

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
May 5, 2016

**Item C-1-c**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 5, 2016, at 7:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair  
Nancy Van Doren, Vice Chair (arr. 7:33 PM)  
Reid Goldstein, Member  
Barbara Kanninen, Member  
James Lander, Member  
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

**Also present were:**

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent  
Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services  
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations  
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
Cintia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Deirdra McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management  
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Connie Skelton, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction  
Dr. Brenda Wilks, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services and Special Education

**B. MEETING OPENING**

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of Colors: Arlington Career Center AFJROTC Cadet Corps
3. Recognitions:

Ms. Elisabeth Harrington, Supervisor, World Languages, recognized students who received National Latin Awards. Ms. Leslie Peterson, Budget Director, accepted awards from the Association of School Business Officials International and the Government Finance Officers Association.

4. Announcements: (7:50 PM)

Meetings:

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<sup>1</sup> Video clips of regular School Board meetings can be viewed on the APS Web site at the following link:  
<http://www.apsva.us/page/3067>  
DVDs of all regular School Board meetings are also available for viewing in the School Board office.

- May 11, 2016 Work Session on Professional Development Program Evaluation, Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Blvd., Rm. 237, 5:30 PM
  - May 18, 2016 Closed Meeting, Washington-Lee High School Rm. 1011, 6 PM
- Events:
- May 14, 2016 Explore Your Own Path, Wakefield High School, 9 AM – 3 PM
  - May 16, 2016 CCPTA Scholarship Ceremony, Room 101, 6 PM
  - May 18, 2016 Celebration of Excellence, Washington-Lee High School, 6:30 PM

In recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week, Dr. Violand-Sánchez thanked APS teachers, recognizing their dedication and excellence. Dr. Murphy shared highlights of Teacher Appreciation Week, School Nutrition Worker Week and Mental Health Awareness Month; noted activities in the schools and congratulated Facilities and Wakefield High School for achieving LEED Gold certification. Upcoming events were also reviewed.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:06 PM)**

*Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:*

1. Minutes:
  - a. January 5, 2016 Work Session on the Capital Improvement Plan
  - b. January 7, 2016 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
  - c. February 26, 2016 School Board Retreat
  - d. March 2, 2016 Budget Work Session #2
  - e. April 1, 2016 School Board Retreat
  - f. April 23, 2016 School Board Retreat

2. Personnel actions
  - P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL
  - 1 Appointment

- T-SCALE PERSONNEL
- 1 Appointment
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 18 Resignations
- 7 Retirements

- SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL
- 1 Appointment
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Retirement

3. Grants and Restricted Programs:

- #21 – IDEA Part B Special Olympics at Yorktown and Washington-Lee
- #22 – Title I Academic Achievement at Henry Award 2015-2016

**E. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**

**F. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:06 PM)**

1. Extended Day Update

Mr. Bobby Kaplow, Director, and Mr. Ben Harris, Assistant Director, provided an update on the Extended Day Program. Mr. Kaplow noted how Extended Day aligns with the Strategic Goals, and reviewed the program profile, staffing and budget. After describing activities to engage families in the program, Mr. Kaplow then reviewed professional development provided to Extended Day staff. He also highlighted initiatives and next steps that are being implemented to strengthen the program.

Board members appreciated the Extended Day program and Mr. Kaplow responded to questions, confirming that staff recognizes concerns and is looking to manage student use of technology. The group discussed the need for additional space to accommodate students on the waiting list, and Mr. Kaplow confirmed Extended Day participates in planning for new facilities. The Board asked for follow up information on waiting lists and on the other after-school programs in the schools. Dr. Kanninen asked for a brief update on the Out of School Time Council, and Mr. Kaplow confirmed it has helped strengthen programs and opportunities for families. He highlighted best practices the group has identified, and the Board encouraged continued efforts in this initiative. The Board also looked to strengthen the benefits available to Extended Day staff.

2. ACI Committee Reports: (8:33 PM)

a. Health and Physical Education (Health/PE)

Jana Meltzer, Chair, supported by Health/PE Supervisor Debbie DeFranco, presented the report. She summarized activities of the group including review of the new Health/PE SOLs and competencies and changes to the Drivers Education program. Areas the committee plans to continue to review are online instruction for Health and internet safety issues.

Board members appreciated the report and Dr. Kanninen encouraged the committee to explore alternate opportunities for students to participate in Health/PE, especially in high school, and to earn credit for extracurricular activities. Ms. Meltzer agreed to continue looking at this issue. Board members also encouraged ensuring students have opportunities for physical education and activity outside of the classroom.

b. World Languages

Rick Jackson, Chair, presented the report, supported by Ms. Harrington. He thanked the Board and staff for support and highlighted committee membership which includes student representatives from each high school. He outlined the committee's activities, including collaboration with other ACI committees, and spoke to the status of recommendations from the committee's

previous reports. Topics reviewed included middle school offerings, support for ASL for students with special needs, online learning, the bi-literacy seal, and partnering with organizations for language instruction.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

*Michael Beer*, parent: congratulating the Board for implementing FLES in all elementary schools, supporting the committee recommendations and encouraging expanding immersion opportunities.

Board members appreciated the report and progress made in implementing the recommendations. Mr. Lander spoke to low participation by African American students in the immersion program, and looked forward to efforts to address this gap. Dr. Jackson described alternative options for language learning, such as online opportunities and a language hub. The group discussed opportunities and services for students with disabilities. Ms. Harrington shared information about the bi-literacy seal. Also discussed was providing opportunities for students to learn critical languages and how to ensure enough participation to make courses successful. The group also discussed concerns about culturally responsive materials.

#### **G. ACTION ITEMS: (9:48 PM)**

Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that the Board will act on Stratford Historic Designation first, as there are a large number of interested citizens in the audience.

##### **2. Stratford Historic Designation**

Mr. Chadwick appreciated the community members and the County staff who have worked with APS on this item. Dr. Violand-Sánchez recognized the four students who integrated Stratford, and the community members present in support of this item.

*Ms. Van Doren made the following motion:*

*The Stratford School is listed on both the National Register of Historic Places (2004) and the Virginia Landmarks Register (2003) for the event that occurred there on February 2, 1959, which made a broad contribution to our history, and for the architecture of the original 1951 building, which is a fine example of the International Style applied to a school facility.*

*The nationally significant historical event that occurred on February 2, 1959 when four black students—Michael G. Jones, Gloria Thompson, Ronald Deskins, and Lance D. Newman—courageously walked through the doors of Stratford School and enrolled in the 7th grade, made Stratford School the first public school in the Commonwealth of Virginia to be racially integrated. The successful and non-violent integration of Stratford represented the end of the Commonwealth’s policy of “massive resistance” and dealt a fatal blow to foes of school integration across the South.*

*First, having carefully reviewed the adopted Zoning Ordinance amendment creating a new process allowing the County Board to approve or deny Certificate of Appropriateness requests for APS properties and the proposed Design Guidelines for the Stratford School Local Historic District dated April 22, 2016 (Design Guidelines) and second, in recognition of the existing National and State historic listings and the cultural and architectural significance embodied in the Stratford School, I move that the School Board support local historic district designation contingent upon County Board adoption of the proposed Design Guidelines.*

The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez stated her belief that this is one of the most significant votes of the Board and recognized the brave students. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5-0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively.

The Board took a brief recess and reconvened at 10:01 PM.

1. School Board Adopted FY 2017 Budget: (10:01 PM)

Ms. Peterson, briefly reviewed changes that have occurred since the Board adopted the proposed budget. She highlighted revenue adjustments, including increases in the County transfer and in state funding, and she confirmed there were no adjustments to expenditures. She then reviewed the budget by fund.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Gerry Collins*, President, Arlington Education Association: appreciating funding for compensation and leave and noting concerns about items not included.

*Michael Beer*, parent: appreciating the budget, but suggesting that even more funding is needed to truly meet the needs of the community.

*Dr. Kanninen moved that the Arlington School Board hereby adopt its Fiscal Year 2017 School Board Budget totaling \$581,941,859. Changes from the School Board's Proposed FY 2017 budget, adopted on April 7, 2016, are specified in Attachment A to this motion. The School Board's FY 2017 budget requires an on-going County Transfer of \$464,510,834, a Beginning Balance or Carry Forward of \$3,500,000, and funding from Reserves of \$13,189,537, broken into the following:*

- 1. The School Operating Fund at a total of \$485,509,287, requiring a County transfer of \$405,733,301, a beginning balance or carry forward of \$3,500,000, and funding from reserves of \$10,464,537.*
- 2. The Community Activities Fund at a total of \$16,698,907, requiring a County transfer of \$6,330,379.*
- 3. The Debt Service Fund at a total of \$46,745,244, requiring a County transfer of \$46,095,244 and funding from reserves of \$650,000.*

4. *The Food and Nutrition Services Fund at a total of \$8,461,430, requiring a County transfer of \$0.*
5. *The Capital Projects Fund at a total of \$6,438,495, requiring a County transfer of \$4,231,910, and funding from reserves of \$2,075,000.*
6. *The Comprehensive Services Act Fund at a total of \$4,000,000, requiring a County transfer of \$2,120,000.*
7. *The Grants and Restricted Programs Fund at a total of \$14,088,496, requiring a County transfer of \$0.*

*The Arlington School Board also allocates \$2,453,402 in additional one-time revenue appropriated by the County for FY 2017 to the Future Budget Years Reserve.*

*The Arlington School Board hereby authorizes the advance placement of purchase orders for relocatables, HVAC equipment, mechanical upgrades, replacement of gymnasium floor, general floorcovering improvements, plumbing and electrical projects, productivity software, personal computers, and laptops and iPads, that are funded in the adopted FY 2017 budget. These orders will be placed only after the Finance Office verifies that the funds have been designated in the School Board's adopted FY 2017 budget. These items should be neither received nor invoiced until on, or after, July 1, 2016.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

Ms. Peterson responded to questions, explaining funds in the County transfer and reviewing use of one-time funds for ongoing expenditures. Staff shared additional information about this approach, how reserves have been used, and how future deficits will be addressed. Board members were concerned about using this practice too often, and recognized it should be implemented judiciously. Dr. Kanninen thanked Dr. Violand-Sánchez, Board members, and staff for their work. She noted budget highlights, including support for students and staff, and recognized the need to focus on increasing costs. Stating her belief that the community prioritizes the schools, she encouraged continuing work with the County to meet the needs of students. Mr. Lander spoke to the importance of developing a sustainable and responsible budget, and confirmed that his previous concerns with the budget have been addressed sufficiently. He noted important takeaways, including focusing on use of reserves for ongoing costs, recognizing that upcoming capital projects and growing enrollment will affect future budgets, and a need for continued review of compensation to better support staff. In closing, he confirmed the importance of being good stewards of public funds and ensuring funds are used thoughtfully and effectively. Mr. Goldstein agreed with the comments, recognized the importance of being mindful, and confirmed his support for the budget. Dr. Violand-Sánchez appreciated collaboration between the Board and staff, stating that this is an excellent budget that addresses growth and provides assets so that all students can succeed. She supported the strategy of setting aside reserves to meet future needs. She recognized areas that need attention, stating her support for returning to an annual step and strengthening benefits, and confirmed this is a strong budget, and she appreciated the County Board for their support.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5-0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively.

## **H. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:40 PM)**

### **1. World Language Textbooks**

Ms. Harrington reviewed the process followed to select the textbooks that are being recommended for secondary Spanish and Spanish Immersion classes. She then described the materials that are being recommended, and explained that the books will be leveled to better meet instructional and student need. She then reviewed the timeline of the textbook adoption process.

Noting gaps by gender and race in immersion enrollment, Mr. Lander asked staff to look for materials that strengthen support for students. Specifically, he asked if difficulty with reading is an issue contributing to the gap. Ms. Harrington noted that one factor is students who have been in the Immersion program chose to move to other programs rather than continuing immersion, and agreed to further review this concern. Dr. Violand-Sánchez stated her concerns that the Immersion texts are too simple for students who have Spanish for years, and stressed the importance of differentiated content and instruction for students fluent in Spanish. The group recognized the different backgrounds and skills that students bring, and discussed how ensure that the materials address all students' needs. Staff agreed to share additional information.

### **2. Superintendent's Proposed 2017-2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): (11:11 PM)**

Dr. Murphy introduced the CIP, thanking staff for their work. Mr. Chadwick made the presentation, recognizing community members, advisory leaders, APS and County staff, and the Board for their participation. He reviewed the CIP process, outlined community engagement, and confirmed that Instruction informs all decisions. After reviewing seat deficits and areas of most critical need, he shared options suggested and considered in the process, and summarized recommendations for the CIP.

The Board took a brief recess at 11:28 and reconvened at 11:31 PM.

Mr. Chadwick then reviewed staff analysis of options, which considered Board input, community feedback, project timing and funding. Ms. Peterson outlined financial analysis of the proposed CIP and reviewed projects from the 2015-2024 CIP that are included. Mr. Chadwick then presented the Superintendent's proposed CIP, which includes a new elementary school at Reed, two elementary additions at locations to be determined, and internal modifications at Gunston and Kenmore. For high school seats, the CIP includes internal modifications at Wakefield and Yorktown, and a 600 seat Career Center project. There will be high school boundary adjustments, and Arlington Tech will also help balance enrollment countywide. Additional capital and non-capital options at critical levels were also reviewed. Ms. Peterson presented the funding timeline for the recommended options, and bond referenda through 2024,

which total \$481.32 million. In closing, Mr. Chadwick reviewed the timeline for projects included in the CIP and next steps in the process.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

*Michael Beer*, parent: appreciating the plan, supporting a 4<sup>th</sup> comprehensive high school, suggesting Hoffman-Boston as a site for middle school, and sharing concerns about continued growth and whether this plan will address future needs.

Dr. Kanninen thanked staff and noted that internal modifications and expanding Arlington Tech are the most cost-effective options. She stated her support for an elementary school at Reed, and agreed with looking at space flexibly. Mr. Goldstein appreciated that Board feedback was incorporated into the plan, and submitted questions for the upcoming work session about various options and costs. Mr. Chadwick provided some information about options and confirmed that work is ongoing to refine estimates. Appreciating work completed, Ms. Van Doren also shared questions for the work session, including concerns about critical needs at the high school level and options for elementary additions.

3. Revisions to School Board Policies: (12:19 PM)

Ms. Kennedy reviewed the policies being revised: 35-4.7 Political Activity of School Board Employees; 35-4.8 Substance Abuse and 35-7.5 Employee Recognition. The changes correct grammatical mistakes and align the policies with the Code of Virginia.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez appreciated the information and confirmed these policies will come back for Action at the May 19 meeting.

4. Abingdon Construction Contract Award: (12:22 PM)

Mr. Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction, presented this item, outlining the bid process and confirming that the lowest bid came in significantly below projected cost. He reviewed three items staff is recommending be added back to the project scope. In closing, he reviewed the proposed budget and summarized recommendations. Mr. Chadwick noted the favorable bid and confirmed staff looks to move the project forward quickly.

**I. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**J. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 12:31 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair  
Arlington School Board