

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting  
October 5, 2017

**Item C-1-c**

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

**Present were:**

Barbara Kanninen, Chair  
Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair (arr. 5:37 PM)  
James Lander, Member  
Tannia Talento, Member  
Nancy Van Doren, Member  
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

**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 following appointments: Interim Supervisor of Mathematics; Interim Assistant Principal, Washington-Lee High School; and Assistant Principals at Swanson Middle School as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Mr. Lander. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 - 0, with Mr. Lander, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively, and the Board convened in a closed meeting. Mr. Goldstein was not present at the vote.*

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:21 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 convened in a regular open meeting at 6:30 PM.

**B. MEETING OPENING**

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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: <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.

**Also present were:**

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services  
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations  
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
Dr. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management

**B. MEETING OPENING**

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

Ms. Wendy Pilch, Director of Early Childhood and Elementary Education, and Kelley Hyner, Young Scholars Coach, introduced three students from Drew Elementary School who shared the projects they created when participating in the Young Scholar's Innovation Academy this past summer.

4. Announcements

Dr. Kanninen then made the following announcements:

- *October 10, 2017 Literacy Work Session, 7 PM, Room 101 a/b*
- *October 17, 2017 Joint School Board/County Board Work Session, 6 PM, Reed School, 1644 N. McKinley Road, Gymnasium*

Ms. Van Doren updated the group on the work of the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices. She encouraged all to travel to and from school carefully and confirmed that the School Board and County Board are working together to address safety concerns. She noted that Arlington needs bus drivers and crossing guards, and encouraged individuals to apply.

Mr. Goldstein congratulated Dr. Kanninen for being selected as one of the Most Powerful Women by the Washingtonian magazine. Dr. Kanninen acknowledged that the award is a recognition of the fantastic school system in Arlington.

Dr. Murphy shared the September 30 enrollment which is used as the official count for the year and noted that the total of 26,941 students is the highest ever for APS. October is Dyslexia Awareness Month and Bullying Prevention Month, and Dr. Murphy described activities related to these recognitions. He summarized the recent Baldrige site visit that will help strengthen APS processes, and noted upcoming events including the County's Substance Abuse Prevention Town Hall, College and Career Night, and groundbreakings at Wilson site and Fleet Elementary School.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:06 PM)**

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

1. Minutes:
  - a. May 15, 2017 Work Session on High School Options
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 3 Changes in Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 14 Appointments
- 12 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Resignations
- 2 Resignation (With Prejudice)
- 1 Retirement

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 36 Appointments
- 4 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Resignation

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 6 Reclassification Requests
  - HVAC I
  - HVAC II
  - HVAC III
  - HVAC IV
  - HVAC Maintenance Assistant Supervisor
  - HVAC Maintenance Supervisor
- 2 Resignations
- 1 Retirement

3. ACI Appointments
4. Grants and Restricted Programs:

Special Project #2 – SOL Web-Based Technology Initiative  
Special Project #3 – Limited English Speaking/English as a Second Language (ESL)

Special Project #4 – Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education Grant  
Special Project #5 – ISAEP Grant – GED  
Special Project #6 – STEM Pre-K and Kindergarten Initiative  
Special Project #7 – Race to GED  
Special Project #8 – General Adult Education (GAE)

5. Appointments to Aquatics Committee
6. Contract Award for Architectural and Engineering Services for the New Elementary School at Reed
7. Appointment to the Budget Advisory Council

Dr. Kanninen announced that as a part of consent, the Board approved the following appointments: Shannan Ellis as Interim Supervisor of Mathematics; Kim Jackson-Davis, Interim Assistant Principal, Washington-Lee High School, and Tony Hall, Assistant Principal, Swanson Middle School. She also announced that Meredith Purple was appointed as Co-Chair of the ACI.

**D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:12 PM)**

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Jamie Beletz*, parent: asking that IEPs be expanded to also provide support to students with special needs as they participate in extracurricular activities.

*Yassmina Hassoun*, parent: stating her disagreement with the gifted identification process at her daughter's school.

*Josh Folb*, parent: noting the shortage of bus drivers, and suggesting several mechanisms that APS can do to advertise and attract drivers.

The following speakers addressed the Board with concerns about traffic and safety at South 2<sup>nd</sup> and Irving Streets near Jefferson Middle School, describing the dangerous intersection, asking for a four-way stop and a crossing guard at the intersection, and urging the School Board to work with the County Board to implement these changes:

*Ella Godbout*, Jefferson student

*Liz Fried*, parent

*Stephanie Chong*, parent

**E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:25 PM)**

1. Superintendent's 2017-18 Action Plan Update:

Dr. Murphy presented the update on the 2017-18 Action Plan, referencing the Master Planning document created a few years ago that provides a basis for current efforts to

address complex and overlapping challenges. He briefly summarized the status of the projects in the Action Plan, which are grouped under the topics of policies, operational planning, preparations for new schools and program moves, and capital initiatives. He confirmed that up-to-date information for all of these projects is posted on the Engage with APS webpage. In closing, he reviewed the timelines for the initiatives underway.

Responding to questions, staff confirmed that the scenarios being shared with the community at this time are not final recommendations, but are being used to solicit input as options are developed and refined. Ms. Stengle also confirmed that there will continue to be opportunities for the community to weigh in on these proposals. Board members appreciated the work that staff has done in this process and encouraged community members to participate in ongoing discussions and collaboration with County staff working on this initiative. Ms. Talento confirmed that all information will be translated and input can be provided in any language.

2. 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Process: (7:40 PM)

Dr. Natrass presented plans for the 2018-2024 Strategic Plan development process, recognizing the importance of the Plan. The goals of the process are to identify a steering committee, define goals and strategies, and solicit community input to help shape the new Strategic Plan. Ms. Stengle reviewed the timeline for the process which began in September and continues through the spring, with adoption of the new plan slated for June. She confirmed there will be many opportunities to participate and provide input, and confirmed that all information will be posted on the web site.

The Board and staff discussed how to ensure that the community is able to interact with the steering committee members as well as noting opportunities to engage in the process. It was confirmed that although the Board will be following this process closely, it is a Superintendent and staff process that will develop the proposed plan.

3. Library Services Update: (7:48 PM)

Theresa Flynn, Supervisor, updated the Board on Library Services. She highlighted program goals and activities of librarians and confirmed that more than one million books have been checked out each of the last two school years. She shared disaggregated data on library participation and book checkout, and recognized how digital growth is impacting libraries. After highlighting collaboration with the Central Library, Ms. Flynn thanked Facilities for their support as buildings are being constructed and renovated. She then shared highlights of author visits and other events in the schools. Moving forward, she reviewed goals to continue to grow and improve.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Ingrid Gant*, President, Arlington Education Association: appreciating the work of librarians and encouraging more accountability in looking at data to improve participation and ensure that all students are reading.

Mr. Lander encouraged Ms. Flynn to reach out to the Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden and invite her to come visit APS. Board members appreciated the presentation and shared what they are reading. Dr. Kanninen acknowledged the importance of libraries as safe spaces, and asked how staff approaches helping students balance reading for entertainment with reading at level. Ms. Flynn explained how staff is working to ensure that students read challenging books. The group also briefly discussed how libraries are changing to meet changing uses and needs, both in terms of facilities as well as in the format of the library collections being used by students.

**F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:09 PM)**

1. School Board 2019 Budget Direction

Dr. Kanninen confirmed there have been no changes since this item was presented for information. *Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the School Board's 2019 Budget Direction*, 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. Process to Develop Criteria for the APS Naming Policy 50-1.10: (8:09 PM)

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed process to develop criteria for School Board Policy 50-1.10 Naming of Facilities*, 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.

3. Charge and Appointments to the Building Level Planning Committee for the New Elementary School at Reed: (8:10 PM)

Mr. Chadwick highlighted four minor changes that have been made to the charge in response to feedback received, including addition of some civic associations, a reference to adequate outdoor space, language on adaptable functional spaces, and a process for the BLPC to provide feedback. He then briefly reviewed the timeline and confirmed all information is available on the web site.

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed charge and appointments to the Building Level Planning Committee for the new elementary school at Reed*, 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.

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (8:14 PM)**

1. Contract Award for Construction Management Advisor Services for the New Middle School at Stratford

Mr. Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented the proposed contract award, explaining the role the construction management advisor will serve.

He confirmed that three firms submitted proposals. Staff recommends awarding the contract to CMA services in the amount of \$699,479.

2. The Children's School Memorandum of Understanding: (8:15 PM)

Ms. Peterson presented the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), providing background information about The Children's School (TCS) and its partnership with APS. TCS is a non-profit cooperative day care program that offers below market tuition for staff, and partners with the APS Integration Station special education preschool to provide inclusion opportunities to students. Ms. Peterson confirmed that at the end of the 2017-18 school year, the programs will move out of the Reed facility as APS will be renovating the facility. APS and TCS have come to an agreement in principle to move together to another facility. APS will tuition for Integration Station students to attend TCS, and the two groups will work together to plan new space. Ms. Peterson confirmed the MOU for this arrangements is under legal review, and the goal is to bring it to the Board for Action at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Board members appreciated the staff efforts and the cooperation between APS and TCS in working to continue this strong collaborative program.

**H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Barbara Kanninen, Chair  
Arlington School Board