

Removes guaranteed admission preferences currently available for some attendance zones

- Feeders - Barrett, Campbell
- Neighborhood Option – Key Immersion
- Cluster Option – Claremont
- Team – Jamestown, Key, Science Focus & Taylor

Changes elementary immersion to option only

- Key & Claremont – redefined as option schools
- No neighborhood admission preferences for elementary immersion

**Note:**

Every student is guaranteed a seat at their assigned neighborhood school

Preschool PIP maintains guaranteed admission for PreK students attending option schools

**Strengths**

**Challenges**

**Other Thoughts**

hugely support guaranteed admission for preK students attending option schools		
	How will this affect the neighborhood attendance at Key? If they take less neighborhood students, will they fit at Arlington Science Focus?	Can Taylor bus and hold 100 more students that currently attend ASFS? Will ASFS only have bussed students?
I like them redefined as option schools. You just need to make sure you maintain the economic diversity, which makes Claremont, at least, good.	People, especially in N. Arlington, look at NUMBERS to make their school choices--therefore, I worry that without the cluster (let's face it Fairlington residents and Oakridge) we won't get enough N. Arlington folks to forgo their "highly ranked" schools to come learn with a bunch of Latinos.	
Clarity	What happens if your neighborhood school doesn't meet or barely meets AYP? A transfer should be available for this children.	

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**Strengths**

Yes, I like this change. It give everyone the same chance regardless of where you live in the county.

**Challenges**

I think this proposal creates significant disruption in the existing Team zone, and changes the dynamic of Arlington Science Focus. Significantly information is needed on the impact to the existing zone, to transportation options, and the size of the neighborhood grid. Many families have chosen their property specifically because of these options, and not enough information has been distributed for such a significant change.

**Other Thoughts**

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Yes, I like this change. It give everyone the same chance regardless of where you live in the county.	I think this proposal creates significant disruption in the existing Team zone, and changes the dynamic of Arlington Science Focus. Significantly information is needed on the impact to the existing zone, to transportation options, and the size of the neighborhood grid. Many families have chosen their property specifically because of these options, and not enough information has been distributed for such a significant change.	

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		<p>1) Indicate that siblings must be guaranteed admission to ASFS no matter what school zone they are currently in. Sibling preference is not enough. 2) Students currently receiving bussing to ASFS should maintain their APS transportation. 3) All neighborhood schools must have a walk zone - If ASFS is to become a neighborhood school as proposed, it is essential that a walk zone be created around the school.</p>
	<p>Ensuring children can attend schools in their neighborhood if they desire. Arlington should strive to be a walk-able community. Children should not be forced to take a bus or have parents drive when there is a school in walking distance. This option will reduce cost and increase community involvement.</p>	<p>1) siblings should be guaranteed admission to Science Focus. Sibling preference is not enough. 2) All neighborhood schools should have a walk zone (including Science Focus if it becomes a neighborhood school)</p>

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	If guaranteed admission preference is removed from both Key and Science Focus, a "neighborhood school" must be assigned to those students. More clarity is needed regarding the current Key/Science Focus attendance zone, including what "neighborhood school" would be assigned.	
	Besides impacts on families, the above has the potential to have significant economic impact on home value & desirability. Any of these kind of fundamental changes should be only done with a multi-year grace period so that all can adjust with foreknowledge.	A walkzone must be created for schools like Arlington Science Focus - so students living within walking distance has Science Focus assigned as their school

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I hate that we are losing the Team School option. We moved into our current house because we liked the neighborhood and the fact that our daughter could continue to attend ASFS from the Taylor boundary.	I worry that too many kids who would have preferred to attend Key will now attend ASFS and that there will be more overcrowding and less parental involvement at ASFS.	We are zoned for Taylor but live nowhere near the school. We should be able to be guaranteed admission to ASFS which is closer
I think it's good the immersion schools are available to all neighborhoods	I think people in the current Key/ASFS neighborhood should be able to continue going to ASFS.	
Admission guaranteed to each student in the neighborhood		
		The key, jamestown taylor team should be preserved, key should be kept as neighborhood school
		siblings must be guaranteed admission to ASFS no matter what school zone they are currently in. Sibling preference is not enough.

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	This is not a good proposal as it will increase numbers at an overcrowded ASFS. The neighborhood for key has worked well for the community and should continue.	
	When I hear option, I hear "lottery," so families who want immersion for their kids may not get it.	To go to one of the two bilingual/immersion elementary schools, you have to start at K or 1st, so it does not make sense why change current program of Key as a neighborhood option.
		This affects enrollment to ASFS. If you are to make ASFS an true neighborhood school, then ASFS must have a walk zone around it that guarantees admission for children from within a mile.

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**Strengths**

I agree with removing admission preferences to choice programs. A school should either be a neighborhood school with a defined zone or it should be a county-wide choice school (or, in the case of immersion, 2 county-wide zones).

**Challenges**

By dissolving the Key / ASFS / Taylor / Jamestown team zone, you will have to re-do boundaries for the neighborhood schools. Children who live across the street from ASFS should go there - it is not a choice school. I suggest waiting until the Reed elementary school opens (as a neighborhood school) and re-doing all North Arlington elementary school attendance zones at one time.

**Other Thoughts**

Preschool students attending the Drew Montessori program should not have guaranteed admission to elementary. There are 7 primary (preschool) classrooms and only 8 lower elementary classrooms. That means if a child does not get into a Drew preschool Montessori class he/she has almost no chance of getting admitted to Drew Montessori for elementary. The result of this policy is that the Montessori elementary program has a 2/3 low income preference that is carried over from the preschool program.

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**Strengths**

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**Other Thoughts**

		<p>All neighborhood schools must have a walk zone - If ASFS is to become a neighborhood school as proposed, it is essential that a walk zone be created around the school. In addition, currently enrolled students should be able to finish at their current schools if schools are redefined</p>
<p>please see my "other thoughts"</p>	<p>Please don't rule out the possibility of walkable elementary schools. Elementary schools are key for building our local communities and civic engagement.</p>	<p>I think where possible, APS should support elementary neighborhood walk zones. This would not be a "preference" for a lottery program, rather it would be the designated neighborhood school. This would work for programs such as EL and IB, but not for Immersion and Montessori.</p>



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		The existing over crowding of Taylor and AsFs will be worse if this is put in place.
	transition: please grandfather existing ASFS families, incl siblings, and provide transportation	
Immersion schools should not have neighborhood preference; Claremont should not have guaranteed admission (cluster)		
Gets rid of largely outdated preferences; if done properly makes choices equitable across county	transportation	The east/west divide is a good move, generally. I breaks from historical patterns and has a good mix of schools in each zone.
gives equal access to students outside of the feeder and cluster schools who want to attend an option school	not having a neighborhood admission policy for kids in the immediate Claremont and Key neighborhood doesn't seem fair - if a family lives close to one of these option schools, they should be given the option to attend it.	giving the Key and Claremont neighborhoods preference to attend those schools will reduce the amount of transportation that Arlington schools must provide to those students as they are walkable.

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Every student is guaranteed a seat at their assigned neighborhood school	Key Immersion should not be a neighborhood option unless it is relocated further south. Why force native English speaking students into a Spanish-only "immersion" program. Have countywide option schools for world languages instead.	1) Indicate that siblings must be guaranteed admission to ASFS no matter what school zone they are currently in. Sibling preference is not enough.  Neighborhood elementary schools should feed into geographically determined neighborhood middle and high schools

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<p>The guaranteed admission preferences are confusing and removing them would make the system more understandable and transparent. I also think it is good to open immersion more broadly.</p>		<p>There should be a way/preference to admit new students at higher grades to the option schools. For example, students who have been living abroad in a spanish speaking country should have a certain path to an immersion school. Currently there is a path due to the neighborhood option so if that is eliminated another way should be found. Military and Foreign Service families often maintain Arlington residency, pay taxes, etc, while abroad, so should be given consideration.</p>
<p>Eliminates the impossible overcrowding in the immersion schools, especially Claremont; provides more geographic equity and diversity (currently many families outside of the neighborhood/cluster effectively have no access to immersion)</p>		

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		My children currently are at Science Focus elementary, although Key is my local school. I would be very upset if the change forced my child to go to an immersion school. I would w
		Why is ASFS not listed as an option school? When did the school board vote to make this change & why is it already reflected inn APS literature? As defined by Dr. Nazrette, ASFS meets the option school criter: 1) philosophically different; 2) unique curriculum
		I might redefine guaranteed attendance zones to be limited to walking area only.
	this weakens the ability for currently enrolled ASFS students to remain for continuity	

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Clearer, more transparent and more equitable.		
		Do not remove the guaranteed admissions preference.
Make sense to remove Jamestown/Key/ASFS/Taylor team option and neighborhood option for Key immersion.		If ASFS is to become a neighborhood, boundaries should be re-drawn so that there is a walk zone around the school. Consider swapping locations of Key and ASFS.
Great, ensures equal access for everyone.		
None	Unfortunately not all neighborhood schools are performing equally so school choice is imperative for some. Campbell and Claremont should be guaranteed options for Carlin Springs.	
	changing team schools will not take care of over crowding issue.	
		Please make sure all kids are able to stay at the school they are currently enrolled in. So not kick any child out.

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Year-round and IB should be option only as well.		Make Randolph an IB option school (not neighborhood school), and include the current Randolph zone in the new Patrick Henry ES - will keep more families in-zone - and diversify the student body for Randolph.
	If Key becomes a completely option school, the current Key/ASFS boundary will have additional students that will now go to ASFS because they don't get automatic admission to Key - causing more overcrowding. Also, All neighborhood schools must have a walk zone - If ASFS is to become a neighborhood school as proposed, it is essential that a walk zone be created around the school.	With the removal of the Team concept, those students who are from Jamestown and Taylor currently enrolled in ASFS should have their younger siblings have guaranteed admission to ASFS no matter what school zone they are currently in. (This needs to be specifically called out so there is no confusion.)
No local preference is more fair and transparent.	Can the county wide demand outweigh supply?	
This option is most egalitarian		

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This is long overdue.		I still wonder how exactly ASFS will be dealt with in terms of who will be guaranteed to attend. My son will only have 4th and 5th grade remaining and we want to ensure that he can finish his elementary experience at the same school.
Easy. Cheaper option regarding transportation.	A huge double-standard: Arlington Traditional School is still not exposed to this kind of change. Neighborhood kids should have the option to attend that school.	
Absolutely fair, esp. making the policies EXACTLY the same for Key and Claremont	Alerting people who moved to the Claremont neighborhood that they'll no longer be guaranteed admission	Perhaps extending the "grandfathering" of current residents would ease the pain.

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		Randolph should be option only. As long as it remains a neighborhood school with its current zoning, families are not likely choose this school no matter how much they want PYP.
		this remains confusing. How can kids be guaranteed a seat in their neighborhood school (eg team school at jamestown) while at the same time have that guaranteed preference removed?
This is a good change- makes it more equitable.		
making them "zone" preference schools is fine...similar to what it is now without the neighborhood preference.		ASFS should be a neighborhood school for all of Lyon Village. It is within a mile of the school. Students who have lotteried in should remain there and their siblings should be able to attend.



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creates a much more equal admissions process/opportunity than what exists now, which is unnecessarily weighted in favor of neighborhood kids and gives them greater access to immersion solely by virtue of their address.	perhaps will make some families have to be further from their "home" school.	keep the current boundaries for applying to Spanish immersion..no need to change (agree to eliminate preference for some attendance zones)
More simple		this is a much needed and long - awaited change that will finally align the immersion schools with all other option schools in Arlington County and put everyone on equal footing as far as admission goes
		Will very much simplify the process and make it more equitable
	Children in Campbell walk zone should be admitted to Campbell	
	Keep Key as a neighborhood school	Keep Key as a neighborhood school
NONE!		

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	The team school approach is essential for ASFS because unlike the other neighborhood schools it is not located within its own neighborhood. Consequently, an across the board policy for all neighborhood schools won't work for ASFS.	Some accommodation is needed to make it more like the other neighborhood schools. The team school approach currently levels the playing field a bit. Otherwise, nobody would be able to live near the school and walk to it.
Broader community participation possible. Absolutely time to stop filling option schools with clusters.	Arlington Science Focus should remain a shared asset and not be a neighborhood	
no strengths that I can see	Option schools also benefit from having the support of the host neighborhood. Why not find the middle ground and offer a % of seats to the neighborhood? 15% 20%? This would guarantee some walkers not needing transportation.	Option schools ought to "look like Arlington" in terms of socio-economic balance. That's just smart 'social engineering'.

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**Strengths**

removes the current illegal discrimination in school transfer opportunities, improves equity

**Challenges**

this essentially removes any sort of neighborhood preference or walk zone for any of the option programs; this potentially increases the need for transportation of students criss-crossing all across the county on a daily basis and when special events are held at schools, the neighborhood streets surrounding them will need to accommodate 200-400 cars for families to attend those events. it is a mistake to eliminate walk zones/neighborhood preference for option programming

**Other Thoughts**

it is a mistake to eliminate the opportunity for walk zones/neighborhood preference at option programs; you lose the opportunity for the school to be a focal point of a community if no one (or 1 out of 10 children) from the community can attend it.

To promote diversity, I agree with keeping VPI students at their same school

no child should have a preference over another; it invites abuse and divisions in our community

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Great long needed changes	Option schools need neighborhood support, concern that by removing access to the school for immediate neighbors may lead to tensions. between school and neighborhood.	
support		
	not supporting the proposal will cause transportation concerns	agree with proposal
I think this is problematic when the county is so badly overcrowded		
		There are too many options. Just focus on neighborhood schools and creating more seats. Spend less per student.
Good idea to simplify and promote equity		What will happen if there is more demand in one zone than in another? This was the case with Key/Claremont recently, and Claremont-zoned students were sent to Key.

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