and both documents will be shared with all pertinent staff and advisory groups. Ms. Van Doren agreed with the concern about ensuring that team members have appropriate training as well as a member who has a strong relationship to the student involved, and Ms. Johnson agreed that this will be a priority.

4. Revision of School Board Policy 25-1.18 Home Instruction: (12:23 AM)

Dr. Natrass explained that this revision will bring the policy in line with State code. Specifically, the policy is being revised to include explicit language that students in home instruction can participate in standardized testing.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Nicholas Walkosak, resident: recommending consistent language across policies about the appeals process and the option to go to the Board.

Ms. Van Doren agreed with respect to a consistent appeals process in all policies.

5. Revision of School Board Policy 30-2.2 Boundaries: (12:27 AM)

Ms. Stengle briefly reviewed changes that have been proposed in response to staff, community and Board feedback, to clarify aspects of the policy.

The Board briefly discussed the policy review process. It was confirmed that state law requires review every five years. However, review and revision can take place more frequently. The group also briefly discussed the annual update referenced in the policy. Dr. Kanninen commented on her interest in revising the policy to include a systematic review of boundaries every five years.

6. Revision of Select School Board Policies: (12:36 AM)

Dr. K. Murphy summarized minor revisions to School Board Policies 10-13 Human Rights, 25-1.15 Student Equal Education Opportunities/Nondiscrimination, and 35-4.4 Employee Relations – Equal Employment Opportunity. She confirmed that these policies have been shared with stakeholder groups and community members, who have had the opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions.

7. Revision of School Board Policy 25-3 Support for Students – Wellness: (12:38 AM)

Dr. Wilks explained that this revision responds to a requirement from the Virginia Department of Education. She confirmed that the proposed revisions have been shared with the School Health Advisory Board, ASEAC and the Student Services Committee, and all support the changes. She explained the changes emphasize physical activity and nutrition goals as well as a triennial assessment for all schools. She also confirmed that this will not affect the policy on recess.

8. Revision of School Board Policy 25-4.3 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: (12:40 AM)

Dr. Wilks confirmed that this revision addresses grammatical changes.

9. Construction Contract Award for the Gunston Middle School Internal Modifications: (12:43 AM)

Mr. Jeffrey Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented the proposed contract award which will increase capacity at Gunston by 72 seats. He reviewed the project budget and bid process and proposed contract award.

10. Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 1 for New Elementary School at Jefferson: (12:46 AM)

Mr. Chambers briefly reviewed the components of the work package and confirmed that it was competitively bid. He reviewed the budget for the services and confirmed that the project aligns with the overall project budget.

11. Conveyance of APS Property at Taylor Elementary School to Arlington County:
(12:49 AM)

Mr. Chadwick presented this item, explaining that this parcel of property cannot be used for school facilities, so the Superintendent is recommending conveyance to the County to be added to the adjoining park.

12. First Amendment to License Agreement for Long Branch Elementary: (12:51 AM)

Mr. Chadwick explained this item amendment to the agreement to provide additional land for installation of relocatables at Long Branch Elementary School to accommodate increasing enrollment.

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 12:53 AM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School