

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FACILITIES AND CAPITAL PROGRAMS
MEETING NOTES (FAC)**

September 13, 2022

Tour @ 6:00 p.m. Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Montessori Public School of Arlington and Career Center Super-Block

Attendees: FAC members (Rosa Cheney, Kateri Garcia, David Goodman, Sally Hoekstra, Kelly Jones, Zachary Larnard, Kelley Litzner, Adam Rasmussen, Nadia Volchansky, Matthew Walker); APS Staff (Renee Harber, Michael DePalma); Liaisons (Jeff Chambers, Lisa Stengle, Michael Freda)

1. Welcome & Introductions: Approve May Minutes

- Introduction by staff and members.
- Meetings will follow Robert's rules, Chair will redirect if we get off topic and put items in the parking lot.
- Motion made and approved of meeting minutes from May2023.
- Kelly Jones nominated and approved for Secretary SY2023-24.

2. General Housekeeping

APS Mission/Vision

- Review of mission; mission, and core values, as a reminder that these are the values that should be upheld by the FAC members.
- These are updated every 5 years and it would be good to have an FAC representative to join the committee to revise the vision.

FAC Policies/PIP

- Any project in the CIP over a certain amount of resourcing and/or with impact to the community through the need for a Use Permit would lead to the instantiation of a Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC); like the County's public facilities review committee (PFRC)

Election/Appointment

- Additional members: we have 5 applicants for 3 vacancies.
- We need to nominate liaisons, please think about whether you want to nominate yourself for any of these committees.
- Budget Advisory Council (BAC) – meets 2nd Wednesdays.
- Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL) – meets 1st Wednesdays.
- Joint Facilities Advisory Committee (JFAC) optional– meets 4th Wednesdays.
- APS Strategic Planning Committee; optional sit-in
- Joint Committee on Transportation Choices (JCTC); suggested.
 - Note: Advisory Committee on Transportation Choice (ACTC) has been disbanded.
 - FAC nominated David Goodman to represent FAC as a non-advisory attendee/liaison on the JCTC.
- Vice-Chair – to be determined.
- Secretary - Kelly Jones

3. FAC primer

- Kelley emphasized the FAC's role in the pre-CIP, in shaping the document and helping with the long-range planning prioritization for facility renovations. The FAC will then advise on the development of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- CIP will be passed in June for a November vote on the bond.
- Highlighted importance of Minor Construction / Major Maintenance (MC/MM) projects (MC/MM projects are usually less than \$500,000). Kelley has requested quarterly updates to the FAC on MC/MM projects. This year, staff toured the schools with the principals to find out their key priorities (specifically those that are impacting instruction).
- Zach was the previous FAC representative on MC/MM advisory committee.
- David would like more information on how the MC/MM budget is decided; this is moved to the parking lot.

4. Pre-CIP Final Draft

Rosa moved to accept the document "Pre-CIP findings and recommendations" with 2 amendments:

- Add to end of paragraph 1.c. "; and the limitations to and effect on the ed specs (i.e. outdoor learning and properly-sized common spaces) for each of the three potential programs the campus would house."
- Add to end of paragraph 3.a. "Repurposing an existing elementary school also has schedule benefits, allowing APS to begin renovations sooner than other swing space alternatives requiring major construction."

The amended document as accepted: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 4 abstentions.

5. CIP Expectations for June 2024

Rosa offered the big takeaways from the community meetings on the elementary swing space. Nottingham parents and PTA expressed concerns. They questioned the information given to them, and the validity of the information. They were vocal and non-supportive of what they heard. They had suggestions on procedures on how this would occur - moving kids and teachers out, and busing of kids to Nottingham when their school was under construction. Had arguments like, why not build another school in south Arlington that could then be turned into a future school. One response was that it still was not fiscally responsible to build another school while maintaining a school that is so far below capacity. Zach offered that Montgomery County does 18 months in the swing spaces on a regular basis. Response to the timing questions will come out with the School Board's questions.

Immersion move:

- Why was there the recommendation in the pre-CIP for two schools, but then it seemed like that was ruled out. Did the staff disagree? Response: staffing makes splitting the middle school immersion program infeasible. Currently the program has 350 students.
- Jefferson, Kenmore, and Gunston are the schools (in order) that send the most kids to immersion.
- The Sept 5th meeting was delayed because there will be more discussion at the School Board Work Session –Tuesday September 26th 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

The School Board has rescheduled the vote to November. We should get the data from the consultants' evaluation of facilities in time for the October FAC meeting.

6. Subcommittees

Rosa has requested the FAC form a Building Sustainability, Wellness, etc. focused Subcommittee, and will put together a description and see who is interested. Nadia is also interested and will work with Rosa to develop goals for the next FAC meeting. This will be building/facility specific to avoid overlap with sustainability committee from superintendent's office.

Chair calls for suggestions for other subcommittees.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Parking lot topics

- Liaison nominations
- Three existing FAC members have been asked by the clerk to re-apply for the FAC, it was unclear why. Michael DePalma offered to explain offline.
- Request for more information on how the MCMM budget is decided.

Next meeting:

October 16, 2023 – FAC requested Nottingham.

Future requests for Gunston and Kenmore