

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
December 19, 2019

**Item C-1-b**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 6:05 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Tannia Talento, Chair  
Monique O’Grady, Vice Chair  
Reid Goldstein, Member  
Barbara Kanninen, Member  
Nancy Van Doren, Member  
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

**Also present were:**

Cintia Johnson, Interim Superintendent  
Dan Redding, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

**A. CLOSED MEETING:**

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Interim Director, Student Activities, Wakefield High School; Interim Assistant Principal, Barrett Elementary School; Principal, Yorktown High School; and Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer as authorized by Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Mr. Reid Goldstein. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.*

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

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

Ms. Talento called for a recess and the Board reconvened at 7:04 PM.

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:**

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<sup>1</sup> 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  
Catherine Ashby, Interim Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management  
Tyrone Byrd, Director, Secondary Education  
Jeannette Allen, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

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

The Yorktown Chamber Singers directed by Ms. Mullins performed holiday songs. The Board then recognized staff for awards received at the Virginia School Boards Association Convention, including first place in the Student Video Contest, first place in the Green Schools Challenge, and an award for Excellence in Risk Management. Mr. Brown of the United Way of the National Capital United Area then congratulated APS on their participation in the 2018 campaign.

3. Announcements

- *December 23, 2019 – January 3, 2020 – Winter Break for Students*

Mr. Goldstein shared information about activities and events at his liaison schools, including at Campbell and Long Branch Elementary. Ms. Talento then provided an update on the superintendent search process. She noted the upcoming opportunity for community engagement in developing an in-depth profile and desired qualifications for the new superintendent.

4. Interim Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Ms. Johnson introduced Dr. Barbara Thompson, Arlington Community High School Principal, and student Sarai, who recited a poem. Ms. Johnson then shared activities and events at various schools and highlighted upcoming events such as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Literary and Visual Arts Contest. She noted opportunities to participate in supporting the community over the holidays she and reviewed the status of the 2019-2020 School Board Action Plan. In closing, she shared a video of a special activity at Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School and encouraged families to enjoy winter break.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:54 PM)**

*Ms. Van Doren moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, 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. November 6, 2019 Work Session on CIP Planning
  - b. November 13, 2019 Work Session on Program Evaluation of Services to Students with Special Needs
  - c. November 25, 2019 Selection Advisory Committee Meeting
  
2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL  
3 Appointments  
5 Changes In Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL  
5 Appointments  
3 Resignations

A-SCALE PERSONNEL  
7 Appointments  
1 Change In Position/Salary

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL  
9 Appointments  
3 Changes In Position/Salary  
1 Resignation  
3 Retirements  
1 Termination
  
3. Dorothy Hamm Middle School Change to Construction Manager Advisor Contract
  
4. Student Transfer Appeal SY20-08

Ms. Talento announced that as part of consent, the Board appointed Nate Hailey as Interim Director, Student Activities, Wakefield High School; Amin Littman as Interim Assistant Principal, Barrett Elementary School; Dr. Kevin Clark as Principal, Yorktown High School; and Arron Gregory as Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer.

**D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:12 PM)**

The following speakers addressed the Board concerning the upcoming elementary school planning action, encouraging thorough consideration of proposed changes including moving McKinley students, and asking the Board to consider proposals from community members as well as the staff's proposal. Some speakers expressed concerns about accuracy of data used to develop the proposal and the community engagement in this process. One speaker noted the impact moving to a new school would have on students with disabilities:

*Emily Chen*, McKinley parent  
*Mac Mirchandani*, McKinley parent

*Mary Kadera, McKinley PTA*  
*Nathan McQueen, parent*  
*Rebecca McCall, McKinley parent*  
*Jordan Coyle, McKinley parent*  
*Karlton Gross, McKinley parent:*

The following speakers also addressed the Board concerning the upcoming elementary school planning action and how it would affect the immersion program and Key School. Speakers shared data from a community survey indicating many current students would not be able to continue in the program if moved, as many do not have cars and depend on public transportation. Some speakers noted additional concerns about the size of the proposed new site for the immersion program:

*Beth Ferrill, Key parent*  
*Elda Hernandez, Key parent*  
*Flor Caseres, Key alumna*  
*Franklin Gomez, Key School alumnus*  
*Anjy Cramer, Key parent*  
*Laura Haltzel, Key parent*  
*Christy Anthony, Key parent*  
*Diana Salgado, Key parent*  
*Betsy Zouroudis, Key parent*  
*Monica Day: Key parent*

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

*Kenny Kraft, Arlington Traditional School (ATS) parent: sharing concerns about the process, asking the Board for more discussion and data review before deciding on the proposal.*

*Tsion Tewolde, ATS parent: speaking to the challenges that will result for families if ATS is moved to a different location.*

*Michael Beer, parent of former Key students: noting his appreciation for immersion programs, stating that he supported proposal one as it is the best approach to address capacity challenges throughout the county.*

**E. ACTION ITEMS: (8:50 PM)**

1. Annual Summer School Report and Fees

Ms. Pilch and Mr. Byrd confirmed that there are no updates to the proposed fees.

*Ms. O'Grady moved that the Board approve the proposed summer school fees and program adjustments for 2020, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.*

Mr. Goldstein asked for additional information on the figure listed as the variance in costs from FY 2018-FY 2020, and staff agreed to provide it to the Board.

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

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (8:55 PM)**

1. FY 2019 Final Fiscal Closeout/Status and CIP Quarterly Report

Ms. Peterson summarized the FY 2019 Final Fiscal Closeout, providing a summary of the five funds that have ending balances available for reallocation, and the two funds, Food Services and Extended Day, where the ending balances are retained for ongoing operations. She also summarized county revenues and the APS contribution to the General Fund Reserve, which has resulted in a net loss of \$3.6 million. After confirming that net funds available total \$8.4 million, she shared staff recommendations for use of the carryforward funds.

Ms. Peterson then presented the CIP quarterly report, updating the Board on the status of both Major Construction projects and minor construction/major maintenance projects.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Michael Beer*, former parent: after appreciating the work of staff, commenting on the recommendations, asking the Board to consider using some of the carryover for capital reserves.

*Josh Folb*, Chair of the Arlington Education Association Compensation Committee, thanking staff for the proposal to reallocate funds to the compensation reserve and encouraging the Board to include a step and a COLA in the upcoming budget.

Responding to Board questions, Mr. Adusumilli and Ms. Peterson provided information related to replacing the core router. Ms. Peterson also responded to clarifying questions related to the cost of a step, financing the Reed project, and revenues from bond sales. Also discussed was information related to County revenues and how the level of the compensation fund has been determined. Also discussed was using some of the closeout funds to print paper report cards, and staff agreed to bring back information on this topic.

2. Amendments to Select School Board Policies: (9:24 PM)

Mr. Byrd presented proposed amendments to three School Board Policies. These amendments are being recommended to bring the policies in line with state laws and current practice. The policies being amended were:

- School Board Policy J-5.3.1 Homeless Education Services
- School Board Policy I-10.30 Support for Students – Wellness
- School Board Policy I-7.2.3.34 Communication-Student Progress, Program, and Grading

**F. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Tannia Talento, Chair  
Arlington School Board