

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Budget Work Session #2  
March 12, 2019

**Item C-1-a**

The Arlington School Board convened on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 5:05 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.

**Present were:**

Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Tannia Talento, Vice Chair  
Barbara Kanninen, Member  
Monique O’Grady, Member  
Nancy Van Doren, Member  
Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk

**Also present were:**

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent  
Judy Apostolico-Buck, Principal, Barcroft Elementary School  
Catherine Ashby, Director, School & Community Relations  
Keisha Boggan, Principal, Jefferson Middle School  
Colin Brown, Principal, McKinley Elementary School  
Kelly Carruthers, School Counselor, Wakefield High School  
Margaret Chung, Principal, Career Center  
Brianna Cobbins, Director, Employee Relations  
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School & Community Relations  
Wanda Gant, Employee Specialist, Human Resources  
Erik Healey, Assistant Principal, Career Center  
Kristen Johnston, Teacher, Washington-Lee High School  
Bridget Loft, Principal, Yorktown High School  
Tameka Lovett-Miler, Director, Finance and Management Services  
Tara Nattrass, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services  
Regina Richardson, Instructional Assistant, Campbell Elementary School  
Joanne Uyeda, Principal, Abingdon Elementary School  
Nellie Vargas, Account Specialist, Human Resources  
Erin Wales-Smith, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Lori Wiggins, Principal, Gunston Middle School

**Employee Advisory Groups**

The Employee Advisory Groups were invited to share their input on the FY 2020 Proposed Budget. The Collaborative Professional Strategies Team (CPST) recommendations were as follows:

Specific Budget Requests

1. Protection of school based staff positions and those who directly serve students.

2. Increase Information Services TSC Technician positions to meet school demands for hardware maintenance, in line with Virginia Standards of Quality guidelines.
3. Increase school-based instructional staff support to include 0.5 testing coordinators for elementary schools that do not have them.
4. Provide funding for additional mental health professionals in the schools.
5. Continue discussions with Arlington County Government regarding the need for additional support of school health nurses.

#### Budget Savings Items

1. Work with county to supplement costs of mental health professionals.
2. Consider increasing the cost of Summer School.
3. Refrain from adding new initiatives.

The Board conversed about the impact of technology in the classrooms, technical staff support, and compliance with the Virginia Standards of Quality (SOQ). The Board also discussed proposed staffing reductions.

The Employee Advisory Committee (EAC) presented the following recommendations:

#### Specific Budget Requests

1. Hire a consultant to conduct department and efficiency audits.
2. Supplement step increase through a COLA for employees currently on a longevity step.
3. Allocate Human Resources a 1.0 FTE for professional learning and career path development/opportunities for support staff positions (A, G, E, X, D, C, M).

#### Budget Savings Items

1. Transportation: Reduce Activity Buses and Sport/Late Runs.
2. Provide Summer School options only for students who need to recoup graduation credits.

#### New Revenue Streams

1. Pay to Play – students must pay to play school sports (scholarship funding available for hardship).

School Board members spoke about professional development support, staff compensation and the proposed budget reductions.

The Board recessed at 6:26 p.m. and reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

### **School Reductions**

Ms. Peterson provided an overview of the budget for schools which totals \$388,831,008 which funds 3,725.61 positions, outlined the reductions development process and spoke about the proposed tiered cuts by school level. School principals for elementary, middle and high schools were invited to the table to clarify and provide information regarding school budgets and instructional programs.

The Board discussed proposed budget reductions and their impact to students. Some of the conversation revolved around the Strategic Plan performance objectives, planning factors, staffing and changes in services.

### **New Schools and Programs**

Ms. Peterson presented the proposed budget related to each of the five new schools and programs opening in September 2019.

The Board discussed various line items in the presentation and the allocation of funds.

### **Department Review- School & Community Relations**

Ms. Erdos presented an overview of the department that included an organizational chart, summary of services, and statistics on some areas of focus. She also presented a summary of the School & Community Relations budget and spoke about proposed reductions.

The Board concluded the Work Session by expressing their concern in making budget cuts that directly affect services to students and impacts the overall school system.

### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

### **ATTEST:**

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Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Arlington School Board