



## Arlington School Board Proclamation

During Cintia Johnson's tenure, she has served Arlington Public Schools (APS) with compassion, kindness, and integrity. She has helped the school division navigate unprecedented growth and change. The School Board profoundly thanks her for her leadership and unwavering commitment to our students and their success.

**Whereas**, Ms. Cintia Johnson has served APS, the 13<sup>th</sup> largest among Virginia's 132 public school divisions, with distinction from 1986 through December 2020; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson has provided excellent leadership, maintaining and enriching a world-class school division with an excellent academic program; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson has made significant contributions to continuously improve the school division's programs and services and to advance student success by notably strengthening the Aspiring Leaders Program for school administrators and starting a Latino Aspiring Leaders Program to identify and advance future Latino leaders; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson has worked tirelessly to promote equity and excellence for all and to decrease the suspension rate of minorities; and has implemented alternatives to suspension to positively affect how students were disciplined and to divert students from becoming a part of the school-to-prison pipeline; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson has continuously strived to promote the well-being of students, ensuring every student can identify at least one trusted adult at school, creating an environment that fosters the growth of the whole child and ensures access to meaningful and challenging learning opportunities for all students; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson has earned numerous accolades for her service to the division as teacher, principal, and administrator, as well as the first woman, Afro-Latina, and Spanish speaker to serve as the leader of the school division; and

**Whereas**, Ms. Johnson championed the success of all students as Interim Superintendent and guided APS through unprecedented challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic;

**Therefore**, be it known that the Arlington School Board does hereby praise Ms. Johnson for her outstanding contributions to APS and to the students, families, and constituents of Arlington County, and expresses its deepest gratitude for her dedication and commitment to public education.

Issued by the Arlington School Board this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.

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Monique O'Grady, Chair