

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
December 15, 2016

Item C-1-b

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, December 15, 2016, at 7:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹ Prior to the meeting, the Board attended a reception for outgoing Board Member Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez.

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 Services
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. Recognitions

To honor Dr. Violand-Sánchez on her retirement from the Board, the Wakefield Madrigals performed two songs. Ms. Van Doren and the Board then recognized Dr. Violand-Sánchez for her contributions to APS and the community. Dr. Violand-Sánchez spoke about her experiences in APS and thanked her colleagues and the community members who worked with her as she served on the staff and Board.

4. Announcements: (8:08 PM)

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.

Meetings:

- December 22, 2016 through January 2, 2017 - Winter Break

Dr. Murphy announced upcoming events and encouraged students to read during winter break. He shared highlights of Virginia's high school redesign initiative, as well as the APS process which will identify the instructional focus for the new high school. After reviewing the budget calendar, he reminded all of winter weather procedures and safe practices.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:17 PM)

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, 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. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. November 3, 2016 School Board Meeting
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Resignation

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Appointments
4 Resignations
2 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

18 Appointments
6 Changes In Position/Salary
3 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

11 Appointments
9 Changes In Position/Salary
1 Resignation
2 Retirements

3. Grants and Restricted Programs

Special Project #12 – NOAA – Bay Watershed Education and Training

4. ACI Appointments
5. REMOVED FROM AGENDA

6. Receive Briefing Report
 - a. Career, Technical and Adult Education Update

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:17 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board concerning enrollment and crowding at Claremont and the proposal to add capacity for students in the cluster, encouraging the Board to keep the kindergarten to 96 students and not change the admissions policy at this time:

Kimberly Fedinatz, parent
Brian Brlansky, Claremont parent
Jonathan Phillips, Claremont parent
Jorge Figueredo, Claremont PTA President

The following speakers also addressed the Board about the importance of balancing diversity throughout the schools, and encouraging the Board to revisit their recent boundary decision:

Grace Coldren, Wakefield student
John Mason, Washington-Lee student
Chekesha Gravely, APS student
David Khettouch, Wakefield student
Saleha Hoffman, Wakefield student
Matthew Herrity, Washington-Lee student
Belle Brown, Washington-Lee student
Christian McCord-Snook, Washington-Lee student
Peter Jacob, Washington-Lee student
Catherine Ashley, Washington-Lee student
Lidya Woldeyesus, Washington-Lee student
Tasnim Alam, Washington-Lee student
Tengis Gantulga, Washington-Lee student
Cayla Harrison, Yorktown Student

The Board thanked the speakers and confirmed that they take all comments very seriously. Affirming that they share the strong support for diversity in Arlington, the Board members were especially appreciative of the students who spoke, and encouraged them to be sensitive to the differences and similarities of individuals, and to continue to be involved. They also encouraged the community to continue having conversations about diversity, and to work together with the School Board, staff and the County through the upcoming boundary processes. Reflecting on lessons learned from this recent boundary refinement, Board members thanked staff for their substantial efforts and for their commitment. Recognizing that there may be questions and concerns about data, the Board members encouraged the community to work together collaboratively to address those concerns. Board members also noted that misinformation is sometimes spread through social media or other means, and they asked the community to be cautious and thoughtful as they consider and share what they read. Most importantly, the Board stressed the importance of being mindful and respectful of others in all discussions, and encouraged the community to reach out to them to discuss their concerns. Ms. Van Doren then summarized the recent Board action, confirming the primary objective was to relieve overcrowding at Washington-Lee and to balance available space in the three comprehensive high schools. Confirming that the Board followed the boundary

policy and addressed all the criteria in this policy as they made this decision, she stated that this change will move less than 5% of the high school population over four years. The Board considered Free and Reduced Lunch statistics for the diversity criterion, and Ms. Van Doren confirmed that the boundary adjustment will change this statistic less than 1% at each school. She again thanked the speakers for coming and for their engagement in this process, and called for a brief recess.

The Board reconvened at 9:29 p.m.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:30 PM)

1. Family and Community Engagement Update

Rosa Briceño, Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Specialist, provided an update on the FACE initiative, recognizing Dr. Violand-Sánchez for her leadership in this area. Dr. Briceño reviewed the FACE policy and the action plan goals that are being developed, and outlined activities the FACE Action Team has initiated or planned to increase family engagement. Parent Tina Gotti then described the Harvesting Dream event organized by the FACE team, which helped parents learn how to support their children so they can take advantage of the opportunities and resources available to them in APS. Dr. Briceño then described staff participation recently in the National District Leaders Network on FACE. In closing, she reviewed next steps for moving forward with FACE.

Mr. Lander appreciated the work that has been done but asked for an update on plans to expand FACE to reach out to all communities, in addition to those mentioned in the presentation. Dr. Violand-Sánchez recognized Mr. Lander's frustration, but clarified that the presentation was only a sample of the outreach that has taken place, and many more communities have been involved. Dr. Briceño shared additional examples of this work throughout the schools and communities. Drs. Violand-Sánchez and Briceño then described the challenges that are encountered as community engagements efforts move from initial outreach to broader involvement.

2. Whole Child Update: (9:55 PM)

Dr. Wilks introduced the update, recognizing the support of Dr. Violand-Sánchez, Dr. Kanninen and the other Board members for the whole child initiative. She also acknowledged the work of many community and staff members, as well as County staff, who supported the Whole Child Working Group which was led by community member Heather Sauve. Highlighting the five themes identified by the working group, she confirmed APS is now working to align all efforts around the framework.

Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Assessment, then reviewed development of the framework for supporting the whole child. This framework outlines objectives to define how APS will ensure that every child is healthy, safe, supported and academically challenged. Recognizing the many resources throughout the schools and community, APS will work with these community partners to align services and ensure resources are accessible to all students. Ms. Stengle then reviewed the working group's recommendations and actions that have been taken. These include developing

a community inventory of available services and resources, and creating a clearing house as a tool that the community can use to identify and locate needed supports. In addition, schools are adding a whole child goal to the individual school progressive plans. Dr. Laura Newton, Director, Student Services, then described additional actions being taken to implement recommendations, such as establishing an advisory committee, monitoring implementation of the framework, and creating a public education campaign to teach the community about the initiative.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Monique O'Grady, parent: appreciating the whole child focus, recognizing the strategic plan goals and the importance of ensuring that the goals are sustained and strengthened, and appreciating the students who spoke to share their concerns.

Board members thanked the Whole Child Working Group for their efforts and staff for the presentation. Dr. Violand-Sánchez appreciated the speaker's comments and looked forward to engaging with students to better meet their needs, especially in helping them deal with stress. Dr. Newton and Dr. Wilks agreed with the importance of teaching students how to manage stress, and shared information about initiatives in the schools to provide students with tools and skills to cope and be more resilient.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (10:17 PM)

1. Legislative Package

Lilla Wise, Legislative Liaison, reviewed one change made to the package since it was presented for Information, which was to add a statement in support of higher education for immigrant students who are not permanent residents.

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve the Legislative Package for 2017 as presented by Ms. Wise, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez thanked her colleagues for their support for the additional item added to the package. 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.

2. Revision of School Board Policy 35-6.2 Retirement: (10:20 PM)

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

Mr. Lander moved to approve the proposed revision of School Board Policy 35-6.2 Retirement, 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.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:21 PM)

1. FY 2016 Final Fiscal Closeout/Status Report and CIP Update:

Ms. Peterson presented the FY 2016 Final fiscal closeout, reviewing the closeout process and sharing the amount budgeted and the ending balance for each fund. The total ending balance for operations is \$16.1 million, which can be reallocated. She noted that the ending balance for three funds, Food and Nutrition Services, Grants and Restricted Programs and Capital Projects, must be carried over. She then reviewed the status of County revenue. Summarizing, Ms. Peterson confirmed \$22.7 million is available to the Board for reallocation and she shared recommendations for these funds. The recommendations are to set aside \$14 million in reserves, allocate \$3 million to current needs, and use \$5.7 million for the Syphax renovation. Ms. Peterson then provided a brief update on the CIP, reviewing the status of major construction projects as well as Minor Construction/Major Maintenance projects.

Dr. Kanninen was concerned about maintenance needs, and Mr. Chadwick and Dr. Murphy described plans to address issues with older facilities, relocatables and fields, confirming that staff is working to address needs as quickly as possible. Dr. Violand-Sánchez appreciated that some funds are being designated for instruction, and asked about funding for the whole child initiative. Staff confirmed funds are available to support plans to continue implementing the framework.

2. Revision of School Board Policy 25-1.2 Cooperation with Juvenile Court: (10:40 PM)

Dr. Wilks reviewed the proposed revision of this policy, confirming that the change aligns the policy with changes to the Code of Virginia.

3. Charge to the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices: (10:42 PM)

Dr. Murphy introduced this item, recognizing collaboration between the County and APS on addressing transportation needs, and thanked Ms. Van Doren and County Board Chair Jay Fisette for their efforts on this initiative. Mr. Chadwick presented background information, confirming this effort will increase awareness and participation in the many transportation choices in Arlington. Two committees are being formed, the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices (ACTC), a citizen advisory committee, and the Joint Committee on Transportation Choices (JCTC) which will be made up of County and School staff. Mr. Chadwick reviewed the missions and responsibilities that each of these committees will handle. He also described the membership, the guiding documents that will inform the committees' work, and transportation initiatives underway in the County. After presenting the draft year 1 work program for the committees, Mr. Chadwick reviewed next steps, which include Board approval of the charge to the ACTC in January.

Ms. Van Doren commented that Mr. Fisette has presented the draft charge to the County Board and they responded positively to this initiative. She encouraged all interested in serving on the ACTC to apply, and confirmed that the Boards will appoint members early in 2017. She then reviewed the draft Charge and Charter for both of these committees, noting these groups will help the County meet their transportation demand management goals. Referencing the APS Multimodal Transportation and

Student Safety Special Committee which advised the School Board in 2012, Ms. Van Doren confirmed that these new committees continue that initiative.

Dr. Violand-Sánchez encouraged including students and staff from all levels in the membership of this committee, as they can provide unique perspectives. Ms. Van Doren appreciated this comment, and thanked the County for their collaboration on this effort.

G. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

H. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board