

## **Arlington Career Center (ACC) Naming Committee Meeting January 31, 2024**

The ACC Naming Committee meeting convened on Wed, Jan. 31, 2024, at ACC at 6 p.m.

### **Committee Members Present:**

1. Barbara Kanninen, Naming Committee Chair
2. Margaret Chung, Principal, ACC
3. Michelle Van Lare, Arlington Tech Coordinator
4. Anne Cupero, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Dept. Chair, Forensic Science teacher, and Dual Enrollment Biology Teacher, Arlington Tech
5. Shane Johnson, Program for Employee Preparedness (PEP) Coordinator
6. Catherine "Catey" Wright, Arlington Tech – 9th Grade
7. Fikreyesus "Fikker" Reta, Arlington Tech – 11th Grade
8. Daiber Alejandro Vasquez, English Learner Institute – 12th Grade
9. Sophia Garcia, Program for Employment Preparedness (PEP) 13TH Grade
10. Georgia Hardeman, Part-time (physical therapy), Yorktown High School
11. Daniela Londono, Class of 2017 (English Learner Institute)
12. Edwin Reyes, Class of 2008 (The Academy)
13. Christy Gunville, Arlington Tech families
14. Octavia Johnson, ACC families
15. Robin Taylor, Parent of part-time CTE (culinary arts) student from W-L
16. Elaine Firman-Garcia, PEP families
17. Jessica Kaplan, Arlington Historical Society
18. Brian Sigritz, Co-President, Arlington Heights Civic Association
19. Alex Stevens, President, Alcova Heights Civil Association

### **Also Present:**

1. Catherine Ashby, School & Community Relations Staff Liaison (Non-Voting)

### **Meeting Opening and Introductions**

Committee Chair, Dr. Barbara Kanninen, provided a brief overview and opened the meeting for introductions. Committee members introduced themselves and their connection to the ACC community.

### **Committee Charge**

Dr. Kanninen reviewed the charge. This committee is charged with recommending a new name, or reaffirming the current name, for the new Arlington Career Center facility and campus that is now under construction. This is not a process to rename any of the programs within the ACC.

Over the next few months, the committee will work collaboratively to make a recommendation to the School Board based upon community input received by the committee members.

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**Naming Facilities Policy and PIP Review**

The committee reviewed School Board Policy and PIP F-6.1 Naming of Facilities to understand the naming process and committee's charge. The committee chair shared examples of past naming processes and emphasized that the charge is to recommend a name and alternates for consideration; the School Board may accept the recommendation, choose an alternate or modify the recommendation.

**Naming Criteria**

The criteria for selecting a name for the school was reviewed as well. Based on the School Board Policy and PIP, schools can be named based on the following:

**Name of an Individual:**

- Contributed to society in ways that supported the success and well-being of the individuals who live in Arlington, Virginia or the United States, now and in the future
- Their "principal legacy" aligns with the APS mission, vision, and core values and beliefs
- Has been deceased for five or more years

**Geographical or Historical Relationships:**

- Names of places in the neighboring community, Arlington or Virginia.
- Landmarks or places that have historic or geographic significance to the Arlington community's history and the site

**Other:**

- Articulate aspirations of the educational outcomes for Arlington's students
- Reflect the instructional focus of the school
- Consider the diverse community that they serve
- Avoid duplicating names of other schools in the region to prevent possible confusion with those schools

**Timeline and Next Steps**

Ms. Ashby walked through the naming process and what to expect at each meeting:

- January 31: Informational and Introductory Meeting; Initial Brainstorm
- February 28: Names submitted, Arlington Historical Society feedback and Survey Prep for Civic Associations and Community
- March 20: Survey results conversation and final vote by Committee

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- April 25: Presentation to School Board
- May 9: School Board votes on the name

### **History of ACC**

Margaret Chung presented an overview of the school, student body, the school's mission and values, and the programs housed within ACC, including the Academy, the English Learner Institute, Program for Employment Preparedness (PEP), Arlington Tech, Teen Parenting and EvenStart. The students present at the meeting shared what they love about ACC, including the sense of community, belonging, diversity and how engaged students are in learning at ACC.

Ms. Chung also shared a brief timeline of the history and evolution of ACC:

- 1974 Arlington Career Center opened as CTE center for APS
- 1978 EBCE/SWAT now Program for Employment Preparedness
- 1981 PRIME
- 1991 CRAM now The Academy
- 1995 HILT Institute now English Learner Institute
- 2008 Governor's Career & Technical Academy of Arlington
- 2016 Arlington Tech

### **Historical Research**

Jessica Kaplan from the Arlington Historical Society provided a brief history of the site and surrounding area along Columbia Pike. Key notes include:

Native Americans to sparse European settlement with enslaved workers

1808 – Turnpike Road connected 14<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge to Little River Turnpike

Tolls charged until 1875 by a private company

19<sup>th</sup> Century sites along the Pike:

1. Custis Estate
2. Chapel of Ease (first church)
3. Farms – large and small – Free blacks: Samuel Franton, Ludwell Mortimer, and Guy Henry
4. Brickyards – where Pike hits 395 today
5. Freedman's Village
6. Major Civil War Forts – Ft. Runyon and Ft. Albany

Education

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- Columbia School House (1871)

African American Neighborhoods – Arlington View, Penrose, Queen City, Barcroft, Nauk and Arlington Mill

20<sup>th</sup> Century

1. Railroad
2. Radio Towers, Ft. Myer, Arlington Hall (mention of the [codebreakers of Arlington Hall](#))
3. Arlington Experimental Farm
4. Iconic Businesses (Sheri's grocery, Norton's Café, Bob and Edith's)
5. Building of the Pentagon and displacement of Queen City
6. Influx of immigrant populations (over 100 languages spoken)

### Brainstorm

The committee brainstormed in small groups to discuss initial ideas for a school name and what should be considered when selecting a name for the school. The groups then presented initial thoughts and concepts to explore, including:

- Keeping the current name based on its history
- Considering a modification such as Arlington Community and Technical Center
- Freedman – Freedman Village Bridge
- Kinship and family – Kindred
- Groot/Griot (lineage/stories)
- Naming the school for an enslaved person
- Name that represents community and the idea that there is something for everyone at ACC
- Harriett Tubman
- Sojourner Truth
- Code Breaker High School or something building on Code Breakers
- Negative connotation with the ACC – hinders people from coming – move away from it
- Carrie Johnson as a name – local activist

### Next Steps

Committee members were asked to **research, brainstorm, and gather ideas** for names to share with the other committee members at the next meeting scheduled for Wed, Feb. 28.

### Adjournment

The meeting ended at 7:31 p.m.