Proposal for Non-traditional Programs
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Why are changes being proposed to non-traditional programs?
Over the last few years, extensive review and discussion have taken place on current programming. The proposal is being made to improve student outcomes, increase access to additional resources, and expand programs to respond to student needs. The nontraditional program proposal aims to uphold the commitment to expanding Arlington Tech and enhancing Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities for all students across Arlington Public Schools (APS). The goal is to expand opportunities while ensuring programs are designed to serve a diverse student body and meet evolving student needs. The November 18, 2025 presentation from the School Board Work Session can be found here.

What programs are currently offered at the Arlington Career Center?
The Arlington Career Center currently offers a range of secondary programs, including:
- The Academy
- Arlington Tech
- English Learner Institute
- Program for Employment Preparedness (PEP)
- Teen Parenting

What programs are currently offered at the Langston Secondary Program?
The Langston Secondary Program currently serves students through its existing alternative education model. The New Directions Program and 45-Day Program are included at the Langston Secondary Program.

What programs would be located at the Grace Hopper Center?
The proposal includes the following programs being located at the Grace Hopper Center:
- Arlington Tech – Priority for CTE Classes
- Langston Secondary Program
- Multilingual Pathway Program
- Program for Employment Preparedness (PEP)
- CTE programming for students attending comprehensive high schools

What programs would be located at Arlington Community High School?
Arlington Community High School will continue to serve students through programs aligned with its mission and student population. Programs in the proposal include:
- ACHS Alternative Programming
- Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED) / Individual Student Alternative Education Plan (ISAEP)
- Flexible Learning Program (new)

How do the proposed changes expand access to CTE for all students?
The proposal is intended to increase access to high-quality CTE programs and pathways for students across APS by expanding capacity, enhancing curricular offerings, and creating opportunities for more students to participate in Arlington Tech and other CTE programs.

Will Arlington Tech remain a Governor's STEM Academy?
Yes. Arlington Tech will remain a Governor's STEM Academy. Career and Technical Education will continue to be a core and essential component of the program with Arlington Tech students receiving priority for CTE classes. There is no intent to diminish the Arlington Tech model that has supported student success over the past decade.

What input or feedback has been collected throughout this process?
APS has received survey results, a meeting recording, and a chat transcript from the Arlington Tech Advisory Committee meeting, along with other feedback from families, students, staff, and community members. Staff are reviewing these materials carefully, and the questions and concerns raised are important to the ongoing work.

What decisions will go to the School Board under APS policy?
Decisions presented to the School Board are in line with APS policies. Currently, the Flexible Learning Program is a newly proposed program and will be brought forward for School Board consideration and approval.

What are the next steps? APS will continue to solicit and review feedback, engage with the APS community and other stakeholders, and refine planning and programming. Ongoing engagement and communication will remain central as this work moves forward.
APS recognizes the trust the community has placed in the school system and the School Board. That responsibility is taken seriously, and continued dialogue will be an important part of the path forward. All recommendations are put forward to support students' learning and to increase access and opportunities to classes and programs.