

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
October 6, 2016

Item C-1-b

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, October 6, 2016, at 7:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Reid Goldstein, Member
James Lander, Member
Emma Violand-Sánchez, 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
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Dr. Brenda Wilks, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services and Special Education

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. MEETING OPENING

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

Nancy Van Doren announced that October is Hispanic Heritage Month. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, students from APS secondary programs were introduced and recognized for their achievements.

4. Announcements: (7:48 PM)

Events:

“Getting Started Community Meetings” on High School Boundary Refinements:

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

- Wed, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria
- Sat, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. in the Jefferson Middle School Library (Spanish)
- Mon, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. in the Yorktown High School Cafeteria
- Wed, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Wakefield High School Cafeteria

Mr. Goldstein announced that October is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History Month and Dr. Violand-Sánchez announced that October is also Disability History and Awareness Month and Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Dr. Murphy presented highlights of Walk and Bike to School Day as well as activities related to Disability Awareness Month and Bullying Prevention Month. He shared tips on handling cyberbullying, and announced upcoming events and activities. September 30 enrollment and Class of 2016 graduation rate information was also presented.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:04 PM)

Dr. Kanninen 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. September 22, 2016 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting

2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Classifications Requests
 - Customer Service Coordinator
 - Integrated Project Planner

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Resignation

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 55 Appointments
- 29 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Resignation
- 1 Retirement
- 1 Termination

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 2 Appointments
- 3 Changes In Position/Salary

3. Grants and Restricted Programs:

Special Project #8 – STEM Activities at the Career Center

4. ACI Appointments
5. Abingdon Addition/Renovation Dominion Right of Way Agreement

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:04 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Robert Rigby, Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance (AGLA): sharing information on AGLA, and appreciating APS recognition of LGBT Month and efforts to support all students.

William Gillen, parent, member Claremont PTA: stating concerns about crowding at Claremont, and asking the Board to revise the enrollment policy to address this crowding.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:10 PM)

1. Arlington Public Schools Three to Five Year Plan

Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Evaluation, presented the Three to Five Year plan, outlining its development, components, and how it will be used going forward. She explained that the plan includes information about the many programs and initiatives underway, and described how it will be used as projects will move forward. The plan is student centered, and will be updated regularly. In closing, Ms. Stengle reviewed next steps and confirmed that feedback will be solicited.

Board members appreciated the update and thanked Ms. Stengle for her work on these projects. Staff confirmed that the plan will be readily shared with the community.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:20 PM)

1. Framework for Proposed Refinements to High School Attendance Zone Boundaries

Ms. Stengle presented the overview of the proposed framework, sharing enrollment projections and how refinements will be implemented. She noted that as new facilities are completed, additional boundary adjustments will be needed. Fifty-one planning units are being considered for moves, and Ms. Stengle confirmed that criteria in the Boundary Policy will help inform decisions. Community engagement will include information sessions and an online boundary tool that can be used to submit suggestions. In closing, Ms. Stengle reviewed feedback options and resources, and also reviewed the timeline for Board deliberations and implementation of the changes which will be approved prior to high school enrollment deadlines.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Sarah Waldman, Tuckahoe parent: appreciating that demographic data is being included in the boundary discussion and encouraging efforts to support economic diversity in the schools.

Christopher Finger, parent: supporting sibling preference in enrollment policies and encouraging APS to expand the IB program which will help balance enrollment.

Tony Ermovick, Boulevard Manor Civic Association: concerned that planning unit 1303 was added to units being considered without communicating with the community, and noting concerns about alignment for students if this unit is moved.

Mr. Goldstein moved that the School Board approve the proposed High School Boundary Refinement Framework, including the proposed public process and timeline that will be used to develop recommendations to provide better enrollment balance and space utilization among the three APS comprehensive high schools by the 2020-21 school year. The refinement options will apply to the incoming freshman class in September 2017 and subsequent freshman cohorts, and will not apply to students who are currently enrolled in the three high schools. The recommendations will include provisions for students who have older siblings that will be enrolled concurrently, along with transportation provisions for the siblings if needed.

The engagement process will consist of the recommended range of communications tools and channels, including an online and paper boundary tool process, and will utilize the support of the Facilities Advisory Council to develop a set of options to be presented to the School Board on November 3, 2016. After further engagement with the community, refinements for the high school boundaries will be adopted by the School Board on December 1, 2016. This will allow time to inform families about the refinements to help them make decisions about high school for the freshman class in September 2017.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Lander.

The group reviewed the timeline for this process as well as opportunities for community input. Dr. Murphy commented on next steps, confirming that staff will look at all feedback and will bring forward options for the Board to consider. He confirmed that the criteria in the Boundary policy will be considered as part of this process. Board members appreciated this approach and recognized that there are additional upcoming boundary changes and policy considerations that need to be kept in mind through this process. Mr. Lander reiterated that the goal is to move 100 students each year for the next 4 years to address immediate needs. Dr. Murphy confirmed 1800 students live in the planning units being considered, and also spoke to demographic and other information being presented in conjunction with the boundary tool to help inform considerations. Staff described the role of ambassadors who will help ensure that clear and accurate information is shared with community members about the process. The Board members once again commented that boundary changes will be needed more frequently as the enrollment continues to grow.

Ms. Van Doren thanked staff for their work and encouraged all community members to take advantage of all opportunities to participate. She then 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. Waiver of School Board Policy 25-2.2 Enrollment and Transfers for Schools and Programs: (9:06 PM)

Dr. Murphy confirmed that there is no new information on this item, and reiterated that this is another tool to help balance enrollment and provide options to families.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez moved that the Board approve the waiver of School Board Policy 25-2.2 Enrollment and Transfers for School Programs as presented, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Responding to the Board, Ms. Johnson briefly reviewed the proposed waiver and described how it will affect options for transfers at the middle and high school level. Dr. Murphy confirmed that this waiver will provide families with more flexibility.

Ms. Van Doren 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.

3. Revision of School Board Policy 25-3.2 Homeless Education Services: (9:12 PM)

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board approve the proposed revision of School Board Policy 25-3.2 Homeless Education Services, seconded by Dr. Violand-Sánchez. 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. Revision of Select School Board Policies: (9:13 PM)

Ms. Stengle briefly reviewed changes that were made to respond to Board concerns, confirming that the revisions allow more flexibility in selecting a service provider for accreditation of the schools.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez appreciated the changes and background information that was shared with the Board to help them understand the changes to the policies.

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board approve the proposed revision of School Board Policy 30-Goals and School Board Policy 30-2.1 Accreditation of Schools, seconded by Dr. Violand-Sánchez. 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: (9:17 PM)

1. New Elementary School at Jefferson Site Schematic Design:

Mr. Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction, and Wyck Knox, Architect, summarized the schematic design for the new elementary school. Mr. Knox reviewed the project parameters, timeline, and program space and outlined changes that have been made resulting in additional classrooms and increased energy efficiency. Site plan drawings, floor plans and external views were shared and Mr. Knox also described improvements to the site that will benefit Jefferson Middle School. Mr. Burgin summarized available funding and estimated costs, confirming that the project remains within budget. In closing, he reviewed proposed alternatives that will be considered pending outcomes of future cost estimates.

Principals Annie Turner and Keisha Boggan described how this new facility will support and enhance their programs. Megan Haydasz, Chair of the Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC), and Greg Greeley, representative of the Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC), summarized the work of their groups in assisting with development the schematic design, and shared support for the facility. Ms. Haydasz and Mr. Greeley noted a few concerns that the advisory groups suggest APS focus on as the project moves forward.

All Board members appreciated the schematic design. As liaison to the project, Dr. Kanninen thanked staff, architects and community members as well as County Board member Katie Cristol for their efforts, and recognized the innovative community processes that resulted in this project design. Board members appreciated efforts to keep the project within budget, and the group discussed opportunities for cost mitigation and keeping the project on track as it moves forward. Responding to questions, Mr. Burgin shared information on continued collaboration with the County to address site concerns and outlined contingencies built in to the project to manage costs. He also spoke to mechanisms to manage the project and avoid any delay, and described how alternates are used to help manage costs. Responding to a question, Mr. Knox spoke to flexibility in the plans to allow APS the option to pursue more stringent energy efficiency. Ms. Erdos then reviewed the process for selecting a name for the new school which will likely begin in January.

2. Revision of School Board Policy 25-1.9 Privacy Rights and Regulations: (10:11 PM)

Mr. Matt Smith, Information Specialist, presented the proposed revision, which updates the directory information that the school division can publish. He noted that the revisions bring APS in line with federal government guidelines.

Responding to questions, Mr. Smith provided additional clarity to this change, explaining how it relates to FERPA guidelines and current practice. He also defined what is considered directory information in policy terms, clarifying that it is not the same as what is commonly included in a student phone directory. As Board members had additional questions, staff agreed to provide a briefing paper to further explain the proposed revision prior to the Board taking Action on October 20.

3. Internal Audit Plan: (10:23 PM)