

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
May 19, 2016

**Item C-1-d**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at 7:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair  
Nancy Van Doren, Vice Chair (arr. 8:55 PM)  
Reid Goldstein, Member  
Barbara Kanninen, Member  
James Lander, Member  
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

**Also present were:**

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent  
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  
Terrance Proctor, Director, Service Support Center, Information Services

**B. MEETING OPENING**

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

The Kenmore Middle School Check-in Program, Tim McLean, Oakridge Extended Day volunteer, and Christina Smith-Gajadhar, HILT teacher, were recognized as Connect with Kids Champions by the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth and Families.

4. Announcements: (7:50 PM)

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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.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that Ms. Van Doren would arrive late to the meeting as she was also attending the School Board Caucus.

Meetings:

- May 24, 2016 Joint School Board/County Board CIP Work Session, County Board Room, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., 6 PM

Events:

- May 25, 2016 APS Volunteer and Partner Celebration, Career Center, 5 PM

Dr. Murphy commented on the May 14 Dream, Explore, Create Your Own Path! Event, and also shared highlights of the APS Celebration of Excellence event recognize Principal, Teacher and Support Employees of the Year. He announced the Governor's visit to Wakefield to sign new legislation on high school graduations requirements. Dr. Murphy encouraged parents to engage in conversations with their children about safety and under-age drinking, and he shared deadlines for summer school and other important meeting dates.

Dr. Kanninen announced that the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth and Families will host the 'Arlington All In' community event on June 8, and welcomed everyone interested in learning more about School Resource Officers and how they partner with the schools to keep communities safe to attend.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that the Board will act on the Consent Agenda before the Public Hearing on the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2017-2026 Capital Improvement Plan.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:54 PM)**

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively. Ms. Van Doren was not present at the vote. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. ~~Minutes:~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 3 Changes in Position/Salary
- 2 Retirements

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Retirement

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 1 Termination

3. ~~Grants and Restricted Programs~~: REMOVED FROM AGENDA
4. Appointments to the ACI
5. Appointments to the Budget Advisory Council
6. Appointments to the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs
7. ~~Kirkwood Pump Station Utility Easement~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
8. Request for Religious Exemption

Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that the following appointments were made as part of consent:

Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction  
 Mr. Tyrone Byrd, Director of Secondary Education  
 Mr. Samuel Klein, Supervisor of ESOL/HILT  
 Dr. Theresa Adkins, Supervisor of the Office of Minority Achievement  
 Ms. Blandine Liguidi, Assistant Principal, Abingdon Elementary School  
 Mr. Alvaro Marcelo Flores, Assistant Principal, Gunston Middle School

**D. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SUPERINTENDENT’S PROPOSED 2017-2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: (8:03 PM)**

The following speakers addressed the Board in support of The Children’s School and Integration Station, encouraging the Board to help find a new location so the program can continue. Some speakers commented on the importance of this program for employees:

*Kimberly Cates*, Reed/Integration Station  
*Michael Palermo*, Yorktown High School teacher and Children’s School parent  
*Angela Gibson*, Reed/Integration Station  
*Amelia Black*, Jefferson Middle School Counselor and Children’s School parent  
*Janna Dressel*, Special Education parent  
*Daneille Bastarache*, parent  
*Adam Wexler*, Arlington Science Focus Elementary and Children’s School parent  
*Jena Kotler*, resident  
*Maureen Gregory*, McKinley Elementary parent

The following speakers addressed the Board to share concerns about crowding and asking the Board to prioritize high school capacity in the CIP:

*John Naland*, Washington-Lee PTA president  
*Steven Hearne*, parent  
*Valerie O’Such*, McKinley Elementary parent

The following speakers addressed the Board on future use of the Reed facility and the need to address capacity in north Arlington. Some speakers asked for a neighborhood school at Reed, and some suggested establishing a North Arlington Working Group to explore options. Speakers also asked the Board to minimize the impact on the business and green space when looking to add capacity at Reed, and one opposed a parking structure there:

*Kathy Mimberg*, Yorktown parent; President, Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Civic Association

*Chips Johnson*, President of the Leeway Overlee Civic Association

*Amy Shank*, parent

*Jeff Edmeades*, Arlington Traditional Elementary parent

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about capacity planning and funding, and encouraging the Board to request additional funds from the County to alleviate crowding. Some also supported forming a North Arlington Working Group to explore options:

*Tamara McFarren*, McKinley Elementary parent

*Kelly Kumar*, parent

*Trisha Madden*, parent

*Mary Kusle*, Discovery Elementary parent

*Jo Ellyn Klein*, parent

*Lilith Christiansen*, Vice President of the Westover Civic Association and parent

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

*Matt de Ferranti*, parent, Budget Advisory Council member: encouraged boundary changes, requesting additional funding from County Board and building a comprehensive high school.

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

**F. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:04 PM)**

1. Security Update

Mr. Kevin Reardon, Security Coordinator, updated the Board, highlighting collaboration with the Police Department, particularly the School Resource Officers (SROs). He also described improvements to School Radio Communications, installation of Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) in buildings, and transition to 800 MHz radios to ensure proper first responder communications. Mr. Reardon then briefed the Board about the use of school security cameras, and explained the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Arlington County to allow access to cameras in an emergency. Mr. Reardon explained that about 75% of APS buses are equipped with camera systems and staff expects all buses will have them in the next four years, and he described the use of school bus stop arm cameras. Lastly, Mr. Reardon shared the status of updating floor plans and Emergency Management Plans to improve emergency and security efforts throughout APS.

Board members thanked Mr. Reardon for the informative presentation. Mr. Goldstein asked for clarification about the stop arm cameras. Mr. Reardon provided a timeline summary describing process for citations, collaboration with police department and implementation of the program. Mr. Lander requested a description of the interactions between SROs and Mr. Reardon, and he explained he is in constant communication with SROs regarding security concerns, training procedures and equipment updates.

2. ~~World Languages/FLES Update~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
3. Professional Development Program Evaluation Summary: (9:29 PM)

Ms. Van Horne briefly provided an overview of the Professional Development Program evaluation process that began in SY 2013-14 and concluded in SY 2015-16 with a final report. The findings of the report include the following three areas:

1. Need for Cohesiveness - aligning professional development opportunities with APS goals and promoting opportunities in one central location
2. Variation - considering equitable approach to professional development opportunities
3. Quality of Professional Development - staff value and are receiving high quality professional development opportunities, particularly the instructional staff.

Dr. Sue Sarber, Professional Development Supervisor, reviewed evaluation recommendations that included aligning professional learning to district wide initiatives and priorities, better collaboration between central departments and schools, conduct policy review, and create pilot delivery models.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

*Josh Folb*, teacher: encouraged the Board to look at broadening they type of professional development made available to staff to focus on the needs of students.

Mr. Lander encouraged looking at community groups to provide professional development support. Ms. Van Doren asked for parent feedback on recommendations, teacher training that is specific to student needs, and additional resources to train staff on discipline. Dr. Kanninen suggested implementing a professional development tracking system. Dr. Violand-Sanchez supported providing differentiated professional learning, and encouraged providing additional training for G-Scale staff.

**G. ACTION ITEMS: (9:56 PM)**

1. Revision of School Board Policies

*Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 35-4.7 Political Activity, School Board Policy 35-4.8 Substance Abuse and 35-7.5 Employee Recognition, seconded by Ms. Van Doren. 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.

2. Abingdon Construction Contract Award: (9:58 PM)

Dr. Kanninen made the following motion:

*Having carefully reviewed the information presented, I move that the School Board hereby approve the contract award for General Construction services for the Abingdon Elementary School Addition/Renovation Project and proposed Project Budget, in the amount of \$21,728,250, to HESS Construction & Engineering Services and a total Project budget of \$31,976,530 as described in Table 1 – Project Budget and Table 2 – Project Funding Sources.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Doren. 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: (9:59 PM)**

1. FY 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Monitoring Report

Ms. Leslie Peterson, Director of Budget & Finance, presented the report. The purpose of this review is to ensure spending and revenue were in line with budget and end-of-year forecasted balance. Ms. Peterson updated the Board on state revenue, expenditures, and recommendations for use of funds at the end of the school year. She noted that detailed information is posted on BoardDocs for further review. Ms. Peterson also presented an update on the Capital Improvement Plan and status of major construction projects.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Gerry Collins*, President, Arlington Education Association: encouraged the Board to convert lapse and turnover funds into a compensation carry-forward.

*Josh Folb*, teacher: encouraged the Board to reinstate the annual step by using lapse and turnover savings to pay for this increase.

Staff responded to an inquiry, agreeing to revisit the Science Focus project considered previously and bring back information. Mr. Goldstein commented on the McKinley Elementary and HVAC projects, and Ms. McLaughlin noted that some of these projects are bond funded. Staff provided additional information about a step increase and how it affects fiscal status; Board agreed to review policy 35-8.1 on salaries to determine if a step should be added back. Ms. Van Doren asked about auditorium improvements at Washington-Lee High School and encouraged focusing on this as part of the major construction budget. Dr. Violand-Sánchez encouraged focusing on funding for adding seats.

2. Revisions to School Board Policy 10-14 Legal Representation: (10:40 PM)

Ms. Ellen Kennedy, Director, Employee Relations, informed the Board of proposed changes to policy 10-14, which include authorizing the School Board to engage the services of outside legal counsel, raising monetary limits for settlement authority for Superintendent, and permitting hiring of specialized legal counsel.

Ms. Van Doren noted that these changes shift legal counsel away from the County and strengthen monitoring of services. Mr. Lander was concerned about wording, specifically designating a general counsel and increasing monetary limits. He also shared concerns about transparency, identifying appropriate legal services, and encouraged continued discussion. Dr. Violand-Sánchez confirmed that the Board will continue to look at this policy which will be brought for action on June 9.

3. Revisions to School Board Policy 40-1.19 Financial Management – Use of School Facilities (10:48 PM)

Ms. McLaughlin described the proposed revisions, stressing that the changes focus on moving operational aspects of the use of school facilities to the Policy Implementation Procedure (PIP), separate from policy. Changes include defining building use, prioritizing use by outside organizations and a fee structure. PIP changes include adding criminal background checks and hold harmless requirements. New elements of the PIP are changes to the operations of PTA sponsored activities. Ms. McLaughlin confirmed an FAQ document will be created to answer questions community members and organizations may have about the policy.

Mr. Goldstein requested clarification of the PTA terminology used in the policy. Ms. McLaughlin explained that PTAs or any related Parent/Teacher Associations that contracts with or sponsors third party organizations will need to adhere to the new guidelines. She explained that Human Resources and School & Community Relations will manage provision of background checks for volunteers.

**I. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**J. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair  
Arlington School Board