

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
December 1, 2016

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, December 1, 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
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services
Dr. Brenda Wilks, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services and Special Education
Jennifer Harris, Director of Communications

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. MEETING OPENING

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

Dr. Kanninen recognized two Career Center students for their video which won an award at the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) annual conference. APS also received Platinum Certification in the VSBA Green Schools Challenge, and Dr. Kanninen congratulated the Facilities staff for their efforts. APS was also recognized for participation in the United Way Campaign. Dr. Murphy shared information about the campaign and the groups who benefit, and John Koutsouftikis, Campaign Coordinator, thanked staff who participated in the campaign. Henry Rubin from the United Way of the National Capital Area presented APS with a plaque for last year's strong participation.

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.

4. Announcements: (7:44 PM)

Meetings:

- December 5, 2016 Compensation Work Session, Rm. 101, 7 PM
- December 14, 2016 Legislative Breakfast, Wakefield High School Room A134, 1325 Dinwiddie Street, 8 AM
- December 14, 2016 Closed Meeting, School Board Conference Room, 6 PM

Dr. Murphy announced upcoming report card dates, Drew Visioning meetings and High School Information Night. He also shared upcoming dates in the 2018 Budget process. After reviewing the state's high school redesign initiative, he shared plans to identify the instructional focus for the new high school and opportunities for community input. He encouraged students to explore the Arlington Tech program, and to enter the Martin Luther King, Jr. Contest.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:56 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. November 1, 2016 Closed Meeting
 - b. November 10, 2016 Joint School Board/County Board Work Session

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 1 Change In Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 4 Appointments
- 2 Resignations
- 1 Resignation With Prejudice

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Resignation With Prejudice

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 1 Retirement

3. Changes to Fixed Fee Contracts for Pre-Construction Construction Management at-Risk Services for the Stratford, Wilson, and New Elementary Projects
4. Change to a Fixed Fee Contract for Architecture and Engineering Services for the New Elementary Project

5. Contract Award for Construction Management Advisor Services for the Wilson Project

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:58 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board concerning enrollment and crowding at Claremont, asking that guaranteed admission for students in the cluster schools who can walk continue to be offered, and encouraging the Board to add a third immersion program:

Sheela Ahluwalia, Claremont parent
Samuel Governski, Claremont

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about crowding at Claremont and asking the Board to take the necessary steps to keep the kindergarten class to 96 students. Speakers noted that this goal can be met by waiving the cluster guaranteed admission policy, but also recognized other options might also work:

William Gillen, Claremont PTA:
Amber Dungan, Claremont
Shane Myers, Claremont
Mary Humphreys, Claremont

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

Graham Weinschenk, Student Advisory Board vice chair: updating the Board on topics discussed by the SAB at their meeting, including their plans to meet more frequently, and providing input on the proposed 2017-18 school year.

E. ACTION ITEMS: (8:13 PM)

1. Proposed Refinements to High School Attendance Zone Boundaries

Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Assessment, briefly reviewed the process to date, providing an overview of guidelines, considerations that staff believes will affect capacity, data reviewed in developing options, and the capacity utilization projections for the options being considered. She then shared highlights of the four options presented to the Board, reviewed sibling preference parameters, and summarized the staff recommendation. In closing, she presented the timeline for implementation of the approved boundary refinements.

The following speakers addressed the Board sharing concerns about the impact that option 3 would have on Arlington Forest residents, as well as on diversity throughout the schools. Speakers also felt that option 3 would provide the least amount of relief to crowding at Washington-Lee, and state their preference for option 2 or option 4:

Joan Green, Barrett parent
Scott Sax, Arlington Forest Civic Association
Tony Petruccelli, Barrett parent:

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

Shawn Cameron, Ashlawn parent: askig the Board to look to the future in this process and opposing option 4 as it does not support alignment for Ashlawn students.

Mr. Goldstein made the following motion:

To provide better enrollment balance and space utilization among the three APS comprehensive high schools by the 2020-21 school year, I move that the School Board approve the proposed High School Boundary Refinement Option #3. This refinement option will move the following High School Planning Unit numbers from the current Washington-Lee High School boundary to the Yorktown High School boundary zone: Planning Unit Numbers # 1304, 1410, 1502, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315 and 2401.

This option will also move the following Planning Unit numbers from the current Washington-Lee High School boundary to the Wakefield High School boundary zone: Planning Unit Numbers # 1201, 1202, 1203, 4815, 4818 and 4829.

These high school refinement changes will apply to the incoming freshman class in September 2017 and to all subsequent freshman cohorts.

These changes will also apply to all high school students who are newly-enrolled in the Arlington Public Schools beginning in September 2017, regardless of their grade level. In addition, these high school refinement changes will not apply to students who are currently enrolled in the three APS comprehensive high schools.

I also move that those students who will have older siblings who will be enrolled concurrently in Washington-Lee High School over the next four years be allowed to transfer to Washington-Lee, and that APS transportation be provided for those siblings who live in neighborhoods that qualify for transportation. This sibling transfer option will be available to eligible freshman students for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.

The motion was seconded for discussion only by Dr. Violand-Sánchez.

Mr. Goldstein commented on the Board's consideration of the proposed refinement options, recognizing that there will continue to be boundary processes in the near future. He noted that while the Board is tasked with considering the criteria in the boundary policy, the criteria do not determine the decision. He explained his thinking about each of the criteria, as well as reviewing other considerations that informed his decision to support option 3. He also appreciated the community engagement and feedback provided to the Board, recognized the strengths and qualities of Arlington County, and stated his belief that his motion best supports the schools.

Ms. Van Doren called for a vote and the motion was defeated in a vote of 1-4, with Mr. Goldstein voting affirmatively and Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Van Doren and Dr. Violand-Sánchez opposing.

Mr. Lander made the following motion:

To provide better enrollment balance and space utilization among the three APS comprehensive high schools by the 2020-21 school year, I move that the School Board approve the proposed High School Boundary Refinement Option #4.

This refinement option will move the following High School Planning Unit numbers from the current Washington-Lee High School boundary to the Yorktown High School boundary zone: Planning Unit Numbers # 1302, 1303, 1304, 2312, 2313 and 2314.

This option will also move the following Planning Unit numbers from the current Washington-Lee High School boundary to the Wakefield High School boundary zone: Planning Unit Numbers # 4611, 4612, 4614, 4815, 4816, 4818, 4828 and 4829.

These high school refinement changes will apply to the incoming freshman class in September 2017 and to all subsequent freshman cohorts.

These changes will also apply to all high school students who are newly-enrolled in the Arlington Public Schools beginning in September 2017, regardless of their grade level. In addition, these high school refinement changes will not apply to students who are currently enrolled in the three APS comprehensive high schools.

I also move that those students who will have older siblings who will be enrolled concurrently in Washington-Lee High School over the next four years be allowed to transfer to Washington-Lee, and that APS transportation be provided for those siblings who live in neighborhoods that qualify for transportation. This sibling transfer option will be available to eligible freshman students for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Mr. Lander appreciated Mr. Goldstein's comments and confirmed his belief that this proposal will provide a good learning environment to students. He also acknowledged feedback from the community and encouraged all to continue to provide input to Board. He recognized the need for a more in-depth and thoughtful community conversation about diversity, expressed concern about negative comments made concerning individual schools, and encouraged parents and families to engage with the staff and Board if they have concerns.

Recognizing that all Arlington High Schools are strong, Dr. Violand-Sánchez stated her preference for option 4, but also encouraged the Board to take this opportunity and the upcoming high school redesign to enhance and expand all choices for students. Dr. Kanninen thanked the community for their input and involvement in this process and thanked staff for their extensive efforts to provide the Board and the community with information and options. She reviewed her consideration of the criteria and her reasons for supporting this motion. Mr. Goldstein also thanked the staff and community, as well as his colleagues on the Board, for all of the efforts on this initiative. Ms. Van Doren also appreciated community feedback, as well as all of the work by staff to support this process. She explained her priorities in looking at the options, and encouraged students and families to walk to school. She confirmed that additional

boundary processes will follow in the next few years, and asked for community engagement and cooperation as these processes unfold.

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.

Ms. Van Doren called for a brief recess at 9:06, and the Board reconvened at 9:13 PM.

2. School Board 2018 Budget Direction: (9:13 PM)

Dr. Kanninen confirmed that there have been no changes to this item.

Dr. Kanninen moved to approve the proposed School Board 2018 Budget Direction, 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.

3. Revision of School Board Policy 35-8.1 Salary: (9:14 PM)

Dr. Murphy confirmed that there is no new information on this item.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Josh Folb, parent and teacher: appreciating this revision, recognizing the challenge of the high cost of living in Arlington, and thanking the Board for this change.

Ingrid Gant, President, Arlington Education Association (AEA): also thanking the Board for considering this change, recognizing the dedication of the staff, and also recognizing that there may well be times when a step is not possible.

With great pleasure, pride, and in solidarity with her fellow educators, Dr. Violand-Sánchez moved that the Board approve the proposed revision of School Board Policy 35-8.1 Salary, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

As a long-time employee and Board member, Dr. Violand-Sánchez shared her understanding and empathy for the staff, reviewed how benefits have changed over the years, and stated her appreciation for this demonstration of support for the staff. Acknowledging that there may be some years when a step cannot be provided, all Board members reiterated the importance of each staff member to the success of the division and appreciated staff's contributions to all children and the community.

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.

4. Summer School Fees: (9:28 PM)

Dr. Kanninen moved to approve the proposed 2017 Summer School Fees, 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.

5. Lease for Additional Space at Sequoia Plaza Two: (9:29 PM)

Mr. Chadwick provided a brief overview of this item, confirming the proposed lease will begin Jan. 1, 2018, and the lease for the currently occupied space will be extended so the two spaces will be coterminous in the year 2032. Mr. Chadwick reviewed the financial impact of the current and the new lease, and summarized the next steps and timeline for moving the staff from the Education Center to the new space.

Mr. Goldstein made the following motion:

On April 26, 2012, the School Board approved the lease of 61,234 rentable square feet of space (“Original Premises”) at Sequoia Plaza II at 2110 Washington Boulevard (“Lease”) to accommodate the instructional programs and administrative offices then located at the Clarendon Education Center and the former Syphax Building on North Quincy Street. The Lease commencement date was January 1, 2013. The Lease term expires October 31, 2027. The APS space at Sequoia Plaza II is now known as the Syphax Center.

The Lease provides APS with the Right of First Offer (ROFO) on any additional space that becomes available in the building. In June 2016, the landlord notified APS that 79,892 square feet (“Expansion Premises”) had become available on the second, third and fourth floors of the building. On August 18, 2016, the School Board granted the Superintendent authority to enter into lease negotiations for this space, with the intent of relocating all administrative offices and support spaces from the Education Center to Sequoia Plaza Two, allowing the Education Center location to be utilized for other educational purposes.

Negotiations for the Expansion Premises have concluded, and the terms of the attached proposed amendment to the original lease are acceptable to both APS staff and the landlord (“Amendment”). The new Lease term is fifteen years, with a rent commencement date of January 1, 2018 for the Expansion Premises. Under the Amendment, the Lease term for the Original Premises will be extended to be coterminous with the Expansion Premises, with a lease termination date of December 31, 2033 for both.

The cost of the additional leased space will not impact the FY 2018 budget as a 100% rent abatement was negotiated for the first six months of the lease, which correspond with the last six months of FY 2018. In FY 2019, the additional lease cost will be approximately \$1.3 million which includes a rent abatement of 50%. The total lease obligation of APS for subsequent years is subject to fixed annual lease increases and capped actual operating costs, as in the original lease. In addition, the rental rate for the Original Premises will reset to be at the same rate as the Expansion Premises on

November 1, 2027. APS legal counsel has been involved in all stages of negotiations and in the Amendment itself.

I move that the School Board authorize and direct the Chair to execute on behalf of the Arlington County School Board and deliver to the Landlord the Second Amendment to Deed of Lease at Sequoia Plaza II. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Ms. Van Doren commented that this move will help with the Board's effort to maximize the use of school space and will open up the Education Center site for instructional use. She also recognized the benefits of having all administrative staff in one location. Recognizing that this will add to operating costs, Dr. Violand-Sánchez suggested allocating some closeout funds to this project.

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. Ms. Van Doren thanked Mr. Chadwick and his staff for their work on this effort.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:41 PM)

1. REMOVED FROM AGENDA
2. Revision of School Board Policy 35-6.2 Retirement:

Dr. Kristi Murphy who reviewed the proposed change, which will redirect the School Board match from a 401(a) contract to the employees' 403(b) or 457(b). This change is recommended because of an increase in fees for the 401(a) contract which will negatively impact employees.

Responding to a comment from Dr. Violand-Sánchez, Dr. K. Murphy confirmed that Human Resources staff are working to encourage all employees to open retirement accounts to be able to take advantage of this opportunity.

G. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

H. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board