

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
January 9, 2020

**Item C-1-a**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 7:08 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  
Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk

**Also present were:**

Cintia Johnson, Interim Superintendent  
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  
Dan Redding, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Tyrone Byrd, Director, Secondary Education  
Jeannette Allen, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

**A. CLOSED MEETING: NONE**

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:**

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

Ms. Elisabeth Harrington, Supervisor, World Languages, recognized German Teacher Silke Reeves on receiving the Klett Award for the Outstanding Virginia Novice Teacher of German by the Virginia chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

3. Announcements

- *January 14, 2020, School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 2 PM, Board Conference Room*

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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.

- *January 16, 2020, Work Session on English/Language Arts Academic Performance, 6:30 PM, Rooms 254-256-258*

Ms. Talento announced that simultaneous interpretation in Spanish was available for this meeting.

Mr. Goldstein shared about Kenmore Middle School’s participation in the Special Olympics Polar Plunge on January 25, 2020 in support of inclusion programs. He also congratulated school resource officer, Jackie Pagan, on her retirement.

Ms. Van Doren expressed her support and gratitude to Delegate Patrick Hope for introducing legislation HB 332, Reading Diagnostic Test; Intervention in response to Senate Bill 1718. The Senate bill directs the Department of Education to develop a plan to implement additional diagnostic tools into reading diagnostic tests used for screening students in kindergarten through grade three.

Ms. Talento provided an update on the superintendent search process. She invited the community to participate in different engagement opportunities provided by BWP & Associates such as focus groups, community forums, and an online survey found on the Search for New Permanent APS Superintendent web page.

4. Interim Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

Ms. Johnson spoke about activities and events held recently such as winter concerts and the 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Visual and Literary Arts Contest. She highlighted important upcoming school calendar dates and countywide events. Ms. Johnson also provided a brief update on the 2019-2020 School Board Action Plan.

Ms. Van Doren expressed concerns regarding the Arlington Tech Program and requested further discussion later. Ms. Talento inquired about the timeline for high school option application dates.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:34 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. December 3, 2019 Joint School Board/County Board Work Session
  - b. December 9, 2019 Legislative Breakfast
  - c. December 10, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
  - d. December 12, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting
  - e. December 12, 2019 Special School Board Meeting
2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Appointment

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

4 Appointments

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

2 Changes In Position/Salary

1 Resignation

3. Wakefield Capital Bikeshare Agreement
4. Amendments to School Board Policy J-5.3.1 Homeless Education Services
5. Amendments to School Board Policy I-10.30 Support for Students – Wellness
6. ~~Amendments to School Board Policy I-7.2.3.34 Communication Student Progress, Program, and Grading~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
7. Appeal of Staff Grievance SY20-01

Ms. Talento announced that under consent, the Board approved a license agreement for a bikeshare docking station at Wakefield High School.

**D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**

**E. ACTION ITEMS: (7:38 PM)**

1. Submission of Request for Extension of Deadline for Appointment of Superintendent

Ms. Talento explained that pursuant to Virginia Code §22.1-60 (B), the Board has requested an extension of the deadline for appointing a new superintendent from the State Superintendent of Education, and this action confirms this request.

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board confirm their support of the submission of the request for an extension of the deadline for appointment of the new Superintendent for Arlington Public Schools, seconded by Ms. Van Doren. 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.*

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (7:40 PM)**

1. Elementary School Planning

Ms. Stengle presented the Superintendent's recommendation on school moves effective in SY 2021-22 that will help address capacity, the imbalance of neighborhood seats, and direct the Fall 2020 boundary process. The recommendation stated that:

- Majority of McKinley students move with principal and staff to Reed site
- All of Arlington Traditional community can move to McKinley site
- All of Key Immersion community can move to ATS site
- Key site becomes a new neighborhood school

Ms. Stengle also presented an alternate scenario without the recommended school moves. Dr. Johnson reviewed the background work conducted by staff and the school planning timeline. Ms. Gladis Bourdouane, Project Planner, spoke about the community engagement process.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Jamie Brys*, Ashlawn Elementary School parent: opposes the alternate scenario

*Joseph Salasovich*, Arlington Traditional Elementary School parent: concerns with Superintendent's proposal

*John Kendrick*, Arlington Traditional Elementary School parent: concerns with Superintendent's proposal

*Stacy Noblet*, McKinley Elementary School parent: concerns with Superintendent's proposal

*Christina Yacobucci*, McKinley Elementary School parent, SEPTA and ASEAC member: alternative community recommendation

*Alicia Rich*, Escuela Key PTA President: concerns regarding the use of demographics in the Superintendent's proposal

*Larry Smith*, APS parent and Bluemont Civic Association member: opposes Superintendent's proposal

*Tsion Tewoldo*, Arlington Traditional Elementary School parent: suggests keeping ATS at a central location

The Board discussed at length the impact of the proposed school moves on staffing, building capacity, transportation services, walk zones, and demographics. They also discussed the involvement of the Instructional Program Pathways (IPP) in this process, enrollment and central office support for option and neighborhood schools. The Board thanked staff for their hard work in providing a proposal to address continued student growth and recognized the complexity in balancing seats across the school system.

**F. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Tannia Talento, Chair  
Arlington School Board