

APS Strategic Plan 2024-30



School Board Advisory Committee Working Group

Community Presentation of Initial Proposal for School Board Advisory Councils

Fall 2025

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2024-30 APS Strategic Plan



VISION

APS provides a world-class education where every student develops the skills and knowledge to be a responsible global citizen, and graduates college- or career-ready.

MISSION

APS will ensure all students learn, thrive, and excel in high-quality, safe, and supportive schools.

CORE VALUES

- Excellence
- · Equity & Inclusion
- · Relationships
- Integrity
- Stewardship
- Whole Student
- Valuing Staff



PRIORITIES



APS will ensure each student achieves academic excellence through high-quality instruction and systems of support to eliminate opportunity and achievement gaps.



In partnership with families, staff, and students, APS will create inclusive, safe, and supportive learning environments that foster all students' intellectual, physical, mental, social-emotional growth and well-being.



APS will support and invest in a culture that attracts and retains skilled, talented, and effective staff committed to student success and well-being.



APS will plan and implement efficient, effective, sustainable system-wide operations to support student, staff, and our community's success.



APS will strengthen and develop partnerships built on trust with students, families, community members, organizations, and local government to support student learning.

To stay up to date and learn more, please visit www.apsva.us/strategic-plan



Current APS School Board Advisory Councils



Current School Board Advisory Councils

Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL)

Advanced Academics & Talent

- Arts
- Career, Technical, & Adult Education

Development

Standing Subcommittees

- Dual-Language ImmersionEarly Childhood Education
- Educational Technology
- English Language Arts
- English Learners

- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Student Services
- World Languages

Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC)

Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC)

Budget Advisory Council (BAC)

School Health Advisory Board (SHAB)

The Working Group will NOT be recommending changes to the Joint County Board and School Board Advisory Committees

To learn more about the current School Board Advisory Councils, please visit: https://www.apsva.us/citizen-advisory-groups



The WHY?



The APS Strategic Plan 2024-2030 provides an opportunity to recalibrate and renew the valuable work of advisory councils and provide structures, principles, and practices to maximize the effectiveness of the councils in supporting the district to achieve the priorities and performance objectives in the strategic plan.

For these new advisory councils, effective community engagement would include:

- Council work and recommendations aligned with the APS Strategic Plan 2024-2030
- Councils will be **flexible** to respond to the most pressing priorities and needs of the School Board
- Council recommendations developed by parents, students, community members, and educators
 in conversation with each other
- Recommendations take district-wide needs, constraints, and impacts into account
- School Board receives input on specific topics from advisory councils that reflects a broad range of perspectives



Purpose of Advisory Councils



The School Board's goal for advisory councils:

The School Board strives to provide opportunities for **families and community members** to meaningfully engage with APS around important topics and initiatives within the school system. Advisory Councils are one way of achieving this.



The purpose of Advisory Councils (developed by the Working Group):

"To advise the School Board on division policies, strategies, and initiatives that support implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress toward the outcomes defined in the relevant Strategic Plan priority, with a division-wide lens."



Timeline



October 2024

Nov 2024 -June 2025 Sept. - Oct 2025 November 2025

Winter 2025-26

Spring 2026

Appoint Working Group

Working Group Meetings

Community Engagement

School Board Work Session Policy & PIP Revision

School Board Info & Action

Application & Formation of Councils





Proposal for Advisory Councils



Proposed Advisory Councils









Arlington Public Schools Scope of Work of Advisory Councils



Review, recommend,
and inform
on the relevant
strategies and
initiatives within each
Strategic Plan priority
area, as directed by
the annual charge(s)

Share perspectives
from the community
and assist with
gathering feedback,
as directed by the
annual charge(s)

Consider

budget impacts

in all actions

Topics covered by Collective Bargaining are not within the purview of any council



School Board Charges



- Specific focus areas for each Advisory Council will be defined by the School Board annually through a charge to each Advisory Council
- The duration of the **charge** may be longer or shorter than one year

- Advisory Councils may identify additional areas of interest in consultation with the Board liaison
- Charges for the following year will be **publicly announced in late spring concurrent with the application process** to assist those interested in serving with identifying an Advisory Council(s) that **match their interests and experience**
- During the course of the Advisory Council's work, additional charges may be added as needed in consultation with the Board liaison



Rationale for Initial Proposal



Align Advisory Councils with the priorities, strategies, and performance objectives of the **2024 -2030 APS Strategic Plan**

Ensure Advisory Councils have broad representation across multiple stakeholder groups (Title I reps, parents, students, APS staff, community members included in all groups)

Policy and PIPs will include language to ensure each Advisory Council considers how existing and/or new **partnerships** can help APS advance its goals

Recommendations consider the district-wide needs

Embed budget in the work of each Advisory Council (Budget Rep included in all councils)





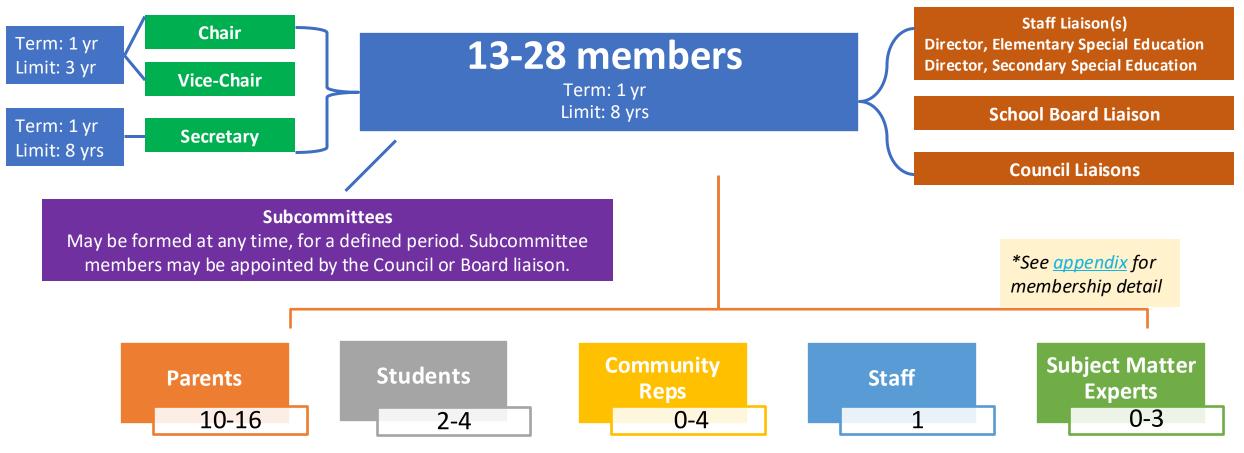
Council Organizational Charts



Arlington Special Education Advisory Council (ASEAC) Membership







Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member or subject matter expert

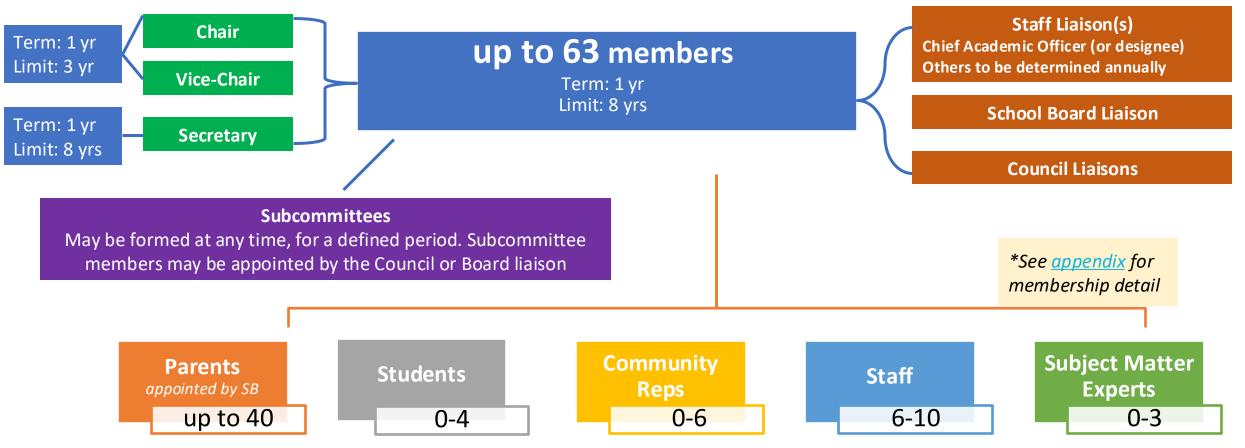
Title I reps (2+) - At least one parent seat and the staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school

Parent and student members should include a mix of school levels, neighborhood & option schools, and geographic diversity.



Academics Advisory Council__Membership





Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member, or subject matter expert

Title I reps (2+) - At least one parent seat and one staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school

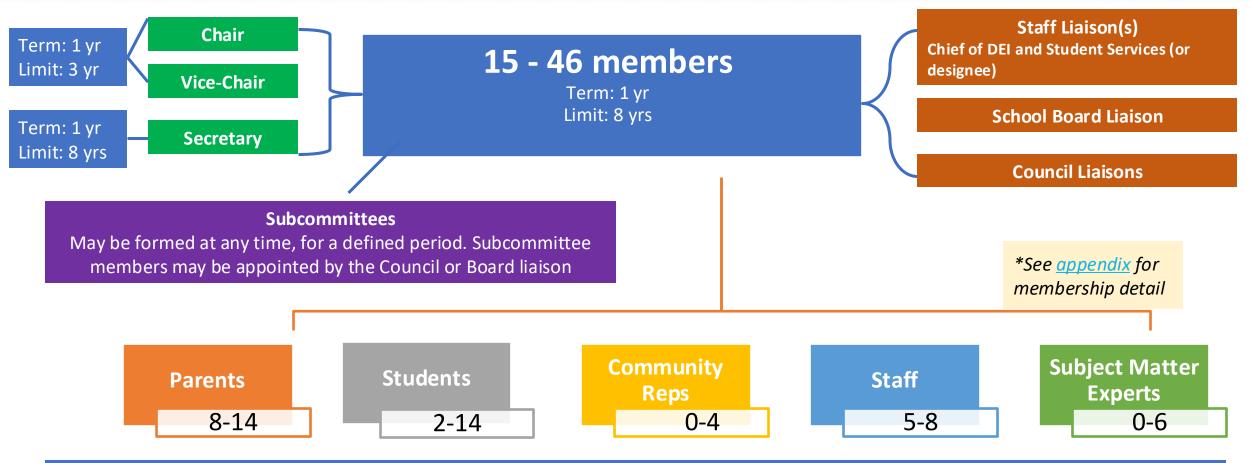
Slot for one **parent** per school. No less than 4:1 Parent:Staff ratio. **Students** should include a mix of neighborhood & option schools and geographic diversity. **Staff** should be mostly school-based and include mix of levels, schools, content area, special populations,



Student Health and Well-being Advisory Council__Membership







Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member or subject matter expert

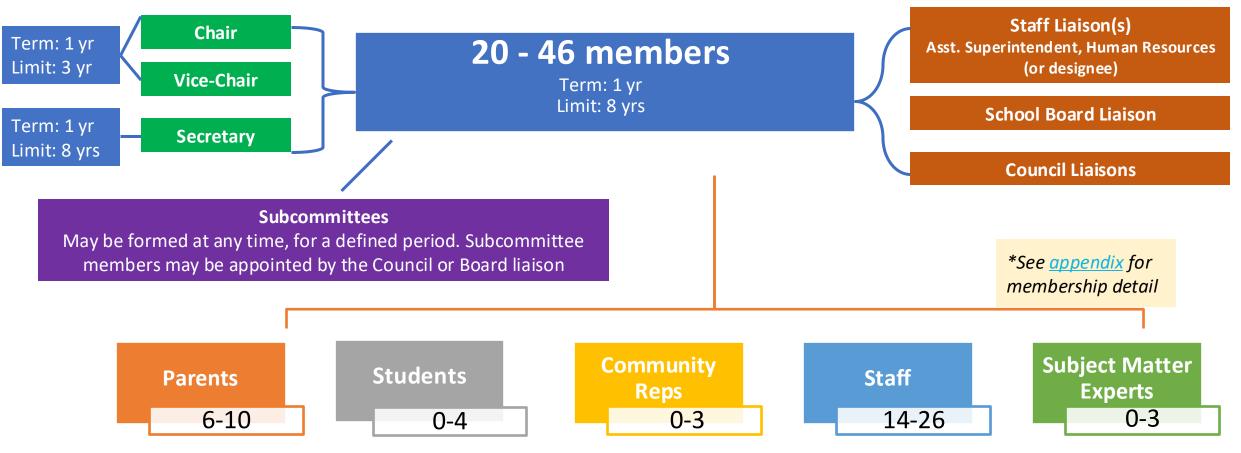
Title I reps (2+) - At least one parent seat and one staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school

Parent and student members should include a mix of school levels, neighborhood & option schools, and geographic diversity



Personnel Advisory Council__Membership





Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member or subject matter expert

Title I reps (2+) - At least one parent seat and one staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school

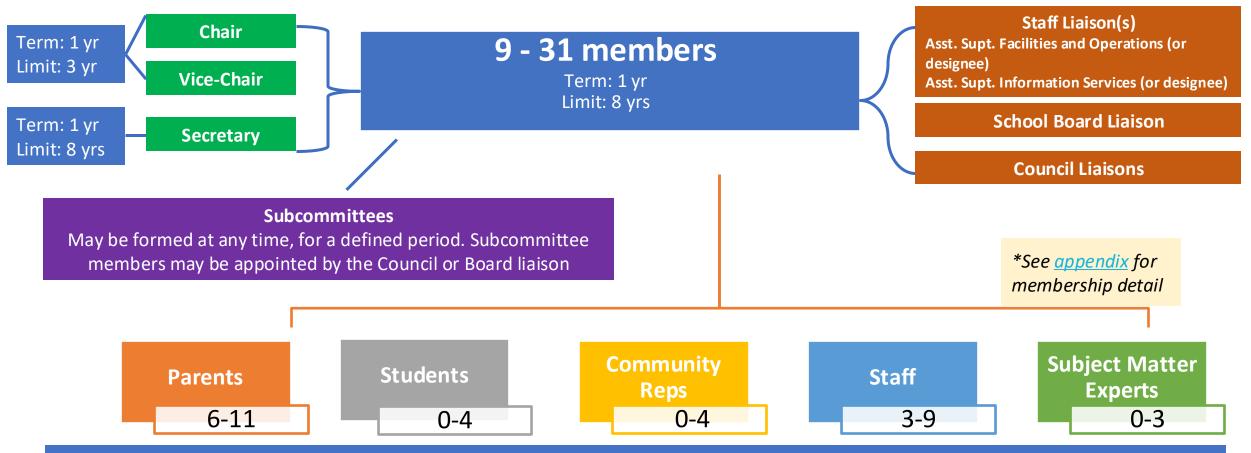
At least one seat for staff from each staffing category (i.e., teacher, counselor, coach, principal, etc).



Operations Advisory Council__Membership







Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member or subject matter expert

Title I reps (2+) - At least one parent seat and one staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school

Parent and student members should include a mix of school levels, neighborhood & option schools, and geographic diversity.

No less than a 2:1 parents/community/subject matter experts:staff ratio



Subcommittees: Current vs. Proposed Options



Current Subcommittee Structure	Working Group Proposal (Option 1)	Working Group Proposal (Option 2)		
13 standing subcommittees	 Subcommittees formed as needed ("Ad Hoc") for a set duration determined by the School Board and/or Advisory Council No standing subcommittees 	 Subcommittees formed as needed ("Ad Hoc") for a set duration *AND* Some standing subcommittees (could include some of the current APS subcommittees remaining AND/OR newly proposed subcommittees) 		
 Primarily function as independent committees Discuss and develop recommendations for topics that may not be aligned with the parent Council (currently ACTL) or School Board priorities 	 Work plan is aligned and supports the weether the School Board charge and other topic Board and chairs of the parent council and 	s mutually agreed upon by the School		
Deliver recommendations directly to the School Board	 Recommendations are shared with School Board through the parent Council unless otherwise directed by the School Board 			
Most subcommittee members are not members of the larger Council	Subcommittee membership is comprised mostly of members from the parent Council			





Transition Plan



Proposed Transition Plan for Members



- Advisory group members serving on a committee now will need to <u>apply</u> to serve on the new advisory councils that will convene in SY 2026-27.
- The application process will open in April 2026, with appointments announced by May 31.
- The School Board should intentionally encourage current advisory group members to apply for membership in the new councils, recognizing the importance of having both new voices and those with institutional knowledge as members.
- For current advisory group members, time served on current advisory groups does not carry over to term limits for the new advisory councils. Everyone has a fresh start.





Recruitment, Onboarding, and Key Operational Components



Recruitment & Onboarding



MEMBER RECRUITMENT

- Clarify that the Board has primary responsibility for recruitment
- Expand recruitment channels and use clearer language
- Actively recruit from communities that are often under-represented
- Intentional goals for membership diversity

ONBOARDING

- All participants need a shared understanding of the purpose, policies & PIPs, responsibilities, roles, norms, and FOIA
- Conduct onboarding at least annually for all members, officers, liaisons
- Participation is required



Key Operational Components



MEMBERSHIP BALANCE & TERMS

- Intentional goals for membership diversity
- Increase membership size to bring on new voices
- Increase term limits to allow the council to benefit from members' and officers' institutional knowledge
- Member limits: 8 years Chair limits: 3 years

MEETINGS

- All meetings are open to the public and comply with VA Code regarding virtual meetings & participation
- May meet during summer based on member and liaison availability
- Add public comment opportunity at each meeting to increase the avenues for community members to engage and to broaden council members' awareness of community perspectives

ATTENDANCE

- Consistent attendance is essential for members to build the knowledge to make well-informed contributions, to maintain the intentional balance of members, and to have the the quorum required to conduct votes.
- Strengthen attendance requirement: Members may be removed for missing 3 consecutive meetings or 40% of meetings

PLANNING & DELIVERABLES

- Council's work plan aligned to charge and provided to SB annually by Oct 31
- Post plans on APS website for transparency and to support engagement
- Summary of activities and recommendations (i.e., deliverables) provided at times specified in the charge





Partner/Community Engagement Plan

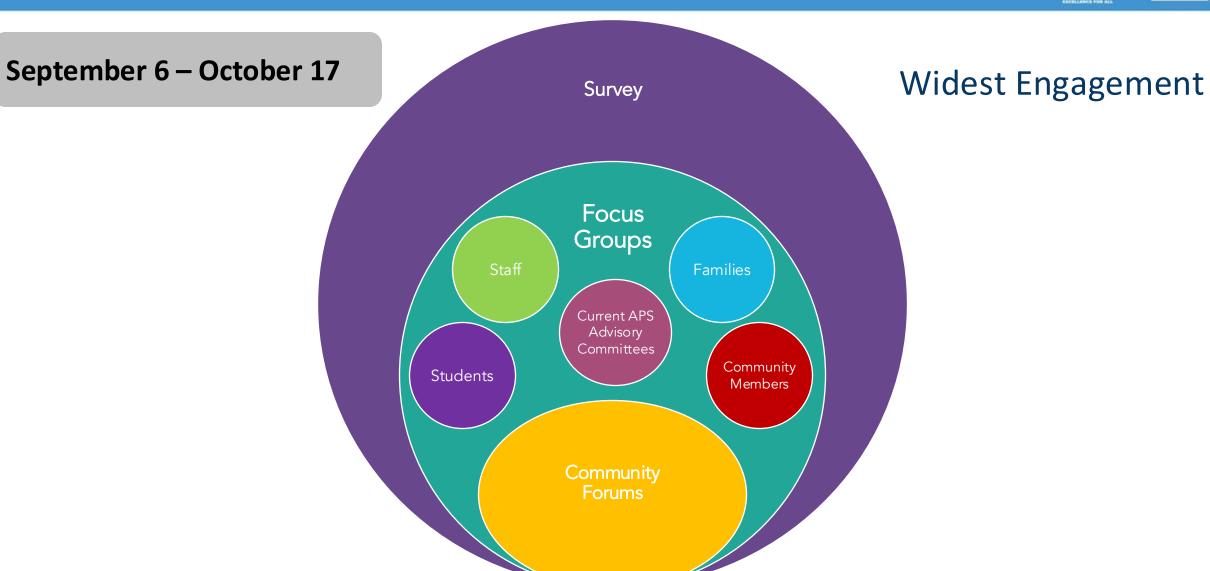
Overview of process to inform and gather feedback from stakeholders on proposed changes to the APS Advisory Committee structure



Arlington Partner/Community Engagement_Magnitude of Reach Schools









Community Engagement Overview



The Working Group seeks community input on proposed revisions to the current structure of School Board Advisory Committees

Community Forums

October 8, 2025 - 12:00-1:00
Virtual

October 16, 2025 - 6:30-8:00
Virtual

October 15, 2025- 6:30-8:00

Virtual (Spanish)
(Session in Spanish with translation to English)

Interpretation for additional languages is available

Survey

September 24 – October 15

- A link to the survey will be shared through multiple channels (Supt. Message, Friday Five, APS Website, ARL county, etc.)
- Students can access link via Canvas

Focus Groups

September 6 - October 17

- Students
- Families
- Staff
- Community Members

Your Input Matters! More information is available at https://www.apsva.us/sbadvisoryworkinggroup/



Key Topics for Stakeholder Feedback



Feedback on any aspect of the Working Group's initial proposal is welcomed. In particular, the Working Group seeks feedback on the following questions:

- 1) Are the proposed Advisory Councils properly aligned with the priorities in the Strategic Plan?
- 2) Is the proposed membership structure (# reps from each group & term limits) appropriate for each Council?
- 3) Will the proposed Councils, membership structure and providing the annual charge with the application help APS achieve the proposed membership composition for each Council?
- 4) Will the proposed aligned priorities together with an annual charge support Advisory Council's development of useful recommendations to the School Board?
- 5) Will the proposed structure generate interest from students, parents, staff, and community members in wanting to serve on an Advisory Council?
- 6) Should subcommittees be established only as needed OR should there be some standing subcommittees (If so, which content, program, or topics do you believe require a standing subcommittee?)



Next Steps



Date	Event	Purpose
September 6 - October 17, 2025	Community Engagement	Gather feedback on Working Group's initial proposal
October 28, 2025	Working Group Meeting #10	Refine proposal based on community input
November 18, 2025	School Board Work Session	School Board input
December 2, 2025	Working Group Meeting #11	Finalize proposal
Winter-Spring 2026	Policy & PIP Revision by APS	Revise School Board Advisory Policy & PIPs Public Comment
Spring 2026	School Board Info & Action	School Board vote to approve Policy & PIP's
April-May 2026	School Board Charge & Application for Advisory Councils for 2026-27	Begin formation of new Advisory Councils





Appendix



School Board Charge to Working Group



1. By June 1, 2025, provide the school board with a statement that describes the:

- o Purpose and value of School Board Advisory Committees
- o Role of School Board Advisory Committees and desired outcomes for the work of the advisory committees

2. Work collaboratively with APS staff to:

 Evaluate the strengths, effectiveness and limitations of the current APS School Board advisory committee organizational structure.

3. By June 1, 2025, provide the school board with a recommendation for a proposed revision to the APS school board advisory committee structure with rationale

O The working group will provide the community a draft of its proposed revision to the advisory committee structure by Spring 2025, such that the structure aligns with the priorities in the 2024-30 Strategic Plan; diverse perspectives from APS staff, families, students and community members are included; and committee recommendations are actionable and relevant. The working group will solicit community feedback and use that feedback to develop a recommendation to the school board that defines:



School Board Charge (cont.)



- The name of each proposed school board advisory committee and a charge that aligns the work of the committee with at least one of the priorities in the 2024-30 Strategic Plan
- The role and purpose of subcommittees and process for forming within each of the proposed school board advisory committees
- Reporting structure and expectations for the committee's work
- A proposed membership composition (e.g. # of community members, staff, etc.) for each advisory committee
- Roles and responsibilities of advisory committee members, including leadership on the committee (e.g. Chairs/Vice Chairs, etc.)
- Length of term and term limits of committee members
- 4. By June 1, 2025, provide the school board with a recommendation on a transition process to the new advisory committee structure with rationale.
 - The recommendation should include:
 - A process, including a proposed timeline, for integrating or transitioning existing committee's structure to its new organization with the aim to institute changes beginning in the 2025-26 school year unless the working group identifies barriers to do so.



Arlington Proposed Advisory Councils Performance Objectives Schools



Name	Strategic Plan Priority	Strategic Plan Performance Objectives	
		proficiency and gaps in SOLs	school climate, mental health, self-management
ASEAC (Special Education)	Student Academic Growth & Success Student Well-Being	growth in math and reading	chronic absenteeism
		80%/80% inclusion	suspensions
		college career and civic readiness indicator	LGBTQ+
			student safety
		proficiency and gaps in SOLs	80%/80% inclusion
Academics	Student Academic Growth & Success	growth in math and reading	college career and civic
			readiness indicator
		school climate, mental	LGBTQ+
Student Health and Well-being	Student Well-Being Operational Excellence	health, self-management	
		chronic absenteeism	student safety
		suspensions	free meals and participation



Arlington Proposed A Schools



Advisory Councils	Performance Objectives (cont.)	EVERY STUDENT COUNTS	
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Name	Strategic Plan Priority	Strategic Plan Performance Objectives	
		professional learning	workplace climate and staff engagement
Personnel	Student Centered Workforce		
		employee retention and diversity	staff safety
Operations	Operational Excellence	facility condition	on-time bus arrival
		technology systems	environmental sustainability

Specific focus areas will be defined by the School Board annually through a charge to each Advisory Council Advisory Councils may also identify additional areas of focus in consultation with the Board liaison



General Purpose of Advisory Councils



Current Policy

The School Board seeks the advice of community members on issues or policies related to the operation of APS

Initial Proposal

To advise the School Board on division policies, strategies, and initiatives to support implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress toward the outcomes defined in the relevant Strategic Plan priority, with a division-wide lens.

Note: ASEAC focuses on the needs of students with disabilities

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

• Align the purpose of advisory councils with the priorities, strategies, and performance objectives of the 2024-2030 Strategic Plan





Additional Information on Proposed Advisory Councils



Arlington Special Education Advisory Council (ASEAC) Scope of Work



Current Policy/ PIP

Defined by Virginia Administrative Code

8VAC20-81-230(D) - regarding Special

Education, including:

- Reports & recommendations
- Assist APS in communicating plans for meeting needs of SWD
- Review APS special education policies
- Participate in APS's annual special ed plan

Initial Proposal

SAME: Defined by Virginia

Administrative Code 8VAC20-81-230(D)

- + Review, recommend, and inform
- + Assist the School Board in gathering feedback from community
- + Consider budget impacts on all actions

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

- Align with 2024 2030 Strategic Plan
- Expand scope of work
- Elevate the importance of budget impacts



ASEAC__Membership



Current Structure¹

- 12-20 members
- Appointed by SB at the recommendation of superintendent
- ASEAC participates in the ACTL subcommittee process for matters related to Teaching & Learning

Initial Proposal

- + 13-28 members
- + Appointed by SB
- + Detailed guidance on membership composition and balance
- + TBD whether ASEAC will participate as subcommittee to Academics Advisory Council

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

While aligning w/VDOE requirements, ensure broader representation across all interested parties



ASEAC_Membership detail



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Students

Community Reps

Staff

Subject Matter Experts

Min 10 - Max 16

Per code:

"A majority [of members] shall be parents of children with disabilities or individuals with disabilities."

Include mix of:

- school levels
- neighborhood & option schools
- geographic diversity

Min 2 - Max 4

Include mix of:

- neighborhood & option schools
- geographic diversity

Min 0 - Max 4

Must be Arlington residents

In particular, recruit:

- Recent APS alums
- Civil rights orgs, nonprofits, local business
- Current instructors, staff, administrators at regional schools of higher ed (NOVA, GMU, etc.)

1 teacher

Per code:

"The committee shall include one teacher.
Additional local school division personnel shall serve only as consultants to the committee."

Min 0 - Max 3

Individuals with professional expertise



Academics Advisory Council__Scope of Work



Current Policy/PIP

- Review policies, PIPs, curriculum, student outcomes
- Recommend changes
- Provide community with information on academic programs
- Review instructional topics

Initial Proposal

SIMILAR: Review, recommend, and inform - related to the Academic Growth & Success priority

- + Assist the SB in gathering feedback from community
- + Consider budget impacts on all actions

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Align with 2024 2030 Strategic Plan
- Expand scope of work
- Elevate the importance of budget impacts



Academics Advisory Council__Membership



Current Structure¹

- Up to 70 members
- Members of ACTL appointed by PTAs and community groups, not the School Board
- APS Staff not listed as eligible members

Initial Proposal

- + Up to 63 members
- Appointed by School Board
- Detailed guidance on membership composition and balance
- + APS Staff are eligible for membership

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Ensure broader representation across all interested parties
- Every school has one seat on Council



Academics Advisory Council__Membership detail



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Students

Community Reps

Staff

Subject Matter Experts

Max 40 [one/school]

Include mix of:

- school levels
- -neighborhood & option schools
- -geographic diversity

Min 0 - Max 4

Include mix of:

- school levels
- neighborhood & option schools
- geographic diversity

Min 0 - Max 6

Must be Arlington residents

In particular, recruit: -Recent APS alums -Civil rights orgs, nonprofits, local business -Current instructors, staff, administrators at regional schools of higher ed (NOVA, GMU, etc.)

School-Based: 4-7

Central Office (specialists or nonsupervisory): 2-3

Include mix of:

- classroom teachers, counselors, admin, specialists, coaches, interventionists
- school levels
- content areas
- special populations (EL, SWD, Gifted)

Min 0 - Max 3

Individuals with professional expertise, i.e.,

- Early childhood
- Former teachers, staff, admin
- Curriculum development
- Education research



Academics Advisory Council Subcommittees



Current PIP₁

- Unlimited number of standing subcommittees (currently 12)
- Appointed by SB at the recommendation of superintendent
- 5-25 members per subcommittee
- Have own officers
- Have own membership (not drawn from ACTL members)

Initial Proposal

Option 1 - Ad-hoc subcommittees
established as needed, guided by SB charge
Option 2 - Ad-hoc subcommittees AND
continue some existing standing
subcommittees

- + Ad-hoc subcommittees, comprised mostly of council members, appointed by Council Chair or Board liaison.
- + Chair of subcommittee is a member of the Advisory Council

your perspective!

Revised

Please provide

Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Reduce the number of subcommittees in order to provide the Board with broader-vision, less-siloed recommendations.
- Assists the School Board with focusing their efforts on key Strategic Plan priorities



Student Health and Well-being Advisory Council__Scope of Work





Current Policy/PIP

Student Services subcommittee

Support student social-emotional health

SHAB

- Established (but not required) per VA code §
 22.1-275.1
- Also participates in the ACTL subcommittee process
- Development of health policy
- Evaluation of school health, environment, and health education
- Reports annually to VA Dept of Health and VDOE

Initial Proposal

SIMILAR: Review, recommend, and inform – related to the Student Well-being priority

- Combine and expand the purpose of the 2 existing committees
- Assist SB in gathering feedback from community
- + Consider budget impacts in all recommendations
- + In a public health emergency, work with Academics Advisory Council
- Does not serve as a subcommittee of Academics Advisory Council

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Align with 2024 2030 Strategic Plan
- Expand scope of work
- Elevate the importance of budget impacts



Student Health and Well-being Advisory Council__Membership



Current Structure

SHAB¹

- 8-20 members
- Appointed by SB at the recommendation of superintendent

Student services subcommittee²

- ACTL subcommittee
- 5-25 members
- Appointed by SB at the recommendation of superintendent

Initial Proposal

- + 15-32 members
- + Appointed by SB
- + Detailed guidance on membership composition and balance

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Ensure broader representation across all interested parties
- Organize student physical and mental health components under one structure to better advance Strategic Plan priority Student Well-Being
- 1. https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/arlington/Board.nsf/files/CV7KGP51B786/\$file/B-3.6.30%20PIP-4%20School%20Health%20Advisory%20Board.pdf
- 2. https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/arlington/Board.nsf/files/CJRPY365D63E/\$file/B-3.6.30%20PIP-2%20ACTL%20Subcommittees.pdf



Student Health and Well-being Advisory Council__Membership detail





Parents	Students	Community Reps	Staff	Subject Matter Experts
Min 8 - Max 14	Min 2 - Max 14 Include mix of:	Min 0 - Max 4 Must be Arlington	Min 5 - Max 8 School-Based: 4-6	Min 0 - Max 6 Individuals with
Include mix of: - school levels - neighborhood & option schools - geographic diversity	- neighborhood & option schools - geographic diversity	In particular, recruit: - Recent APS alums - Civil rights orgs, nonprofits, health groups	Central Office (specialists or non-supervisory): 1- 2 Include a mix of counselors, classroom teachers, assistants, student activities staff (coaches, arts directors), social workers & school psychologists Mostly staff who are either school-based or who are central-based in positions that spend 75%+ of their time in schools	professional expertise, especially - Former teaches, staff, admin - Mental health and medical professionals - Professionals from mental health nonprofits



Personnel Advisory Council __Scope of Work



Current Policy/PIP

None

Initial Proposal

- + Review, recommend, and inform related to the Student Centered
 Workforce priority
- + Assist SB in gathering feedback from community
- + Consider budget impacts on all actions

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

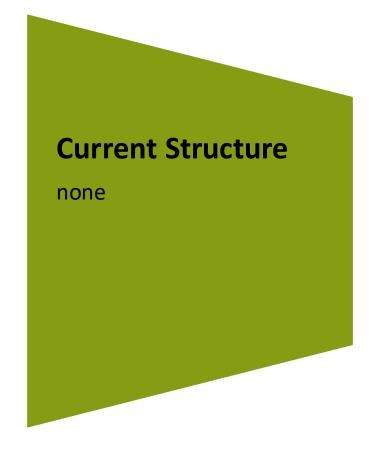
Areas covered by Collective Bargaining are not within the purview of this Council

- Align with 2024 2030 Strategic Plan
- Expand scope of work
- Elevate the importance of budget impacts



Personnel Advisory Council__Membership





Initial Proposal

- + 22-46 members
- + Appointed by SB
- + Detailed guidance on membership composition and balance

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

• Create a membership that primarily represents and serves the needs of all staff groups within APS



Personnel Advisory Council__Membership detail



Parents	Students	Community Reps	Staff	Subject Matter Experts
Min 6 - Max 10 Include mix of: - school levels	Min 0 - Max 4 Include mix of: - neighborhood & option schools	Min 0 - Max 3 Must be Arlington residents	 Min 14 - Max 16 A-Scale: 1-2 C-Scale: 1-2 D-Scale: 1-2 E-Scale: 1-2 	Min 0 - Max 3 Individuals with professional expertise, especially - Former teaches, staff,
neighborhood & option schoolsgeographic diversity	- geographic diversity		 G-Scale: 1-2 M-Scale: 1-2 N-Scale: 1-2 O-Scale: 1-2 P-Scale: 2-3 T-Scale: 3-5 X-Scale: 1-2 T-Scale to include a mix of teachers, counselors, specialists	admin - HR professionals

Budget Rep (1) - Budget rep is included in the above numbers; can be a parent, community member or subject matter expert

Title I reps (2) - At least one parent seat and one staff seat are designated for reps from a Title I school



Operations Advisory Council_Scope of Work



Current Policy/PIP

- Review, recommend, and inform on APS' facilities and capital programs, including the CIP process
- Work with Building Level
 Planning Committees (BLPCs)

Initial Proposal

SIMILAR: Review, recommend, and inform on facilities & capital programs

- + Review, recommend, and inform on all elements of Operational Excellence priority
- + Assist SB in gathering feedback from community
- + Consider budget impacts on all actions

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Align with 2024 2030 Strategic Plan
- Expand scope of work
- Elevate the importance of budget impacts



Operations Advisory Council__Membership



Current Policy/ PIP

(Facilities Advisory

Committee)1

- 9-15 members
- Appointed by SB at the recommendation of superintendent

Initial Proposal

- + 13-31 members
- + Appointed by SB
- + Detailed guidance on membership composition and balance

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

• Expand membership to ensure broader representation and involvement across all interested parties



Operations Advisory Council__Membership detail



Parents	Students	Community Reps	Staff	Subject Matter Experts
Min 6 - Max 11	Min 0 - Max 4	Min 0 - Max 4	Min 3 - Max 9	Min 0 - Max 3
Include mix of: - school levels - neighborhood & option schools - geographic diversity Aim for a least a third of seats to be filled with parents from Title I schools	Include mix of: - neighborhood & option schools - geographic diversity	Must be Arlington residents	Facilities & Operations: 1-2 Information services: 1-2 School-based: 1-3 Central Office (non-supervisory): 0-2 Include mix of: T-Scale, school administrators and staff across scales. Note that bus drivers are considered school-based.	Individuals with professional expertise, especially - Former teaches, staff, admin - IT professionals - Facility management professionals - Construction specialists





Additional Details on Proposal

(Recruitment, Onboarding, Member Expectations, Terms, Council Leadership, Liaisons, Deliverables, Meetings, External Communications, FOIA)



Recruitment



Current Policy/PIP

Current policy/PIPs indicate that staff liaisons participate in recruitment but do not specify who has primary responsibility or what the requirements or best practices for recruitment are

Initial Proposal

School Board has primary responsibility. Staff liaisons and council officers assist.

- + Expand recruitment channels and use clearer language
- + Actively recruit from communities that are often under-represented
- + Board Chair and council chairs review application annually
- + [See goals for membership diversity for each council slides #63-67]

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Clarify responsibility for recruitment
- Expand and improve recruitment practices



Expectations of Members



Current Policy/PIP

- Members must follow APS policy/PIP
- The free exchange of ideas is encouraged.
- Members should attend all meetings. (May be removed for missing >50% of meetings)

Initial Proposal

SAME: Follow APS policy/PIP

SAME: The free exchange of ideas is encouraged

- + Individual experience is valued
- + Members build knowledge of APS, of research & data, and of diverse perspectives
- + Make recommendations based on the needs and context of the district

CHANGE: May be removed for missing 3 consecutive meetings or 40% of meetings

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Value members' contributions AND reduce silos
- Attendance: (a) Essential for members to build the knowledge to make well-informed contributions; (b) Necessary to maintain the intentional balance of members; (c) Quorum required to conduct votes



Membership Terms



Current Structure

Member

Term - 2 years

Limit - 6 cumulative years

Chair & vice chair

Term - 1 year

Limit - 1 year

Secretary

no limit

Initial Proposal

+ Members may serve on only one council at a time

Member

- + Term 1 year
- + Limit 8 cumulative years

Chair & vice chair

- + Term 1 year
- + Limit 3 cumulative years

Secretary

no limit

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Reducing commitment to 1-year terms eliminates a barrier to volunteering
 - O Additionally, to reduce the application burden, we propose that members can auto-renew after year 1 without reapplying. Members would only need to re-apply at the end of years 2, 4, and 6.
- Longer term limits allow the council to benefit from members' and officers' institutional knowledge



Leadership



Current Policy/PIP

Current policy/PIPs do not specify a mechanism for members to express interest in being an officer or a timeline for selection.

Initial Proposal

- + Annually by April 1, announce an all call for those interested in serving as officers
- + As needed, the Board liaison proactively recruits candidates for officer positions
- + Council votes for leadership by May 1
- + School Board appoints officers by May 31

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Ensure every member has the opportunity to put themselves forward to serve as an officer
- Move the timeline for establishing new officers earlier so planning for the following year can begin



Liaisons & Support Board Liaison



Current Structure

Current policy/PIPs do not require a Board Liaison

Initial Proposal

One Board Liaison for each council

Key responsibilities

- + Collaborate with Chair, Staff Liaison, and Board to establish charges
- + Guide on alignment with Strategic Plan
- + With Board colleagues, holds primary responsibility for recruiting members
- + Collaborate with chair on planning activities & agendas

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Improve guidance to chairs with fulfilling the charge to council and Strategic Plan alignment
- Clarify primary responsibility for member recruitment
- Improve support for planning council meetings



Liaisons & Support Staff Liaison



Current Structure

Designated by PIP

Key responsibilities

- Primary conduit of information exchange between council and APS
- Participate in recruitment
- Invite staff to meetings as requested by chair
- Request non-public info (in accordance with research provision)

Initial Proposal

May change according to the charge(s)

SAME responsibilities + NEW

- + Keep chair informed of relevant APS processes, initiatives, etc
- + Meet with chair monthly to help plan meetings
- + Attend all meetings
- + Provide updates on APS priorities/activities at meetings as needed
- + Obtain language translations of essential documents*

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Refine who fills the staff liaison role so that it can adjust to be relevant to the specific charge(s)
- Improve communication to chairs of APS processes, initiatives, etc. that impact the work of the councils
- Clarify responsibilities related to planning and contributing to council meetings



Liaisons & Support Council Liaisons



Current Structure

- ACTL, BAC, and FAC shall each appoint liaisons to the other two councils
- Liaisons are non-voting members to each other
- Responsibilities are not specified

Initial Proposal

SIMILAR: Encouraged to appoint liaisons to each other. Non-voting members of each other + May use alternate models to fulfill the goals of these roles, such as co-liaisons or rotating liaisons

- + Responsibilities
- Attend all meetings
- Report back to home council

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Improve communication between advisory councils
- Build the district-wide knowledge of all advisory council members



Liaisons & Support__Administrative Support



Current Policy/PIP

- Staff liaison obtains meeting locations
- Other administrative requirements are enumerated (e.g., publishing meeting info online, making meeting materials available to the public) but are not assigned to anyone

Initial Proposal

+ Assigns administrative requirements to the administrative assistant of the staff liaison, or of another staff member as designated by the head of the relevant department

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Ensure councils are meeting the requirements for transparency and public access as required by Code of Virginia § 2.2-3707
- Designate who is responsible for required administrative tasks

Onboarding



Current Policy/PIP

not included in current policies/PIPs

Initial Proposal

- + Delivered to all members, officers, and liaisons at least once per year.
- + Participation is required.
- + Format and delivery determined by agreement of the chair, staff liaison, and Board liaison.

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

All participants need to have a shared understanding of the purpose, policies & PIPs, responsibilities, roles, norms, and FOIA



Planning & Deliverables



Current Policy/PIP

- Planned activities provided to the School Board at the start of the school year
- Summary of activities and recommendations provided to the School Board at a designated time each year

Initial Proposal

- + Planned work on charge provided to the School
 Board by Oct 31 → Will be posted on APS website
 + Summary of activities and recommendations
 provided at times specified in the charge
- *ASEAC and Student Health & Well-being may have additional deliverables to the VA Dept of Health and VDOE

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- October 31 is a more reasonable timeframe for councils to determine activities and discuss with staff and Board liaisons
- Posting on the website supports transparency and promotes engagement
- Summary and recommendation timing should tie to the specific charge



Meetings



Current Policy/PIP

- Between first and last days of school year
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Open to the public
- Vote only with quorum
- Comply with VA Code regarding electronic meetings & participation

Initial Proposal

SIMILAR as current

- + May be held during summer if needed
- + Opportunity for public comment with clear parameters will be provided at each meeting

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

- Provide flexibility to meet during summer
- Add public comment opportunity at each meeting to increase the avenues for community members to engage and to broaden council members' awareness of community perspectives



Council Research Needs



Current Policy/PIP

- May do independent research;
 should not duplicate staff work
- Council requests for add'l data are at the discretion of staff and Board liaison
- Requests for original research should be made through the council recommendation process

Initial Proposal

Same as current

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

No changes needed



External Communications



Current Structure

APS comms channels

• Route through the staff liaison

Non-APS comms channels (media, public, other orgs)

- Discuss with staff & Board liaison
- Indicate that views expressed are own, unless authorized by council

Initial Proposal

Same as current

Revised Proposal

Final Recommendation

Rationale for Initial Proposal

No changes needed



Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)



Current Policy/PIP

- All communications are subject to FOIA
- Chair and staff liaison ensure all members understand FOIA

Initial Proposal

SAME as current

- +Training on FOIA at the first meeting of the school year
- + Members required to comply with FOIA

Revised Proposal

Final recommendation

- Ensure understanding of FOIA from the outset
- Be explicit about the responsibility of members related to FOIA