

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
May 18, 2017

Item C-1-c

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at 6:17 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹ Prior to the meeting, Board members attended the Student Advisory Board Meeting in room 101 at 6 PM.

Present were:

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
James Lander, Member
Tannia Talento, Member (arr. 6:20 PM)
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING:

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Principal, Barcroft Elementary School and Principal, Yorktown High School, and appointments to the Budget Advisory Council and the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), and to discuss the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2 3711(A)(3), seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 - 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting. Ms. Talento was not present at the vote.

The closed meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Van Doren moved to certify that to the best of her knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting and only such public business matters that were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered, seconded by Mr. Lander and adopted in a vote of 3 - 0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Lander – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye. Dr. Kanninen was not present at the vote.

Ms. Van Doren called for a brief recess.

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.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING

Also present were:

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services
Paul Jamelske, Director, Special Education

1. Call to Order: 7:30 PM

Ms. Van Doren called the meeting to order and announced that Mr. Goldstein was not able to attend as he was out of town on business.

2. Presentation of the Colors
3. Recognitions

Dr. Kanninen recognized Washington-Lee Student Thomas Bolles who received a VSBA Northeast Regional Art Award. Ms. Van Doren recognized four recipients of the Arlington Special Education PTA annual awards.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:40 PM)

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. March 9, 2017 School Board Meeting
 - b. March 15, 2017 Budget Work Session #3
 - c. May 10, 2017 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Changes in Position/Salary
- 3 Classification Specifications
Energy/Stormwater Management Programs Administrator
HVAC Preventive Maintenance Mechanic
Director of Teaching & Learning
- 1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 4 Resignations

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

2 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

1 Appointment
1 Change In Position/Salary
1 Resignation
1 Retirement

3. ~~Receive Briefing Reports~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA
4. Appointments to Budget Advisory Council
5. Appointments to Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs
6. REMOVED FROM AGENDA
7. Schematic Design for the Relocation of Administrative Offices to Sequoia Plaza Two

Ms. Van Doren announced that as a part of consent, Judy Apostolico-Buck was appointed Principal, Barcroft Elementary School, and Bridget Loft was appointed Principal, Yorktown High School.

4. Announcements: (7:44 PM)

Meetings:

- May 25, 2017 Work Session on Arlington Tiered System of Support and Inclusion, Room 101, 7 PM
- May 26, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting, School Board Conference Room, 8:30 AM

Events:

- May 24, 2017 Volunteer/Partnership Celebration, Career Center, 4 PM

Dr. Murphy announced the Celebration of Volunteers and Partners, recognized students who competed in SkillsUSA, and congratulated the comprehensive high schools for their showing in the Washington Post Challenge Index. Other highlights included Mental Health Awareness Month, gallery walks on options to add high school seats, and end of year events. He reiterated the importance of students and families focusing on safe practices as they attend school events.

C. PUBLIC HEARING ON REVISION OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 25-2.2 ENROLLMENT AND TRANSFERS FOR SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS: (7:52 PM)

Dr. Murphy provided an overview and Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Assessment, presented a brief update on changes that have been made to proposed revisions of SBP 25-2.2 that respond to feedback received and add clarity to the policy. She confirmed that after the policy revisions are approved, staff will continue to work on definitions and parameters for

lottery and option schools, and she highlighted the cross-departmental implementation team that will continue this work. In closing, she reviewed next steps.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Todd McCracken, parent: recognizing challenges with the current policy, thanking the Board for revising the policy and suggesting the Board consider how changes affect diversity and noting concerns about changes to sibling preferences.

Nick Walkosak, Hoffman-Boston parent: asking for a mechanism to be included in the revised policy to allow appeals to the School Board of decisions denying transfer requests.

Miles Mason, parent: appreciating staff work but suggesting the delay of changes to sibling options so that the impact on schools can be more closely examined, and suggesting that sibling preference be included in the policy, not the PIP.

Rhiannon Leutner, Arlington Science Focus School: asking that the policy changes include an option for all schools to have a guaranteed walk zone.

The following speakers also addressed the Board expressing concern about how the changes in the policy affect Arlington Science Focus and other schools, particularly in terms of access and diversity, asking the Board to delay action and do more research on how the changes will affect all schools, and to focus more strongly on meeting capacity need:

Andrew Losos, Arlington Science Focus School
Steven Leutner, Arlington Science Focus School
Jennifer Bethel, Arlington Science Focus School
Stuart Ridgway, Arlington Science Focus School
Noosha Tayebi, parent
Lara Johnson, Arlington Science Focus School
Aneesh Chopra, Arlington Science Focus School

The following speakers also addressed the Board expressing concern about current practices at Claremont and all option schools, and asking that the policy be revised to ensure fair access to schools for residents of the attendance zone:

Melissa Schwaber-Hawkins, Claremont
Gabe Snow, Claremont Civic Association and Parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board stating concerns about how changes in the proposed policy will affect diversity at Key Elementary School, especially how it will impact native Spanish speakers living in the Key neighborhood:

Maria Elena Greene, Key Elementary School
Erin Freas-Smith, Key Elementary School

Ms. Van Doren thanked the speakers and confirmed the Board will continue to consider input as the policy revision is finalized.

E. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:55 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Lauren Rylander, middle school student: commenting on the lack of playgrounds at the middle schools and asking that playgrounds be provided at all schools.

LuAnn Oliver, Claremont: speaking on the importance of interpersonal connection for human development, and asking the Board to limit time students spend using technology and increase time for interaction with teachers and others.

Anne Marie Douglass, Claremont parent, Nature Club Kids: commenting on the value of environmental literacy and the importance of science, and opposing overuse of technology to teach science to elementary students.

Josh Folb, teacher, parent, AEA: thanking the Board for the final budget and for proposing a budget that fully supports APS, and asking them to work more closely with AEA in the future to identify possible cuts; also asking for flexible professional development options.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:03 PM)

1. APS 3-5 Year Plan Superintendent's Update

Dr. Murphy presented a brief update, reviewing planning documents and the status of initiatives, some of which have been completed. He highlighted upcoming activities for initiatives, and confirmed that, based on Board feedback, an additional option for the 1300 high school seat initiative has been proposed. This option adds some seats at the Education Center and additional seats at Career Center.

Dr. Kanninen asks for clarification on funding for the 1,300 high school seats and Ms. Peterson confirmed that sufficient funds are allocated in the CIP for any of the proposed options. Dr. Murphy also confirmed staff is aware of the need to be mindful when considering use of capital dollars and he reiterated that future projects will be brought forward with low, mid and high cost estimates to provide flexibility to the Board. Dr. Natrass provided additional information about the scheduled community conversation on the 1:1 initiative.

2. Literacy Update: (9:12 PM)

Dr. Natrass presented the update, which follows up on the presentation at a work session earlier in the spring. After reviewing the overarching goal of literacy instruction, she outlined the measures of success in terms of fidelity measures and impact measures. She also highlighted five key areas of reading instruction, and shared SOL data on student achievement including data that demonstrate positive trend lines. In addition, she reviewed SOL and Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) data for English Language learners and other reporting groups. She then

described new measures that are being used for reading assessment in middle schools. In closing she reviewed actions completed to date to strengthen the Literacy program, and next steps to continue this work.

Confirming that literacy has been identified as a major focus for the Board's work this year, Board members appreciated the update. Staff responded to questions, explained how proficiency will be measured, clarifying data in the presentation and confirming that additional data will be reported back to the Board as new measures are put in place. The group discussed professional development on the instructional model being implemented in APS to ensure instruction is provided that meets each student's needs, and how to ensure that all staff receive training. Ms. Van Doren spoke to the need to focus on students who are struggling with reading, particularly in middle and high school, to ensure that they receive appropriate support. The Board looked forward to an update on literacy in the fall.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (9:54 PM)

1. Special Education Annual Plan:

Mr. Paul Jamelske, Director, Special Education, confirmed no changes have been made since this item was presented for information.

Ms. Talento moved move that the Arlington School Board approve the Special Education Annual Plan/Part B Flow-Through Application, seconded by Dr. Kanninen, and the motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with, Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:54 PM)

1. ~~Instructional Resources Adoption~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

2. Revision of School Board Policy 20-1.210 Award of Credit, Non-Core Courses

Dr. Murphy reviewed changes implemented by the Virginia Department of Education related to the award of standard credit for courses which affect the previous requirement of 140 hours of seat time. Dr. Natrass then explained that this change provides flexibility and allows school systems to award standard credit based on work equal to the progress and learning to meet certain criteria, which provides flexibility that better serves students.

The group briefly discussed how APS will implement this policy and how APS will measure competency to determine if credit can be awarded. The Board appreciated the flexibility this change will provide to students, and they asked staff to ensure that this option for credit is understood by counselors. Furthermore, they asked that the information about this option, including what courses qualify and how to take advantage of this opportunity, is readily shared with students and their families.

3. ~~School Board Policy 25-3.11 Threat Assessment~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

4. FY 17 3rd Quarter Fiscal Report: (10:06 PM)

Ms. Peterson presented the 3rd quarter Fiscal Year 2017 update. She briefly reviewed changes in state and local revenues. She also updated the Board on expenditures which include increased savings in several categories and overages in two areas. The net estimated funds available when the revenue and expenditure adjustments are taken into account is \$4.5 million. Staff is recommending that approximately \$1.19 million be used within the current budget for unmet needs, and that \$1 million be placed back in the compensation reserve. Ms. Peterson then reviewed the resolutions that will be brought to the Board for adoption at the June 29 meeting.

Ms. Peterson then summarized the status of the Capital Improvement Plan in the categories of major construction and minor construction/major maintenance (MC/MM). She reviewed two changes in the major construction category and confirmed capital reserves currently total approximately \$19.7 million and the major construction reserve is approximately \$0.6 million. She then updated the Board on the status of the MC/MM projects.

5. ~~Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 2 for the New School at Wilson~~
REMOVED

6. ~~Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 1 for the New Elementary at Jefferson~~
REMOVED

7. ~~Conveyance of APS Property at Taylor Elementary School to Arlington County~~
REMOVED

H. NEW BUSINESS:

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board