

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
April 5, 2018

Item E-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 5:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair (arr. 5:35 PM)
Monique O’Grady, Member
Tannia Talento, Member
Nancy Van Doren, Member (arr. 6:30 PM)
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

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

A. CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Principal, Francis Scott Key Elementary School; Principal, New Middle School at Stratford; Director of Communications, School and Community Relations; Supervisor of Mathematics; and Assistant Principal, Kenmore Middle School as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2- 3711(A)(1), seconded by Ms. O’Grady. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively. Ms. Van Doren and Mr. Goldstein were not present at the vote.

The closed meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Dr. Kanninen 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. The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento and was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; O’Grady – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye. Ms. Van Doren was not present at the vote.

The Board recessed briefly and reconvened in an open meeting at 6:30 PM.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:

¹ Videos 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, Teaching and Learning
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of Colors by the Arlington Career Center JROTC
3. Recognitions

Dr. Kanninen gave a tribute to Principal Annie Turner and called for a moment of silence in her honor. Dr. Laura Newton, Director, Student Services, recognized the contributions of military families for Military Child Month. Mr. Goldstein recognized Yorktown High School Coach Hanson for his achievement of coaching over 250 games. Debbie DeFranco, Supervisor, Health and Physical Education, recognized student athlete accomplishments in winter sports.

4. Announcements

Dr. Kanninen made the following announcements:

- April 6, 2018 Joint School Board/County Board Budget Work Session, 9 AM, County Board Room, 2100 Clarendon Blvd.
- April 17, 2018 Joint School Board/County Board Work Session on The Career Center Working Group, 6:30 PM, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201

Mr. Goldstein announced that Randolph Elementary School hosted a group of students from Mongolia. Dr. Kanninen announced a visit from Japanese students who brought a souvenir commemorating the 1912 Dogwood/Cherry Tree exchange.

Dr. Murphy announced several April celebrations and invited participation in the “Arlington Teen Hangouts” and the Dream, Explore, Create Your Own Path events. He shared upcoming grade reporting and registration dates and reviewed the budget timeline. He also announced the APS recruitment fair and the upcoming move of the administrative offices to the Syphax Education Center.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:08 PM)

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

1. Minutes:
 - a. January 18, 2018 School Board Meeting
 - b. January 25, 2018 Work Session with the Advisory Council on Instruction
 - c. February 1, 2018 School Board Meeting
 - d. March 23, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 4 Changes in Position/Salary
- 1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 3 Resignations
- 1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
- 6 Retirements

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 1 Resignation
- 1 Retirement

3. Perkins Grant
4. Open Air Market at Barrett

Dr. Kanninen announced that as part of consent, the Board appointed Marleny Perdomo Principal of Francis Scott Key Elementary School; Ellen Smith, Principal of the new middle school at Stratford; Catherine Ashby as Director of Communications; Shannan Ellis as Supervisor of Mathematics; and Christine Joy, Assistant principal at Kenmore Middle School.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:19 PM)

1. Superintendent's 2017-18 Action Plan Update:

Dr. Murphy presented the update, reviewing the four initiative groups. Under new policies and policy revisions, he shared the status of the acceptable use and inclusion policies. Dr. Murphy reviewed timelines for Board presentations and other actions to prepare for new schools and program moves. Operational planning projects include the FY2019 budget, the CIP Framework, and the strategic plan. Finally, for capital initiatives, Dr. Murphy summarized work on the Career Center, Education Center and Reed building. In closing, he encouraged continued community involvement.

2. Update on the 2018-2024 Strategic Plan: (7:26 PM)

Co-chairs Meredith Purple and Ted Black updated the Board on the work of the Strategic Plan Steering committee. After thanking staff and the committee for their work, Ms. Purple reviewed the Steering Committee's charge and process timeline. Mr. Black then shared an overview of the draft strategic plan created by the committee, including the proposed Mission and Vision. The co-chairs also highlighted the proposed core values and goals. In closing, Mr. Black reviewed next steps.

The following speakers addressed the Board, sharing their support for the draft Strategic Plan and commenting on specific aspects of the plan:

Jennifer Flores, teacher, parent and Strategic Planning Committee member
Kris Krider, Strategic Planning Committee member

The Board thanked the co-chairs and the committee, congratulating them on their accomplishments. Mr. Goldstein looked forward to development of measurable objectives for the plan. The group discussed next steps to complete and implement the plan. Also discussed was how addressing the opportunity gap is incorporated into the draft plan. The Board encouraged the community to continue to engage this process.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (7:56 PM)

1. School Board Proposed FY 2019 Budget:

Ms. Peterson briefly reviewed the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2019 Budget and shared updates and adjustments to the budget that have been made in developing the School Board's Proposed Budget.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Audrey Clement, resident: sharing concerns about the budget proposal and suggesting potential changes that would result in savings.

Keith Henning, APS teacher: supporting the 1:1 technology initiative, but suggesting that less costly technology and services could be used.

The following speakers addressed the Board asking for additional funding in the FY 2019 budget for the Challenging Racism initiative, sharing benefits of this program and speaking about issues that the program helps to address:

Kia Haynes, Challenging Racism alumna and parent
Ami Foster, Challenging Racism alumna
Alisha Foster, Challenging Racism supporter
Victor Ward, Challenging Racism supporter
Gail Perry, Challenging Racism supporter

Tish Jenkins, Washington-Lee Parent and Challenging Racism supporter
Monique Brown, Challenging Racism supporter

Responding to a question, Ms. Peterson provided clarification on where funding for arts instruction is included in the budget.

Ms. Talento moved to adopt the Superintendent's Proposed Budget as updated totaling \$637,256,371 which includes the use of an additional \$245,000 from the Debt Service reserve, seconded by Mr. Goldstein.

Ms. O'Grady made the following motion to amend the budget as follows:

Change revenue as follows:

- o Add a tier at the top of the Extended Day fee scale that would pay higher fees providing an additional \$150,000;*
 - o Increase by 10% Building Use Fees to generate an additional \$10,000; in conjunction with the Internal Auditor, study building use fees and provide a plan for increasing cost recovery for the FY 2020 budget; and*
 - o Instituting fees for damaged or lost devices; staff will bring a plan to the School Board for approval*
- Moving to a shared device model at grades K-2*
 - o Staff should proceed with the Technology & Instruction study in Fall 2018 funded with FY 2017 closeout funds, and*
 - o Implement the study recommendations in the FY 2020 budget*
 - Eliminating the following:*
 - o \$865,000 additional technology funding;*
 - o \$10,000 for the APS logo (reduces \$10,000 in one-time funds for net zero overall reduction); and*
 - o \$20,130 for fees for the Baldrige process*
 - Reducing APS credit card fees by \$175,000 by adding 2.5% to all fees users pay by credit card*
 - Recalculating the additional staffing provided to Arlington Tech to reflect the actual anticipated increase in students*
 - o additional funding for FY19 changes from \$1,940,000 to \$1,348,112, and*
 - o provides savings of \$591,888 and 6.27 FTE*
 - Removing the following reductions in the Superintendent's Proposed budget:*
 - o \$70,000 for implementing the Green Initiative;*
 - o \$318,620 for professional development in HR for the dual certification cohort, the dual enrollment cohort, and the Assistant to Teacher program;*
 - o \$222,640 for Transportation Demand Management*

- *Review options available to include reducing incentive amount and implementing cap; and*
 - *\$283,200 for department chairs release period*
 - *Revising the reductions in the Department of Teaching and Learning as follows for a net savings of \$21,300 and 0.5 FTE:*
 - *Restore 1.0 Arts Specialist;*
 - *Restore 1.0 STEM Specialist for grades K-12; retain reduction of 1.0 STEM Specialist;*
 - *Reduce 4.0 instead of 3.0 administrative assistants, all of which are currently vacant;*
 - *Reduce 0.5 SIOP Math Coach;*
 - *Reduce 1.0 Data Specialist; transition incumbent to vacant ATSS Data Coordinator position; and*
 - *Retain the reductions of the vacant 1.0 Minority Achievement Specialist and the 1.0 FLES Coach*
 - *Revising the reduction of 13.0 Montessori instructional assistants as follows:*
 - *Retain the reduction of 6.0 Montessori instructional assistants;*
 - *Restore 7.0 Montessori instructional assistants by permanently reducing the following positions at Drew Montessori School:*
 - *1.5 FLES teachers which eliminates the FLES program at Drew Montessori*
 - *2.0 Art, music, and PE teachers which reduces but does not eliminate the amount of time for specials at Drew Montessori; and*
 - *Provide 2.0 Montessori instructional assistants for FY19 only to assist with the transition to the new building using one-time funds; provide 1.0 Montessori instructional assistant from contingency, if needed, for additional classes*
 - *Adding the following:*
 - *Reinstate elementary content area lead teacher stipends for all but elementary ELA and math at a cost of \$140,000; all secondary content area lead teacher stipends remain in the budget;*
 - *Reinstate ½ of the HS clerical reduction at a cost of \$128,000 and 2.0 FTE;*
 - *HS Assistant activity directors stipends for each of the fall, winter, and spring seasons at a cost of \$90,000;*
 - *Provide secondary school stipends for increased participation in sports and other extra-curricular activities from contingency in FY19; add funding to FY20 budget based on FY19 participation data;*
 - *Add 1.0 Outdoor Learning Coordinator at a cost of \$94,400; and*
 - *Add 1.75 psychologists and/or social workers at a cost of \$164,362.*

The motion to amend was seconded by Ms. Talento.

Mr. Goldstein moved that the proposed FTE position for the Outdoor Learning Coordinator be replaced with an FTE position assigned to the Outdoor Lab with no adjustment to the amount of funds listed, seconded by Ms. Talento.

Mr. Goldstein explained his reasoning for the amendment, noting the infrastructure and long-term commitment that has been provided by the Outdoor Lab. He confirmed his belief that funds would be better used to expand the work done by the outdoor lab than by adding the outdoor coordinator. Board members discussed aspects of this proposal, including the additional cost of transportation to the Outdoor Lab if the program is expanded, the experiences that the Lab can provide to students, and how many students would receive additional outdoor learning opportunities with either option.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the amendment passed by a vote of 3 - 2, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively and Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

Ms. Van Doren asked for clarifying information on proposed class size increases and the effect increases would have on options and transfer programs. Dr. Natrass shared information on the status of these programs and which could accept additional transfers.

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board amend the budget to include the following items:

- *\$2,640,260 to maintain current class sizes*
- *\$855,638 to complete the final phase of adding psychologists and social workers*
- *\$1,180,000 to restore FLES staffing to ensure 90 minutes of foreign language instruction throughout our elementary schools.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento.

Ms. Van Doren stated that she proposed this amendment to ensure that APS maintains its high quality instructional program, and shared her concerns about the impact of the proposed reductions. She commended her colleagues and the Superintendent for their hard work, but felt that the Board should propose a budget that fully supports the schools. Board members appreciated Ms. Van Doren's comments and shared her concern about the impacts of reductions. They also recognized the challenges faced by the County and looked forward to collaborating with the County Board to see if these reductions can be addressed as the budget process continues. Dr. Kanninen confirmed that this information will be shared as part of the budget discussion at the joint work session.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote, and the motion to amend was defeated in a vote of 1-4 with Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively and Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Talento opposing.

Ms. Peterson then reviewed the status of the primary amendment made by Ms. O'Grady as revised to reflect approval of Mr. Goldstein's amendment.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote on the amendment as proposed and amended, and it was adopted in a vote of 5-0 with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Members appreciated the Board's teamwork in developing the proposed budget, and acknowledged the work of staff and the community throughout the process. Responding to questions, staff confirmed that while not identified specifically, funding for cultural competence training is included in the Department of Teaching and Learning's professional learning budget. The group discussed some concerns about the use of reserves in the proposed budget, and Dr. Kanninen described how APS has used reserves, confirming they are regularly replenished. Ms. Van Doren confirmed that, while she is not voting in favor of this budget, she does look forward to collaborating with the County to address her concerns.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote on the amendment as proposed and amended was adopted in a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

2. Final Design and Construction Contract Award-Full GMP for the New Middle School at Stratford: (9:30 PM)

Mr. Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction, briefly reviewed the proposal, the building design, project funding and project budget.

Ms. Van Doren made the following motion:

Having carefully reviewed the extensive input from the BLPC, PFRC, HALRB and various community groups and leaders, the County Board, and the Superintendent's recommendation, I move that the School Board take the following actions as illustrated in the exhibits presented at the April 5, 2018 School Board meeting:

- *Approve the final design as generally described in Exhibits A through F;*
- *Approve total Project budget, funding available, and jointly funded items as described in Exhibits G and H;*
- *Award Phase 2 – Construction Phase Services contract to the Turner Construction Company in the amount of \$30,423,369; and*
- *Approve transfer of \$4,760,000 from the Capital Reserve to the Project funding; \$2,450,000 for general project items and \$2,310,000 for the ACG/APS jointly funded.*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Goldstein. Ms. Van Doren shared feedback from the Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC), confirming their support for this item.

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

3. Concept Design for the New Elementary School at Reed: (9:40 PM)

Mr. Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction, briefly reviewed the proposal, the building design, project funding and project budget.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

James Schroll, Chair, Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC): summarizing the PFRC's work and confirming strong community support for this project. Mr. Schroll also noted the importance of preserving open space and stated that the recommended design is the best option for adding seats and preserving community.

Hans Bauman, Chair, Reed BLPC: appreciating the Board's work; reviewing the BLPC consideration of this project, and confirming their support for the recommended integrated design.

Audrey Clement, resident: stating concerns about the plans to renovate the Reed School just 10 years after a previous renovation.

Vanessa Guest, resident: on behalf of neighboring civic associations, stating their support for the proposed integrated design.

Ms. O'Grady made the following motion:

I move that the School Board approve the concept design for the "Integrated" option as generally described in Exhibits A and B in the presentation made at the April 5, 2018 School Board meeting.

By approving Exhibits A and B the School Board approves the following aspects of the concept design:

- *Reaffirm basic project criteria to create a new neighborhood elementary school with an attendance zone for a minimum capacity of 725 seats to be completed in time for start of school September 2021;*
- *General location of building, massing of building with three and four levels, and extent of reuse/renovation of the existing building;*
- *Use of on-site surface parking to address parking needs;*
- *Concept site plan showing general location and quantity of parking, with the understanding that further development of the site plan development is expected during the schematic design phase, the Use Permit review/approval process, and as the transportation study is finalized; and*
- *Maximum total project funding of \$55 million, with strong direction to find opportunities to reduce costs.*

It should be noted that the FY 2017-2026 CIP funding for the Reed Project totaled \$49 million of which \$38.25 million was projected to be funded by bonds scheduled to be approved by the voters in the November 2018 bond referendum. The School Board will determine the total amount of the final funding and the concomitant funding sources for the Reed Project. Any funding for the Reed Project determined to be provided by bonds will be contingent on voter approval in the November 2018 bond referendum.

With this approval, the School Board directs staff to pursue various strategies to reduce cost as the project advances to the schematic design phase. These include:

- *As the educational specifications are completed and floor plans are further refined, explore options for space efficiencies to reduce the total square foot area of the project without affecting required teaching and learning spaces;*
- *Engage Arlington County Government (ACG) staff to find efficiencies in the Use Permit and building permit review and approval processes such that the risk of additional construction cost escalation may be reduced by completing the construction documents more expeditiously;*
- *Engage ACG staff in discussions to find reasonable modifications to standard development conditions and fees that might result in cost savings;*
- *Limit site amenity improvements to those directly required to support the new elementary school; and*
- *Limit off-site improvements to those that would most improve safe access to the site.*

With this approval, the School Board charges the BLPC as follows:

- *As stated in the Reed BLPC charge, the prime role of BLPC members remains communication with community stakeholders;*
- *APS staff and its consultants remain responsible for completing the project at or under the maximum funding available; the BLPC must recognize that staff will explore various cost savings strategies and must be prepared to discuss trade-offs and compromises to achieve cost reductions;*
- *To assist APS staff to maintain the project schedule, the BLPC will conclude deliberations and comments on the schematic design by the end of June 2018, if not earlier.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento. Board members appreciated the work of the staff and the efforts of the advisory committees, as well as community involvement on this project. Board members also recognized cost challenges of this and other upcoming projects, and confirmed they will continue to look for ways to minimize all costs.

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

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:58 PM)

1. The Children's School Letter of Intent

Ms. Peterson summarized the letter of intent and plans for the Children's School. This letter of intent confirms that the Integration Station program will continue to be housed with The Children's School as they move to a new facility.

2. Special Education Annual Plan: (10:03 PM)

Mr. Paul Jamelske, Director of Special Education, presented the Special Education annual plan. He confirmed that this document outlines how APS plans to spend federal entitlement funds received through IDEA. After reviewing the timeline and confirming community input in the plan development, he reviewed the specific expenditures included.

Ms. Van Doren appreciated the community outreach for feedback on the proposed plan, and the group briefly discussed trends in the number of students receiving services and the costs of providing those services.

3. Construction Contract Award for Gunston HVAC Modernization: (10:19 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented this item, explaining that the project will be done in phases to avoid impacting the school program. He also reviewed the bid process, costs and proposed funding, and shared the staff recommendation.

Responding to questions, Mr. Chadwick provided detailed information about the bond funding available for this work.

4. Barcroft Parking Garage License Agreement with Arlington County: (10:25 PM)

Mr. Chadwick reviewed the temporary license agreement with the County for parking to be used by bus drivers and transportation staff. He reviewed the terms of the agreement, which will have no cost for APS.

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board