

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting  
August 17, 2017

**Item C-1-a**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, August 17, 2017, at 5:33 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Barbara Kanninen, Chair  
Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair  
James Lander, Member  
Tannia Talento, Member  
Nancy Van Doren, Member

**Also present were:**

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent  
Dr. Kristi Murphy, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING:**

*Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Interim Director, Teaching and Learning; Assistant Principals at the Arlington Career Center, Drew Elementary School, Gunston Middle School, and Yorktown High School; two Assistant Principals at Swanson Middle School; a .5 FTE Assistant Principal, Washington-Lee High School; and Supervisor, School Psychologists, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Ms. Van Doren. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting.*

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

*Dr. Kanninen 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 Ms. Van Doren and adopted in a vote of 5-0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Mr. Lander – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.*

The Board recessed briefly then convene in a regular open meeting at 6:30 PM.

**B. MEETING OPENING**

**Also present were:**

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<sup>1</sup> Video clips of regular School Board meetings can be viewed on the APS Web site at the following link:  
<http://www.apsva.us/page/3067>

DVDs of all regular School Board meetings are also available for viewing in the School Board office.

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. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services  
Melanie Elliott, Clerk of the Board

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Announcements

In recognition of recent violence that took place in Charlottesville, Dr. Kanninen called for a moment of silence to remember those lost or injured. She then stated that the School Board, along with other elected officials, community leaders, and friends and neighbors, reject the hate, racism, bigotry and violence that was displayed. She confirmed that APS is committed to inclusion and celebrates the diversity of the community, and she reiterated that APS continually works to ensure that every child is supported and has the opportunity to excel.

Commenting that facility names reflect community values, Dr. Kanninen confirmed the Board's intent to implement a process to review how school names are selected. She shared examples of recently chosen names and explained the significance of those names. As several new facilities are being built, she confirmed the need for this process and stated it will be careful, deliberate and transparent, will establish criteria that reflect APS values, and will include extensive community engagement.

Dr. Kanninen then made the following announcement:

*Meetings:*

- August 31, 2017 Planning Work Session, 6 PM, Room 101 a/b

Dr. Murphy confirmed that Barcroft Elementary School is in session and described preparations for the start of school. He shared 2017 SOL results and reminded families that incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders must have the Tdap booster to start school. In closing, he emphasized efforts to strengthen safety in the schools and community and encouraged all to be aware and careful as students start coming to school soon.

### C. **CONSENT AGENDA:** (6:46 PM)

*Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, 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. April 18, 2017 Work Session on Enrollment and Transfers and High School Options

- b. May 4, 2017 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
- c. May 18, 2017 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
- d. May 25, 2017 Work Session on the Arlington Tiered System of Support
- e. June 28, 2017 School Board and Executive Leadership Team Retreat
- f. July 19, 2017 Closed Meeting
- g. July 27, 2017 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Classification Requests
  - Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation
  - Minor Construction/Major Maintenance (MC/MM) Program Manager
  - Environmental Services Program Manager
- 1 Appointment
- 8 Changes in Position/Salary (includes closed meeting appointments)
- 3 Resignations
- 3 Retirements

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 103 Resignations
- 1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
- 14 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 12 Resignations
- 3 Retirements

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 7 Appointments
- 5 Changes In Position/Salary
- 8 Resignations
- 1 Suspension

- 3. Grants and Restricted Programs:  
Special Project #1 – FutureQuest 2017
- 4. 2017-18 School Board Liaison Assignments - Civic Associations
- 5. Authorization of Signatures in the Absence of the Superintendent
- 6. Parking License Agreement for Fleet Elementary School
- 7. ACI Appointments

Dr. Kanninen announced that the following appointments were made as part of consent: Sarah Putnam, Interim Director of Teaching and Learning; Jessica Baker, Assistant Principal, Career Center; Tracy Gaither, Assistant Principal, Drew Elementary School; Shana Curtis, Assistant Principal, Gunston Middle School; Eric Underhill, Assistant Principal, Swanson Middle

School; Miles Carey, Assistant Principal, Washington-Lee High School; Wendy Carria, Supervisor, School Psychologists; Scott McKeown, Assistant Principal, Yorktown High School; and Laura Porter was appointed as an Assistant Principal, Swanson Middle School.

**D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:01 PM)**

The following speakers addressed the Board asking that the name of Washington-Lee High School be preserved, noting historic events that occurred at the school and accomplishments of alumni of the school, and acknowledging Lee's post-Civil War contributions:

*John Peck*, resident

*Mila Albertson*, Washington-Lee alumna, president of Alumni Association

The following speakers also addressed the Board asking them to change Washington-Lee's name, noting Lee's support for the Confederacy and slavery. Some noted recent racial unrest and actions taken by some jurisdictions to remove Confederate symbols:

*Ryan Sims* resident

*Mark Beallor*, resident

*Leonie Alder*, W-L student

*Liz Ryan*, resident: statement read by Jisan Zaman

*Basil Kiwan*, resident

*Nik Roy*, APS parent

*Sue Mosher*, resident

*Mary Beth Matthews*, resident

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

*Julian Lopez-Leyva* APS graduate: Encouraging the community to have a thoughtful, full and respectful discussion about changing the name of Washington-Lee, and stating that the school community should make the decision.

Board members appreciated the comments and encouraged the community to have a thoughtful, respectful conversation and confirmed they will take a careful, inclusive, approach as names are considered. They also stress the primary focus of APS is to educate students.

**E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:45 PM)**

1. Academic Performance Update

Dr. Natrass presented the update, explaining how APS monitors progress and performance using multiple measures such as SOLs, Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS), the Reading Inventory, Math Inventory and WIDA Access assessment. Focusing on the SOLs, Dr. Natrass shared highlights, noting overall enrollment growth and enrollment in advanced courses by English language learners (ELLs). She presented data on reading, mathematics, science and social studies SOLs. She confirmed that disaggregated data from all assessments inform the identification of interventions used to personalize learning to meet student need and

to address gaps. She reviewed detailed data for English language learners and PALS assessment data for Kindergarten through Grade 2. Next steps are to review data at all levels, determine specific instructional needs, and ensure that resources and professional learning opportunities align with needs.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

*Valerie Smith*, resident: stating concerns about how support is provided to students to help address learning challenges, and sharing a personal experience about challenges in trying to address a student issue.

Board members appreciated the focus on individual students and asked staff to continue to address the achievement gap to ensure that all students are provided with appropriate support. Additional data on the gap, on the statistical significance of disaggregated data, and on enrollment of ELLs in advanced courses will be shared. Dr. Natrass also gave examples of interventions and how data is used to adjust instruction to meet needs. The Board encouraged continued efforts and early intervention for struggling students.

2. Update on Policies Review: (8:38 PM)

Julia Burgos, Chief of Staff, presented the update, explaining how policy changes are identified and implemented. Changes are made to comply with new laws, as part of the required review of policies every five years, and as the division identifies needed changes. Ms. Burgos shared the status of the current policy review, confirming that appropriate interest groups are engaged to ensure that revisions meet all needs. A policy review team will be formed to oversee this work, and Ms. Burgos described the team's structure, charge, and planned revisions to improve the review process.

Responding to questions, Ms. Burgos highlighted membership of the policy review team, and confirmed that duplicate or irrelevant policies will be eliminated. The Board will be kept up to date on the status of this work. Board members appreciated this effort, and encouraged Board and community engagement in the review process.

**F. ACTION ITEMS:** (8:59 PM)

1. New School Board Policy 10-4.2 Electronic Participation in Meetings by Individual Members

*Mr. Lander moved that the Board adopt School Board Policy 10-4.2 Electronic Participation in Meetings by Individual Board members, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.*

Mr. Goldstein reiterated that this policy allows Board members to participate in meetings electronically twice in a calendar year.

The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

2. Purchase of Property on N. Culpeper Street: (9:01 PM)

Mr. Chadwick stated that this purchase provides APS with access to Glebe Elementary School for emergency vehicles only, and will improve a pedestrian route to Glebe. He confirmed site improvement will not impact playing fields. He also stated that there should be no impact on the neighboring community or traffic. Ms. Peterson reviewed costs confirming that Capital Reserve funds will be used.

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about the lack of transparency and communication with the community about this purchase, the speed of the decision, and how the purchase will affect neighborhood traffic:

*Alexandra Bocain, President, John M. Langston Civic Association*  
*Sharon Dorsey, Waycroft-Woodlawn Civic Association*  
*Kesha Gravely, resident*

*Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board approve the purchase of 1721 N. Culpeper Street and authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations to sign related documents in connection with closing on the purchase. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lander.*

Responding to questions, Mr. Chadwick provided more detail about the site plan. Noting the challenge of finding property to meet growing needs, as well as the need to act quickly when property becomes available, Dr. Murphy apologized for not reaching out to the community. The Board confirmed that property purchases involve confidential negotiations so community engagement must be limited and agreed to do their best to inform communities as soon as feasible.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

*Ms. Van Doren moved that the Arlington School Board hereby authorize the transfer of \$575,000 from the Capital Reserve to purchase the property at 1721 N. Culpeper Street. These funds will cover the purchase price of \$525,000 plus additional closing and site improvement costs, not expected to exceed \$50,000. Any funds remaining after purchase, closing costs, and site improvement costs will be returned to the Capital Reserve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goldstein and adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.*

3. Personnel Matter

*Dr. Kanninen moved that in case FY 17-02, the Board recommend to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction that the Virginia Collegiate Professional License of a former employee be revoked, seconded by Mr. Lander.*

Ms. Talento stated that she does not support this motion and would recommend suspension instead. Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 1, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively and Ms. Talento opposing.

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:32 PM)**

1. Revision of Select School Board Policies
  - a. SBP 25-1.17 Student Safety – Bullying/Harassment Prevention
  - b. SBP 35-3 Employment

Dr. K. Murphy reviewed the proposed changes to these policies, which are being updated to include additional categories related to protected status.

2. Revision to School Board Policy 35-8.3 Contracts and Work Schedules: (9:30 PM)

Dr. K. Murphy reviewed the proposed changes which updates the policy to reflect changes to identification of early release days in the APS Calendar process.

3. Revision to School Board Policy 35-8.6 Telecommuting: (9:30 PM)

Dr. K. Murphy stated that the title of this policy is being updated from Telecommuting to Telework to reflect general work standards.

4. Revision to School Board Policy 50-1.10 Naming of Facilities: (9:35 PM)

The Board agreed to postpone this item until after review of the naming process.

5. Construction Contract Award-Full GMP for the Relocation of Administrative Offices to Sequoia Plaza Two: (9:36 PM)

Mr. Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented this item, briefly reviewing the project, process and timeline. He outlined the construction management at-risk selection process, and shared information on project funding.

It was confirmed that no additional funds are required for this contract, and the School Board will be moving to the facility in phase two of the project.

6. Contract Amendment for Construction Management Services for the Abingdon Project: (9:41 PM)

Mr. Chambers reviewed this item, explaining that the change is required due to the expanded project schedule and complexity not known at the time of original award.

Responding to questions, Mr. Chambers confirmed that this will not affect students, but availability of some shared space may be delayed.

7. Determination to use Construction Management at Risk Delivery Method for the New Elementary School at Reed: (9:47 PM)

Mr. Chambers explained that this item is being brought forward for Board approval due to a change in state code. He gave a brief project overview, and Ms. Peterson shared information about the changes to the purchasing agreement that respond to the new requirements. Mr. Chambers then reviewed the staff recommendation.

Staff briefly reviewed the community engagement process that will be followed for the Reed project.

8. Construction Contract Award for Early Work Package 3 for the New School at Wilson  
–REMOVED FROM AGENDA

9. Parking License Agreement with Ethiopian Community Development Council for Fleet Elementary School: (9:52 PM)

Mr. Chadwick explained that this item provides offsite parking for staff and construction crews during construction at Jefferson Middle School. He confirmed that the cost of this parking was included in the project total. Staff is asking the Board to act on this item so that parking will be in place for staff at the start of school. Mr. Chadwick confirmed there will be shuttle service from this site as well as public transit to ensure access to the school. Board members appreciated efforts to provide staff with needed parking.

*Mr. Goldstein moved that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the parking license agreement with the Ethiopian Community Development Council, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.*

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0 with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

**H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Barbara Kanninen, Chair  
Arlington School Board