

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FACILITIES AND CAPITAL PROGRAMS

MEETING AGENDA

November 10, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Ed Center, 101 A/B

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approve Minutes**
- 3. Committee Assignments and Reports**
 - Projection/Capacity Subcommittee – Greg Greeley/Lionel White
 - ACI – Rebecca Hunter
 - CCPTA – Don Weinstein
 - MC/MM Program – Heather Obora
 - TJ Workgroup – Greg Greeley/Janine Velasco
 - WRAPS – Kelly King/Heather Obora
 - Abingdon – Christan Dorsey
- 4. Project Updates – Scott Prisco**
 - Wakefield
 - Wakefield Bleacher/Concession Stand
 - Jefferson Waterproofing
 - Discovery Elementary School
 - Ashlawn Addition / Renovations
 - McKinley Addition / Renovations
 - Barrett HVAC
- 5. CIP Update – Elementary Seats , Secondary Seats**
- 6. Discussion of Options**
- 7. Bond Update**

Up Coming Meetings:

- Secondary Seats CIP Meeting: Wednesday, November 5, 2014
- School Board Meeting: Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7:30 PM
 - Action Item Elementary CIP Options
- Twitter Town Hall #3: Friday, November 7, 2014
- CIP Work Session: Thursday, November 13, 2014, 8pm
- Secondary Seats Community Meeting #3: Saturday, November 15, 2014, 9am
Williamsburg MS
- Abingdon ES BLPC: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Abingdon ES
- School Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:30 PM
- Abingdon ES PFRC: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Abingdon ES
- Abingdon ES BLPC: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Abingdon ES
- School Board Meeting on Secondary Seats: Wednesday, December 3, 2014, 7:30pm
- School Board Meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2014, 7:30pm
- School Board Meeting: Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 7:30 PM
- School Board Meeting: Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 7:30 PM
 - Action Item: Secondary CIP Options

- **Next FAC Meeting**: Monday, December 8, 2014 – Jefferson MS

**Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC)
Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2014**

Members in attendance: John Chadwick, Gerry Collins, Christian Dorsey, Laura Saul Edwards, Greg Greeley, Eric Harold, Jennifer Jackson, Kelly King, Greg Lloyd, Miles Mason, Jim Meikle, Bruce Merrill, Ron Molteni, Jason Rylander, Bill Schimmel, Meg Tucillo, Don Weinstein and Lionel White.

1. Welcome: Jason Rylander opened the meeting at 7:00pm at the Ed Center. He noted that several members would be unable to attend tonight, some due to concurrent APS-related meetings.

Jason reminded the members that all meetings of the FAC were open to the public (as detailed in APS Policy 10.6-2), and that several citizens had indicated they might attend tonight's session to offer comments and observations. Jason noted, however, that he only saw the normal attendees, and moved to the regular order of business.

2. Approval of Minutes: There were two sets of minutes to be approved: those from our monthly session on 13 October, and those from the special 27 October session held to consider options for expanding the number of secondary school seats. The minutes from the normal October meeting were approved without comment. Eric Harold had previously raised, via e-mail, three concerns regarding the minutes from the special session. After a brief discussion at tonight's meeting, he dropped two of his concerns, leaving only a suggestion for a non-substantive modification to the minutes. Don Weinstein agreed to that change, and the members voted to approve the minutes as modified.

3. Committee Assignments and Ambassador Reports:

- Don Weinstein noted that at their 20 October session, the CCPTA sponsored a mini-debate between supporters of, and those opposed to, the School Bond, a talk by Dr. Violand-Sanchez that emphasized the need to improve communications with residents—particularly non-English speakers—in South Arlington (a consistent theme in her periodic talks to the CCPTA), a CIP presentation by the Superintendent, discussion of the use of iPads in the elementary schools, review of a resolution by the Jamestown Elementary PTA on the School Bond, and a talk on the “Pathways” program.
- Projection/Capacity Subcommittee: Greg Greeley and Lionel White distributed updated APS enrollment projections. Miles Mason asked about the Jamestown projections. Lionel observed that should school boundaries change (as is likely), the projections would also change. Eric emphasized the need for a regular boundary adjustment process. This led to a lengthy discussion of issues related to school boundaries, including what could trigger changes. There was a brief exchange between several members on the School Board's recent public announcement that it was planning to consider school boundary changes at its January meeting; plans that were not relayed

in advance to the FAC, the group it has tasked to advise on school boundary issues. Separately, it was noted that the School Bond was approved last week by 75% of the voters, resulting in a brief round of applause for Greg Greeley, one of the leading advocates of the bond.

- MC/MM: In the absence of Heather Obora, Jim Meikle provided a brief update on the MC/MM process, which is continuing as planned.
- Thomas Jefferson Working Group: Greg Greeley noted that the group has met five times, with the sixth meeting this evening. He praised the creative designs that have been developed by consultants. The group has also been reviewing parking and traffic data. Greg described the major constituencies represented at Working Group meetings, and his belief that the group is likely to reach consensus when it is time to draft their formal recommendations.
- WRAPS: Kelly King discussed recent meetings, which she described as “going quite well”. She briefly showed some renderings and concepts that have been presented to the WRAPS group. John Chadwick noted that whatever plans are adopted must be financially viable for each of the major property stakeholders, and characterized the differences between the WRAPS and the Thomas Jefferson Working Groups.
- Abingdon Modernization and Expansion: Christian Dorsey briefly outlined the work of the Abingdon BLPC. Unlikely with some of the other ongoing groups, there is strong and largely unanimous backing from the different stakeholders for updating and expanding Abingdon Elementary School, which should simplify their task.

4. Project Updates: In the absence of Scott Prisco (who was attending another APS session this evening), the project updates were postponed until our December meeting.

5. CIP Discussion: The remainder of the meeting, led by Jason, Kelly and Greg, was devoted to a continuation of the discussion of secondary seats from the 27 October special meeting.

Kelly distributed handouts providing cost data relevant to the options discussed at the special meeting. Similarly, Greg distributed updated copies of his decision tree analysis of the major available options. These documents, together with the evaluation criteria adopted at the special meeting, formed the basis of a lengthy examination of available options for meeting Arlington’s pressing need for additional secondary seats.

The discussion was wide-ranging, shifting between broad and specific issues, and including relevant topics such as the role of green spaces, the changing character of Arlington as an urban community, the Kenmore site, uses for the Madison site, the Montessori program, perceived increasing interest within the H-B Woodlawn community for participating in the design of new quarters for their and associated programs should they be asked to relocate from the Stratford site, public transportation, parent drop-off patterns, and current uses of the Reed site.

Following extensive discussion, the FAC voted to adopt the following motions:

(1) The FAC reaffirms its support for building a 1,300-seat neighborhood middle school at the Wilson site, the Superintendent's original recommendation in the CIP that FAC formally endorsed in May 2014. We believe this would be the simplest, fastest, and potentially most cost-effective solution to the pressing need for additional middle school seats. It would leave the Stratford and Reed sites unaffected for the present, while holding them in reserve should they be needed in the future.

(2) Should the School Board decide not to adopt the above recommendation, the FAC endorses the following alternative plan:

--A 900-seat school should be built at the Wilson site to house the H-B Woodlawn and associated programs currently at the Stratford site. Should space permit, the School Board should consider also providing pre-K seats at the Wilson site.

--The Stratford site should be expanded and renovated to house a neighborhood middle school of at least 1,000 seats, with a possible future addition for 300 more students, which would relieve overcrowding at Williamsburg, Jefferson and Swanson Middle Schools and fill a long-standing desire for a neighborhood middle school directly serving the adjacent community.

- The decision on where to add the remaining 300 seats included in the CIP site could be postponed pending further analysis of the necessary scope and cost of 300 seat additions at the five existing middle schools and Stratford and further analysis of where the seats are most urgently needed. Alternatively the funds available for these seats might be used for seats at other grade levels if determined more urgent by the School Board.***

--The Reed site, which is currently underutilized, should be reserved for potential school-related uses as future needs warrant.

In keeping with our usual procedures, voting was restricted to the citizen (i.e., non-APS) members of the FAC.

Several members expressed their strong hope that the School Board would consider these recommendations as more than just another community group offering suggestions, given that the FAC was established by the School Board for the express purpose of providing them with informed and thoughtful recommendations on facilities-related questions.

6. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be at 7:00pm on 8 December 2014 at Jefferson Middle School.