

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
March 8, 2018

Item D-1-c

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 5:05 PM at 1426 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair
Monique O’Grady, Member
Tannia Talento, Member
Nancy Van Doren, Member (arr. 5:15 PM)
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

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

A. CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Principal, Drew Model Elementary School and Interim Director of Early Childhood and Elementary Education as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2- 3711(A)(1), seconded by Ms. Talento. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively. Ms. Van Doren was not present at the vote.

The closed meeting adjourned at 5:38 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. The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Doren and was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

The Board recessed briefly to move to Room 101 to join the Student Advisory Board meeting. The students shared feedback on topics and initiatives they are working on this school year.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING: 6:30 PM

Also present were:

¹ Videos 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.

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 Nattrass, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

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

Ms. Pam Farrell, Supervisor, Visual and Performing Arts, shared a brief video of arts activities in APS. The Yorktown Jazz Ensemble then performed in recognition of Arts in the Schools Month. County Treasurer Carla de la Pava congratulated the finalists in the County Decal Contest, and presented the Board with artwork.

4. Announcements

Dr. Kanninen announced that the School Board will hold a Committee of the Whole Meeting, 8:30 AM on March 16 in the School Board Conference Room.

Ms. Van Doren read a statement on behalf of the Board, reassuring the community that the Board and all of Arlington Public Schools is focused on ensuring the safety of all students and families. Dr. Kanninen appreciated the school staff and community for coming together in such a difficult time.

Dr. Murphy also spoke about safety and summarized efforts in place to keep students safe. He announced upcoming events and congratulated the Wakefield Boys Basketball team for their accomplishments. After outlining the Budget development process and upcoming budget meetings, he announced registration opportunities for pre-kindergarten, elementary options, and summer school. He also shared information about the Boys of Color Leadership Conference.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:21 PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Goldstein. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. O'Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. February 9, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting (corrected)
2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Changes in Position/Salary
- 1 Classification Request
Information Systems Analyst (Planning & Evaluation)

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 6 Appointments
- 5 Resignations
- 1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
- 5 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Resignation

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 5 Appointments
- 3 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Retirements

- 3. Briefing Reports:
 - a. Mathematics Brief
- 4. Final Design for Yorktown Internal Modifications
- 5. Randolph Window Replacement Phase 2 Contract Award
- 6. Determination to use Construction Management at Risk Delivery Method for the Education Center Renovation
- 7. Contract Amendment for Construction Management Advisor (CMA) Services for the Abingdon Project
- 8. Appointment to Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices

Dr. Kanninen announced that as a part of consent, the Board appointed Kimberley Graves as Principal, Drew Model Elementary School, and reappointed Wendy Pilch as Interim Director, Early Childhood and Elementary Education. She also announced the appointment of Mr. David McBride to the ACTC, and highlighted the Math briefing that was received.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:27 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board, sharing information about an Earth Force Project to promote composting at schools, describing how this project will help protect the environment and encouraging the Board and APS to support the program:

Ellie Rosenberg, Gunston student

Brita Hodges, Gunston student
Christine Gillen, Gunston student
Ava Figuerado, Gunston student

The following speakers addressed the Board on the proposed budget, asking that lead teacher and arts specialist positions be maintained and explaining how these staff support student learning, provide professional development and strengthen the arts program:

Brian Bersh, Yorktown teacher
Jina Davidson, Wakefield teacher
Mary-Hannah Klontz, Swanson music teacher

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Josh Folb, parent and teacher, AEA member: sharing concerns about potential reductions in force and technology costs and suggesting funds would be better used to support staff.

Ann Marie Douglass, Claremont/Gunston parent: concerning the use of technology in schools, encouraging more indoor and outdoor activities and less screen time for students, and asking that parents be informed about how much time students are using devices.

The following speakers also addressed the Board, stating concerns about the elementary school planning initiative process and suggesting that APS take time to gather more information and explore options more thoroughly before deciding on changes:

Christopher Hernandez, Tuckahoe parent
Dawn Jessen, Tuckahoe parent

Tia Alfred, Williamsburg parent: concern about her daughter's experience at school, asking for cultural competence/diversity training and stronger efforts throughout the schools to ensure safety, respect and comfort for all students.

Chips Johnson, resident: speaking on the Reed project, sharing some concerns about the process, encouraging the Board to select the integrated scheme in spite of costs, and suggesting a few options for managing the cost.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:54 PM)

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

Dr. Murphy introduced this update on the status of current initiatives. Dr. Natrass provided an update on policy revisions related to acceptable use of technology, outlining the process in place to review and revise existing policies. She also summarized the status and timeline for developing the inclusion policy. Dr. Murphy then shared the status of preparations for new schools and program moves, including highlights of the timeline for the projects. He also summarized the status of projects related to operational planning initiatives and capital initiatives. Mr. Chadwick

provided an update on the Reed project status, confirming that the project estimates were higher than available funding. Plans are to continue discussion of the project with the Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) and the Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) to look at options to reduce costs.

Responding to questions, Dr. Natrass provided more detail on the acceptable use policies and Dr. Murphy confirmed that transfer opportunities are still available for Arlington Tech. Mr. Chadwick outlined plans for expanding the Career Center and Arlington Tech, and described the integrated scheme for Reed. The group discussed the designs for Reid that have been shared with the community and recognized that escalation of construction costs are affecting plans for many projects. Ms. O'Grady, liaison to the Reed project, noted issues that have been identified, appreciated the work of the committees and community, and encouraged continued discussion. Dr. Kanninen confirmed that no decisions have been made on elementary options, and staff continues to gather information to present to the Board in April.

2. School Health Advisory Board Update: (8:37 PM)

Dr. Laura Newton, Director, Student Services, and School Health Advisory Board (SHAB) Chair Vera Cardinale presented the update. Dr. Newton reviewed the SHAB profile, leadership, members, and the meeting schedule. She also summarized the issues that SHAB considers. Ms. Cardinale then presented highlights of SHAB's work, including developing a wellness policy and policy implementation procedure, drafting allergy and anaphylaxis guidelines, implementation of a hand-washing policy, and efforts to promote healthy eating and exercise. She also highlighted initiatives that SHAB continues to work on such as improving indoor air quality, addressing asthma and absenteeism, and identifying SHAB liaisons to each school.

The Board recognized the importance of SHAB and the work they do. Responding to questions, Ms. Cardinale reviewed SHAB's efforts to address obesity, and School Health Physician Dr. Sam Stebbins shared information on childhood obesity data and county efforts to address this issue. The group also discussed the guidelines that SHAB has developed on food allergies, and Dr. Natrass updated the Board on how these guidelines and expectations are being reviewed and implemented in APS. Also discussed was ensuring that recess opportunities are provided consistently in all schools. Other topics briefly discussed were turf fields and the state initiative to have wellness councils in the schools.

3. Arlington Facilities and Student Accommodation Plan (AFSAP) and the 2019-28 Capital Improvement Plan Framework (CIP): (9:00 PM)

Ms. Stengle presented the AFSAP and the CIP framework, first summarizing the information in these documents and reviewing enrollment history and current enrollment. Projections for all grade levels through the 2026-2027 school year were presented, and Ms. Stengle shared projections of permanent seats available over that timeframe based on current class size. She confirmed that these figures include seats that will be added based on the projects in the current CIP.

Ms. Stengle then presented the annual update, reviewing program moves and transfers that have been put in place to better balance enrollment. She then spoke to development of the new CIP, reviewing current projects and how they will affect plans, and she highlighted areas where seats are needed and how staff will analyze options. In closing, she reviewed next steps in the CIP development process.

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about adding a class to Arlington Traditional School (ATS), opposing additional relocatables, and asking for further study options before deciding whether to add students:

Hallie Zimmers, ATS parent
Kenny Kraft, ATS parent and ambassador
Lisa Donahue, ATS parent
Maura McKinley Tull, ATS parent
Brian Stout, ATS parent
Lisa Moneymaker, ATS PTA president and parent
Matt Armstrong, ATS parent

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

Cynthia Hilton, Arlington Heights resident: supporting a comprehensive high school at the Career Center site, and asking the Board to allow the Career Center Working Group to provide their report before finalizing the CIP.

Responding to questions, Ms. Stengle described how projections are developed, outlining information that is analyzed and changes made to strengthen the process, including more collaboration with the County. She described how enrollment at options schools is determined. The group discussed the impact of crowding in the schools, how option programs are being managed, use of relocatables, and what is done with excess relocatables. Ms. Stengle also responded to questions to clarify how this information will inform the development of the CIP.

F. ACTION ITEM: (9:47 PM)

1. Revision of Select School Board Policies
 - a. School Board Policy 35-4.1 Human Relations – Employee Assistance Program
 - b. Policy 35-4.3 Workplace Violence

Dr. K. Murphy reviewed minor changes that were made to the policy in response to Board questions that were asked when this item was presented for information.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Ingrid Gant, AEA president: urging the Board to support these policies which will empower and help strengthen support for employees.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board adopt the revisions to School Board Policy 35-4.1 Human Relations – Employee Assistance Program and School Board Policy 35-4.3 Workplace Violence, seconded by Ms. Van Doren. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Dr. Kanninen, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. O’Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:52 PM)

1. ~~Final Design and Construction Contract Award Full GMP for the New Middle School at Stratford – REMOVED FROM AGENDA~~
2. ~~Concept Design for the New Elementary School at Reed – REMOVED FROM AGENDA~~
3. ~~Open Air Market at Barrett- REMOVED FROM AGENDA~~
4. Wakefield High School Upgrade and Reconfiguration of Chemical Safety Devices

Mr. Chadwick explained this item, confirming that the proposed upgrade and reconfiguration of devices is to strengthen safety practices at Wakefield. He confirmed this item will come back to the Board for Action at the next meeting..

5. Temporary License Agreement for Fleet Parking at Jefferson: (9:54 PM)

Mr. Chadwick briefly reviewed this item which will provide temporary parking for buses and staff at the Jefferson site while Fleet Elementary School is being constructed. Responding to questions, he confirmed that APS collaborates with the County to ensure traffic safety at the site. He also shared more specific information about the location of temporary parking.

6. ~~The Children’s School Letter of Intent: REMOVED FROM AGENDA.~~

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board