

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
September 7, 2017

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, September 7, 2017, at 6:30 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

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

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of Colors by the Arlington Career Center JROTC
3. Announcements

Dr. Kanninen then made the following announcements:

- September 11, 2017, Budget Advisory Council Meeting, 7 PM, Rm. 101
- September 11, 2017, Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs Meeting, 6:30 PM, Trade Center, 2770 S. Taylor Street

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.

- September 12, 2017, Work Session on Middle School Boundaries 7 PM, Rm. 101
- September 14, 2017, ACI Reception and Meeting, 6:30 PM, 2110 Washington Blvd. Rm. 101
- September 15, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting, 8:30 AM, School Board Conference Room

Dr. Kanninen confirmed that the Board is looking at facilities naming procedures and will initiate a review process. This process will be transparent and will include community engagement. A staff-led committee will focus on reviewing current policy and making recommendations on criteria to use to select names going forward.

Dr. Kanninen also thanked the Superintendent, Board and staff for responding to the recent announcement on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. APS issued a statement reinforcing the welcoming spirit of APS, and Dr. Kanninen confirmed that the School and County Boards will work together on a joint letter to local legislators in support of their work to enact legislation to protect Dreamers.

Ms. Van Doren thanked families and staff for a great first day and shared a video on sustainable transportation options for staff, highlighting the work of the Arlington Committee for Transportation Choices. Ms. Talento and Mr. Goldstein described first day visits to their liaison schools, appreciating the enthusiasm and positive energy displayed by students and staff. Mr. Goldstein also thanked APS and County staff for helping families navigate the new traffic patterns at Jefferson Middle School.

Dr. Murphy thanked staff for their work to prepare for a successful start of school. He shared safety efforts, noted the importance of a good breakfast, and described summer professional learning. He confirmed that religious observances are listed on APS calendars, and reiterated the importance of kindness and respect. He announced that a new personalized learning handbook will be provided to students and families, and students can ride ART Buses at a reduced price. In closing he shared dates for upcoming events.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:01 PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved for adoption of 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. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. August 16, 2017 Closed Meeting
 - b. June 1, 2017 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Appointments
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Classification Request
 - Leave Management Technician
- 1 Resignation

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Resignations
- 1 Resignation (With Prejudice)

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 12 Appointments
- 8 Changes In Position/Salary
- 3 Resignations

- 3. ~~Grants and Restricted Programs:~~
- 4. Accept Reports
 - a. Diversity Report
- 5. Emergency Preparedness Plan
- 6. Construction Contract Award-Full GMP for the Relocation of Administrative Offices to Sequoia Plaza Two
- 7. Contract Amendment for Construction Management Services for the Abingdon Project
- 8. Determination to use Construction Management at Risk Delivery Method for the New Elementary School at Reed
- 9. ACI Appointments

Dr. Kanninen announced that as a part of consent, the Board accepted the Diversity Report, and she thanked Dr. Murphy and Ms. Talento for their work on this project. Ms. Talento encouraged the audience to read the report and described the work of the Student Advisory Board, who helped with this project. Ms. Van Doren announced that the Board also made appointments to the ACI and encouraged participation in this advisory group.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:04 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about changing the name of Washington-Lee High School, encouraging the Board to listen to community members and alumni and consider their points of view:

Mike Webb, resident
Philip BJORLO, Washington-Lee alumnus

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:11 PM)

1. First Day of School:

Dr. Murphy presented the update, sharing a video of students, parents and staff. He highlighted enrollment numbers, confirming that the September 30 enrollment is used as the official count for the year. Appreciating support from the County to ensure safe routes to school, Dr. Murphy described preparations that took place leading up to the first day, including transportation plans and work to ensure facilities were ready for students. Several principals and staff members then described activities to prepare for the start of school, highlighting professional learning, and collaboration throughout the division as well as within the schools.

2. Superintendent's 2017-18 Action Plan Update: (7:51 PM)

Dr. Murphy and Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Evaluation, presented the update on initiatives in the 2017-18 Action Plan. Dr. Murphy briefly reviewed the Plan, describing current and upcoming initiatives, many of which are overlapping. He confirmed that the overall focus of the Plan is to create the best learning experiences for students. The thirteen initiatives in the Plan are grouped in four clusters: new policies and policy revisions; preparations for new schools or program moves; operational planning and capital initiatives.

Ms. Stengle then reviewed plans for community engagement for upcoming initiatives, confirming that information will be shared early and via multiple methods. She highlighted opportunities for community engagement that will include outreach and opportunities to provide input. A special event on Saturday, September 23, will kick off the engagement activities. Ms. Stengle then outlined the initiatives under the four cluster areas, describing work underway and next steps for the initiatives. In closing, Dr. Murphy highlighted events that will take place in the next few weeks.

Board members appreciated the staff work and planning that took place over the summer to prepare for these initiatives. Board members asked that terms be explained clearly in presentations to ensure that the community understands what the initiatives involve. Dr. Murphy also spoke to the division reorganization underway that combines the Departments of Instruction and Student Services to better meet student needs.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:17 PM)

1. Revision of Select School Board Policies

- a. SBP 25-1.17 Student Safety – Bullying/Harassment Prevention
- b. SBP 35-3 Employment

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve the revisions to School Board Policy 25-1.17 Student Safety – Bullying/Harassment Prevention and School Board Policy 35-3 Employment, seconded by Ms. Van Doren. 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. Revision to School Board Policy 35-8.3 Contracts and Work Schedules: (8:19 PM)

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve revisions to School Board Policy 35-8.3 Contracts and Work Schedules, seconded by Ms. Van Doren and adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

3. Revision to School Board Policy 35-8.6 Telecommuting: (8:20 PM)

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Josh Folb, teacher: encouraging the Board to expand the policy and allow classroom staff to telecommute.

Mr. Lander moved that the Board approve revisions to School Board Policy 35-8.6 Telecommuting, seconded by Ms. Van Doren and adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (8:23 PM)

1. School Board 2018 Priorities

Dr. Kanninen presented the School Board’s proposed 2018 Priorities, confirming that they are focused on the initiatives to be undertaken through the year. These initiatives include developing the 2018-2024 Strategic Plan and the 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan. The Board also will focus on supporting and empowering teachers and staff, strengthening school and community relationships, developing policies on technology and inclusion, and building a sustainable budget.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Mike Webb, resident: asking the Board to include a focus on the achievement gap as part of their priorities.

Josh Folb, teacher: appreciating the priorities and encouraging the Board to involve the Arlington Education Association in assessing if teachers and staff do feel empowered in the coming year.

Responding to the Board, Dr. Murphy confirmed that the action plan articulated earlier will support the priorities that the Board has identified for this year. Ms. Van Doren recognized the challenges being faced by Arlington as a growing community, and encouraged ongoing conversation to understand and deal with the changes needed. Dr. Kanninen appreciated the comments and the challenges ahead, and looked forward to working together to accomplish these goals.

2. Public Water Service Easement for Abingdon Project: (8:36 PM)

Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, explained that this easement is needed to modify the use permit at Abingdon for a revised design for the water utility due to unforeseen field conditions.

3. Crane Swing Agreement with Writ Limited Partnership for New School at Wilson Site: (8:38 PM)

Mr. Chambers explained that this agreement will allow APS to conduct needed work at the Wilson site.

4. Architectural and Engineering Services for Gunston HVAC Modernization: (8:39 PM)

Jim Meikle, Director, Maintenance Services, explained that the HVAC system at Gunston needs to be completely replaced. This project will take two years and will be funded by the Bond HVAC reserve.

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board