

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
June 9, 2016

Item C-1-f

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 9, 2016, at 6:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair
Nancy Van Doren, Vice Chair
Reid Goldstein, Member
Barbara Kanninen, Member
James Lander, Member (arr. 6:35 PM)

Also present was:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Violand-Sánchez moved that the School Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to discuss the evaluation of a Public School Official as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting. Mr. Lander was not present at the vote.

The closed meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Violand-Sánchez moved to certify that to the best of her knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting and only such public business matters that were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered, seconded by Mr. Lander and adopted in a vote of 5-0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Mr. Lander – Aye; Ms. Van Doren – Aye; and Dr. Violand-Sánchez – Aye.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez called for a brief recess. The Board reconvened in a meeting at 7:31 PM.

Also present were:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations

¹ 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.

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/Reports:

Members of the Student Advisory Board (SAB) presented their annual report, highlighting their focus on Board priorities. The students provided feedback on instructional technology, the budget, expanding student options, world language opportunities, and supporting students' social and emotional wellbeing. Challenges discussed included increasing enrollment, access to information and research, and counseling available to students.

Board members appreciated the students' report and thanked them for their efforts, perspective, ideas and insights.

4. Announcements: (7:50 PM)

Meetings:

- June 10, 2016, School Board Retreat, 8:30 AM, School Board Conference Room

Dr. Murphy recognized Yorktown and Washington-Lee soccer teams for their accomplishments, and spoke to upcoming events such as end of year celebrations.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:55 PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. 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. February 18, 2016 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
 - b. March 3, 2016 School Board Meeting
 - c. May 27, 2016 School Board Retreat
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Appointments

- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 1 Retirement

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Termination

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 1 Termination

- 3. Appointment of ACI Co-Chair

- 4. ~~Kirkwood Pump Station Public Utility Easement~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

- 5. Appointment of FAC Chair

Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that, as a part of consent, Erik Healey was appointed Assistant Principal, Career Center, and Nicole Maldonado was appointed Assistant Principal, Key Elementary School.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:57 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board on secondary capacity, supporting a new comprehensive high school and noting the challenge of crowded schools. Speakers encouraged the Board to work with the County for additional space and funding. One speaker recognized the need to redistrict to address crowding issues, and encouraged using various approaches to balance capacity and economic diversity:

- Julie Davis, parent*
- Carly Kelly, parent*
- Bob Adamson, parent*
- Courtney Schwartz, parent*
- Valerie O'Such, parent*
- Tamara McFarren, parent*
- Peter O'Such, parent*
- Christopher Carpenter, parent*
- Kelly Kumar, parent*
- Lois Koontz, community member*
- Trish Madden, parent*
- Sherry Haideri, parent*

Dr. Violand-Sánchez confirmed that the Board is aware of concerns and is working to provide appropriate facilities for all students. The Board is also working with the County Board and continues to consider and revise approaches and solutions to address capacity needs.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:39 PM)

- 1. Whole Child Task Force Report

Thanking the Task Force members for their work, Dr. Kanninen introduced Chair Heather Sauve who presented the report. Ms. Sauve highlighted membership in the group and reviewed the Task Force's charge and deliverables, which will help inform the next APS Strategic Plan. She also shared information about the Whole Child Web page the group developed. After reviewing the process and methodology used she presented the proposed Vision and Framework, and in closing the presentation, short term, mid-term and long-term recommendations were shared.

Dr. Murphy confirmed implementation of some recommendations is already occurring. Board members appreciated the group's efforts and accomplishments in a short time, and encouraged staff to continue implementing the recommendations.

2. Annual English/Language Arts (ELA) Update: (9:06 PM)

Dr. Donna Snyder, Supervisor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education, presented the update, thanking staff and the Board for their support. After reviewing the program profile and course offerings, she shared information on rising achievement, universal screening, integration of curriculum, assessment and professional learning plans with Sped and ESOL/HILT; and expanded communication efforts. She then reviewed data and shared recommendations for moving forward. In closing, she described several programs that provide additional support to language arts development.

Responding to questions, Dr. Snyder described collaboration throughout Instruction to integrate services, and spoke to work that will continue in responding to needs and addressing the achievement gap. Also discussed were improving communications with parents, how ATSS supports instruction for extension/enrichment as well as intervention, and efforts to deliver instruction. Also discussed were professional development/staff support, collaboration between programs for special needs students and English Language Learners, and a systematic review of testing in APS.

3. World Languages and FLES Instruction Update: (9:46 PM)

Elisabeth Harrington, Supervisor, World Languages, presented the update, reviewing the program profile and highlighting program growth. She described improvements to distance learning, new middle school courses, and other student achievements. She also shared data on FLES which has been expanded to all elementary schools, middle school students earning credit for World Languages, and enrollment in various courses, including American Sign Languages (ASL). In closing, she reviewed recommendations for strengthening World Languages, and highlighted bright spots.

The Board discussed strengthening communications to families about opportunities and benefits of World Languages. Recognizing the importance of reading skills for language acquisition, the group discussed how to better engage and instruct minority students. Ms. Harrington also provided information about distance learning and credit by exam. The group discussed the importance of differentiated instruction, support for special education students, and enrollment of students of color in immersion programs.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (10:34 PM)

1. World Languages Textbooks – Secondary Level

Ms. Harrington noted that the quote for these texts was revised and APS will need to spend approximately \$100,000 less than anticipated.

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the proposed World Languages Textbooks, Vista Higher Learning, for secondary instruction, seconded by Mr. Lander.

Ms. Skelton confirmed that older textbooks are usually sold, following a standard process.

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.

2. World Languages Textbooks - Immersion: (10:38 PM)

Ms. Harrington explained that staff has determined that these textbooks will be used as resources rather than as basic textbooks, and confirmed that online resources will be provided. The cost has been reduced by \$6000.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez moved that the Board set aside \$51,000 of the funds allocated for World Languages materials to be used for instructional materials and resources to support instruction for secondary immersion students and also for students who are fluent speakers of Spanish that do not have textbooks. She also moved that staff expand the review of appropriate materials and resources needed for world languages instruction, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

Ms. Harrington spoke to staff's review and reassessment of needs and of available resources, and confirmed that these are the recommended materials. Dr. Violand-Sánchez did not believe the texts meet the needs of immersion students which is why she is making this motion. The group discussed the funds available for purchase of textbooks, and Ms. Skelton confirmed that additional funds are available that can be used to purchase resource materials for this program. The group reviewed the planned use of these texts and discussed other options to provide supporting materials.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez called for a vote. The motion was defeated in a vote of 2-2, with Dr. Violand-Sánchez and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, Dr. Kanninen and Mr. Lander opposing, and Mr. Goldstein abstaining.

*Mr. Lander moved that the Board take \$51,000 from the savings from the manufacturer of the secondary texts and apply it for resources specifically for immersion, and that a plan of action from staff be submitted to the Board for purchase of resources be submitted to the Board. He also moved that the Board also adopt the proposed World Languages Textbooks for immersion students, *Aci se Dice*, in addition to the \$51,000 for supplemental materials, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.*

It was confirmed that this motion instructs staff to research and identify resource materials to be used to support instruction. Ms. Van Doren asked that the older texts also be reviewed as part of this process.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez then called for a vote. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 - 2, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, and Mr. Lander, voting affirmatively, and Dr. Violand-Sánchez and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

2. Recommended New Name for Arlington Mill High School Program: (11:10 PM)

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve the new name, Arlington Community High School, for the Arlington Mill High School 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.

4. Adoption of Elementary Writing Textbooks: (11:12 PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the Elementary Writing Textbooks, Step Up To Writing, 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

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (11:14 PM)

- 1 – 5. Revision of School Board Policy 35-2.2 Staff Reductions
- Revision of School Board Policy 35-2.3 Position Classification
- Revision of School Board Policy 35-5 Leave
- Revision of School Board Policy 35-6.1 Holidays
- Revision of School Board Policy 35-6-4 Other Benefits

Dr. Kristi Murphy reviewed the proposed changes to the Human Resources policies. Responding to questions, she provided information about how the amounts were identified for the Live Where You Work grant, spoke to efforts to inform staff of the changes, and explained that the language of the family leave policy was developed based on government guidelines.

I. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

J. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair
Arlington School Board