

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Joint School Board/County Board Work Session
June 27, 2017

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 7:03 PM at 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Present were:

School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Reid Goldstein, Member
James Lander, Member
Tannia Talento, Member
Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

County Board

Jay Fisette, Chairman
Katie Cristol, Vice Chair
Christian Dorsey, Member
Libby Garvey, Member
John Vihstadt, Member
Mark Schwartz, County Manager
Hope Halleck, Clerk

Also present were:

John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Lisa Stengle, Director, Planning and Evaluation
Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction

1. Introduction: Framing the Conversation

Mr. Fisette called the meeting to order. Ms. Van Doren appreciated meeting with the County Board to receive the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) Phase 2 Status Report and recommendations. Thanking JFAC for their work, she acknowledged efforts to develop long-range plans to meet the community's growing needs. She reviewed the charge to JFAC and confirmed that their work informs development of both the County and Schools Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs). She also appreciated the emphasis given to collaborative projects that maximize opportunities, partnerships and long range planning. As APS is undergoing tremendous growth and will need more space to accommodate that growth, Ms. Van Doren looked forward to continued collaboration with the County and JFAC.

Mr. Fisette reviewed the meeting agenda and appreciated the ongoing collaboration between APS and the County. He confirmed the rapid growth occurring, as well as the scarcity of available sites in Arlington, and noted that although the County and APS have different needs, roles and responsibilities, both Boards recognize the value of collaboration in moving forward.

2. Superintendent Patrick K. Murphy and County Manager Mark Schwartz

- County and APS Growth and Facilities Needs

Mr. Schwartz described unmet facilities needs that the County anticipates in the next ten years, and reviewed JFAC involvement in efforts to address these needs. He also shared a sample of

the types of long-term needs the County anticipates beyond ten years. After thanking JFAC and the County for their collaboration, Dr. Murphy reviewed five school facilities slated to open in 2019 and additional projects APS has initiated to add capacity. He also outlined APS' anticipated future needs for facilities beyond the next ten years.

- Review of County-Schools Collaboration

Dr. Murphy shared highlights of collaboration between the County and APS in the areas of community services, health and safety, internal efficiencies, and facilities. Examples include the County supporting placement of relocatables at schools to accommodate growing enrollment, and there have been numerous facility and land transfers to better meet the needs in the County. Mr. Schwartz provided examples of these land transfers, and confirmed the County is committed to supporting APS.

3. Presentation of Phase 2 Report and Recommendations by the JFAC

Ginger Brown, JFAC Chair, and Greg Greeley, Vice Chair, presented the phase 2 report and recommendations. Mr. Greeley reviewed the JFAC charter and membership, and highlighted short-term tasks undertaken by the group. He described the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) properties being considered, noting that JFAC also looked at swapping county land for VHC properties. Of the VHC properties that were studied, the largest is the Carlin Springs property. JFAC also considered possible uses for the Buck property on N. Quincy Street, which is property that the County has taken an option to purchase. Mr. Greeley described the Buck property options, including a possible land swap for the County's Arcland/Shirlington site.

Ms. Brown reviewed the use determination process JFAC conducted to analyze the two sites, confirming that two phases have been completed. Phase 1 included briefings on key topics, hosting community roundtables, a bus tour, and analysis of the sites. In Phase 2, a use consideration and evaluation framework was developed and applied to the sites, resulting in development of five possible scenarios for each of the properties. Ms. Brown described the scenarios and shared community input. Confirming that the Buck C scenario was most favored, she summarized the JFAC recommendations. These are to acquire both sites, narrow the scenarios for further study, and complete additional analysis on possible uses for these sites, including transportation study and analysis.

4. Discussion and Direction to Staff

Ms. Brown and Mr. Greeley responded to questions about analysis of transportation options at the sites and uses considered for the Arcland site. The Boards were interested in the cost of site analyses, and the County estimated that it would cost approximately \$0.5 million per site. The group recognized issues for further analysis, such as traffic concerns at Carlin Springs and lack of space for playing fields at the sites. Mr. Schwartz shared County plans to address traffic safety at Carlin Springs and provided a timeline for possible use of both sites. Additional information was shared about the sites, and the group discussed the proposed use of some land for bus parking, asking for further consideration of this option.

Mr. Fisette confirmed that additional work is needed to determine the feasibility of building a school at either site. The group discussed possible use of existing buildings at the Buck site,

and how development of that property might be affected if APS develops the Education Center. Ms. Brown noted that Buck C would have the lowest traffic impact, and suggested coordinating traffic studies if both Buck and the Education Center are developed. The group also discussed further exploration of the Arcland swap, and asked about what would happen to health services currently available at the Carlin Springs site if it is developed. Mr. Greeley confirmed VHC will relocate those services elsewhere in south Arlington, and also noted that the Carlin Springs site will not be available before June 2018. The group briefly discussed how this timeline would fit with the CIP development processes. Dr. Murphy confirmed that APS staff and the community were fully involved in this review process and he recognized the need to think about alternative transportation, as anticipated growth will make bus parking more challenging.

The general sense of the Boards was to direct both staffs to continue analyzing Buck scenario C, and to further explore options A and C for Carlin Springs. The County Board expressed interest in looking at the Arcland/Shirlington site to address parking needs that have been identified. The Boards supported early traffic analysis at both sites, but particularly at Carlin Springs. Mr. Fisette also suggested examining space utilization at the Trade Center, and Ms. Brown agreed that should be part of the longer-term process. The Boards agreed with JFAC's recommendation to study long-term and complementary uses for both of these sites.

5. Discussion and Direction to JFAC

Board members agreed with the proposed next steps to look at needs for both the County and APS and to identify potential sites for growth. Ms. Van Doren asked for impact studies of all sites considered, asking for recommendations by 2019. Ms. Garvey encouraged JFAC to be creative and flexible, as future needs may change. To prepare for the upcoming CIP processes, Board members encouraged JFAC to incorporate projections and demographics information in the studies. Both Boards acknowledged challenges ahead and looked to JFAC to support efforts to meet the needs on both sides. Ms. Cristol suggested developing a taxonomy and defining terms to strengthen communication and understanding. All agreed with the need to do what is best for the County and to keep in mind how long it takes to build a school.

5. Next Steps for Long-Term Planning

Summarizing the discussion, JFAC was asked to clarify and update numbers and needs, to design a work plan in collaboration with County planners, and to clarify terms used in describing options. Mr. Fisette confirmed that JFAC's role is to identify and explore options and to provide advice, and both Boards appreciated the good work that JFAC has done in preparing this report and the recommendations.

The meeting adjourned 9:06 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Nancy Van Doren, Chair
Arlington School Board