

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
December 17, 2015

Item D-1-d

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, December 17, 2015, at 7:31 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹ Prior to the meeting, the Board members attended a reception for outgoing member Abby Raphael at 7 PM.

Present were:

Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair
Nancy Van Doren, Vice Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Member
James Lander, Member
Abby Raphael, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent

Also present were:

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

Dr. Violand-Sánchez called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of staff member Kathleen Meagher, and briefly spoke about Ms. Meagher's contributions to Arlington Public Schools.

2. Presentation of Colors: Arlington Career Center AFJROTC Cadet Corps

3. RECOGNITIONS (7:36 PM)

Students from the Washington-Lee High School Chorus performed two musical numbers. The Board then recognized outgoing member Abby Raphael for her eight

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.

years of service to APS. State Senator Adam Ebbin and Representative Rip Sullivan presented Ms. Raphael with a commendation approved by the Virginia Commonwealth Senate and House of Representatives, recognizing her work on behalf of children as a member of the Arlington School Board and the APS community. Each of the Board members then spoke, appreciating Ms. Raphael's contributions and acknowledging her leadership, generosity and dedication to the schools; and particularly appreciated the support she provided to her Board colleagues over her years of service. Ms. Raphael thanked the Board for the special event in her honor, and spoke to the positive changes she has seen in the Arlington Public Schools in her time on the Board. She also recognized the challenges that APS is facing, and appreciated the staff, families, community leaders, and all community members for their ongoing commitment to the schools.

The Board also received a recognition for Arlington Public Schools' participation in the United Way Campaign, and were presented with the Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance's Equality Award.

3. Announcements: (8:21 PM)

MEETINGS:

- Jan. 5, 2016 Work Session on the Capital Improvement Plan, 6 PM, Rm. 101

EVENTS:

- Winter Break, December 21 – January 1

Dr. Violand Sanchez reviewed APS accomplishments, including Board actions, over the past year, highlighting efforts to add capacity and address crowding, and recognizing collaboration with the County Board to meet the needs of the community. She appreciated the hard work of staff and of community volunteers who support the Arlington Public Schools, and looked forward to continuing efforts to meet the needs of all students, and wished happy holidays to all.

Dr. Murphy announced the upcoming winter break and encouraged students and families to be active and enjoy the wealth of opportunities in the Arlington area. He shared a video of high school students who shared their plans for winter break.

C. CONSENT ITEMS: (8:34 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 Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Raphael, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:

- October 22, 2015 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
- December 9, 2015 Legislative Breakfast

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

2 Resignations

1 Resignation With Prejudice

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

1 Appointment

2 Changes In Position/Salary

2 Resignations

1 Retirement

1 Termination

3. ACI Appointments

4. Budget Reallocation to cover Construction Management Fee for Jefferson Middle School

5. Dominion Virginia Power Easement at McKinley Elementary

6. Verizon Easement at McKinley Elementary

7. ~~Parking Agreement at Powhatan Springs~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

8. Revision of School Board Policy 40-01.19 Facilities Use

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:34 PM)

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Tusweca Mendoza, Campbell student: asking that the name of the Washington professional football team not be allowed in the schools because it, and the team mascot, are considered racist by native Americans.

E. ACTION ITEMS: (8:39 PM)

1. School Board FY 2017 Budget Direction

Dr. Violand-Sánchez briefly reviewed the proposed budget direction.

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board approve the proposed School Board FY 2017 Budget Direction, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

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

2. Summer School Fees: (8:40 PM)

Ms. Skelton reviewed changes to the proposed fees, which include changes to tuition for Drivers Education and new tuition fees for middle school enrichment.

Dr. Kanninen asked if these changes mean that APS is subsidizing the reduced fees, and Ms. Skelton confirmed that this is the case, noting that staff estimates that this will cost between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve the proposed Summer School Fees seconded by seconded by Dr. Kanninen, and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Raphael, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez voting affirmatively.

The Board agreed to allow a non-agenda speaker at this time. The following speaker addressed the Board:

Graham Weinschenk, Yorktown student: thanking the Board and APS for expanding wifi access for students and thanking the Board for supporting students with lowered summer school costs.

F. MONITORING ITEM: (8:44 PM)

1. Strategic Plan Monitoring Report #1

Dr. Murphy confirmed that this is the first of a series of reports on progress towards goals in the Strategic Plan. Ms. Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Evaluation, introduced the presentation, providing an overview of the strategic plan process and reporting, and outlined the schedule for updating the Board on progress towards strategic plan goals.

Ms. Skelton then presented information showing progress towards Goals 1 and 2, ensuring that students are challenged and engaged, and eliminating achievement gaps. Progress has been made in reading and math SOL pass rates, the percentage of students graduating, and the number of graduates earning advanced diplomas. Detailed data focused on eliminating the achievement gap was shared, as well as data on advanced diplomas, and enrollment of English Language Learners in advanced classes was reviewed. Ms. Skelton also shared highlights of instructional efforts and supports that are contributing to these improvements, and then discussed areas of focus as the division continues to work towards these goals. She also outlined next steps to continue addressing the achievement gap and to strengthen engagement of students, families and communities. In closing, she recognized that multiple measures are needed in addition to SOL scores to truly assess student achievement and success, and outlined the additional reports to be presented to the Board.

Mr. Lander was interested in the plan as the Department of Instruction moves through a transition, particularly in terms of the Office of Minority Achievement. Dr. Murphy confirmed that staff is working on this, and an update will be presented on the program evaluation of Minority Achievement in January. He also spoke to staff work to identify additional resources to support this program. He confirmed that this work is focused on alignment, on leveraging resources, and on coordinating the roles of the Minority Achievement Coordinators in the schools. Mr. Lander also expressed interest in additional disaggregation of achievement data in terms of gender, to strengthen and inform efforts to meet the Strategic Plan goals. Dr. Kanninen appreciated the update, and recognized the continuing challenge of meeting Goal 2. She asked for an update on implementation of Arlington Tiered System of Support (ATSS), as it provides interventions that address this goal. Dr. Wilks provided an update and confirmed that, as this is the second year in the five-year rollout of ATSS, it is anticipated that results will be seen in the coming years. Mr. Adusumilli and Ms. Skelton responded to questions and provided information about how the use of data is being improved to better support instruction. Ms. Van Doren encouraged better identification of targets for special needs students to ensure that students are challenged appropriately. She also spoke to the need for a stronger focus on assessing the effectiveness of interventions in place, and to expand differentiation to better meet student needs.

H NEW BUSINESS:

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Emma Violand-Sánchez, Chair
Arlington School Board