**Advisory Council on Instruction**

**Agenda**

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Syphax Education Center

2110 Washington Blvd.

Rooms 452-456

**7:00** **Welcome and Opening**

Meredith Purple, ACI Co-Chair

**7:00 Approve November Meeting Minutes**

Meredith Purple, ACI Co-Chair

**7:05 Committee Report: Early Childhood Advisory Committee**

Alison Acker, Chair, and Meredith Jaeckel, Committee Member

**8:00 Committee Report: ESOL/HILT Advisory Committee**

Anne Zebra, Chair

**8:55 Wrap Up and Rubric Instructions**

Meredith Purple, ACI Co-Chair

 Sarah Putnam, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

**9:00 Adjourn**

Meredith Purple, ACI Co-Chair

See reverse for announcements.

**Report from ACI Liaison to the FAC (Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs)**

The FAC has sent two letters to the School Board this month: (1) emphasizing the need for long range planning and APS-County collaboration; and, (2) urging that school boundary changes be considered more regularly and more comprehensively.

The FAC authored a report last year, "The Future Facilities Needs Report," and the Amazon announcement has deepened the need for long range planning to make efficient use of limited space. "APS and the County will need to look to alternatives, such as repurposing non-instructional facilities, building up (rather than out), sharing space with other enterprises, and non-facilities options. In short, we need to be prepared for growth and to be in the best possible position to manage and successfully respond to any growth scenario that ultimately occurs," the letter states.

The FAC also sent a letter encouraging the School Board to review the current policies related to school boundary adjustments, and consider changes to make the process more routine and predictable; to be comprehensive in scope every time a process is started; and to better address a recurrent imbalance. Some schools remain overcapacity by a large margin while others remain below capacity.

**Other Announcements:**

The Arlington County Government is hosting a Virtual Learning Series on Facebook, offering interactive Q&A on specific topics related to Amazon HQ2 on specific dates:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/events/virtual-learning-series-economic-development-and-planning/>

Schools and workforce are the main topic on Wednesday, December 19th at 6:30 PM.  The way to ask questions is to go to [Facebook.com/ArlingtonVA](http://facebook.com/ArlingtonVA) on that date and time.

**Announcement from ASEAC:**

 As you have hopefully heard, the APS Department of Planning and Evaluation is conducting an external evaluation of special education and Section 504 services and contracted with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to complete this evaluation.

 As part of the evaluation, PCG sent out surveys and conducted several focus groups of parents and staff.  They met with leadership from the Arlington Special Education PTA (SEPTA) and Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC), held file reviews and attended the November ASEAC meeting.

 As part of the evaluation process, ASEAC and SEPTA leadership wanted to make sure that any parent, teacher, staff member or community member (including parents who have withdrawn students from APS) has an opportunity to share anything they would like with PCG. As a result PCG has set up a confidential email for anyone who wants to send additional comments and feedback directly to PCG.

 **The email is:**[APSSpecialEducationReview@pcgus.com](https://exchange.apsva.us/owa/redir.aspx?C=746btPYLtEe3AK2TS3z0uHpSw-yOYNYI001z50cuKudTrW5rvW57bpMu8P-078tKSozAq_esaVY.&URL=mailto%3aAPSSpecialEducationReview%40pcgus.com)

 **The email will be available to collect feedback until 1/31/19**.  Results from the information gathering will be used to improve programs and services offered by APS to students receiving special education and 504 services and their families.  Your voice matters, please reach out to PCG if you have anything you want to share.