

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
June 7, 2018

Item C-1-e

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 6:00 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹ Prior to the meeting, Board members attended a reception for APS Retirees.

Present were:

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair
Monique O’Grady, 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, Teaching and Learning
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

A. CLOSED MEETING: NONE

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:

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

The Board recognized the JROTC cadets and Colonel Scott Dierlam for their achievements this school year. The Board then recognized APS Retirees and thanked them for their dedication.

Ms. Talento thanked the Student Advisory Board (SAB) for their work this year. SAB Chair Jacob Hall presented the Annual Report, reviewing topics that the group discussed such as personal devices, transportation, student rights, school based

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.

discussions on diversity, and stronger communications with the Board. In closing, Mr. Hall reviewed the recommendations for moving forward.

4. Announcements

Mr. Goldstein shared announcements of events and activities at his liaison schools.

5. Superintendent's Announcements and Update

Dr. Murphy provided information about summer school, shared upcoming dates for special events such as promotions and the last day of school. He encouraged all to continue to be safe, and he reminded middle school families that tDAP vaccinations are required. He then provided an update on the priorities in the APS 2017-18 Action Plan in the areas of new policies and policy revisions, preparations for new schools and program moves, operational planning, and capital initiatives.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (6:57 PM)

Ms. Talento moved for adoption of the consent agenda, seconded by Ms. O'Grady. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, 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. March 3, 2018 Budget Work Session #3
- b. April 3, 2018 Budget Work Session #5
- c. May 5, 2018 Joint School Board and County Board Retreat
- d. May 30, 2018 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel Actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 18 Resignations
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Rescind Resignation
- 1 Resignation with Prejudice
- 11 Terminations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 2 Resignations

3. ~~Briefing Report: English/Language Arts~~ REMOVED FROM AGENDA

4. ~~Change to GMP for the New School at Wilson~~ MOVED TO ACTION

5. Appointment to the Career Center Working Group

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (6:58 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Dean Fleming, alumnus: speaking about trust and the responsibility of a School Board to make decisions that represent the community.

Jamie Beletz, parent: Appreciating staff who provide special education services in APS, but sharing some concerns about the Special Education program.

Mike Webb, citizen: speaking about redemption and accepting that individuals can change.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:06 PM)

1. Elementary Planning Initiative Update:

Gladis Bourdouane, Project Planner, presented the update, confirming that boundaries are revised to manage growing enrollment and to create attendance zones for new schools. Two processes are planned; the first is for attendance zones for Alice Fleet Elementary School and the neighborhood elementary school at Drew opening in September 2019. The second process will create the attendance zone for the new elementary school at Reed. Ms. Bourdouane reviewed timelines for these processes and identified schools that will be involved. She described considerations for schools and shared highlights of the boundary policy considerations. In closing, she reviewed community engagement and the timeline and outcomes for boundary processes.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Lisa Owings, parent: asking that all Patrick Henry students be moved to Alice Fleet School when it opens and sharing student letters expressing this desire.

Mai Robertson, parent: Asking that Science Focus be turned into a neighborhood school with a dedicated walk zone, describing benefits of this suggestion.

The following speakers also addressed the Board, noting concerns and asking the Board to look more broadly at all elementary schools and programs and address issues across the county fairly:

Cara Troup, parent

Steven Leutner, parent

Responding to questions, Ms. Stengle plans to move forward and highlighted opportunities for Board feedback. Recognizing difficult decisions ahead, the Board acknowledged the need for a holistic approach and ongoing engagement so families understand decisions that are made. Board members asked staff to explore revising

all attendance zones at once and phasing in changes as new schools open. Ms. Stengle confirmed staff will continue to work and will update the Board in August.

2. Annual Report of the Advisory Council on Instruction (ACI): (7:46 PM)

Meredith Purple, ACI Co-chair, presented the report. She thanked co-chair Tina Kuklenski-Miller and Ms. Van Doren as Board liaison for their support. After reviewing the ACI priorities previously shared with the Board, Ms. Purple provided an overview of additional areas of focus this past year. She presented ACI recommendations for the coming year, which include a proposed policy waiver as the ACI works to streamline processes and membership. Appreciating the ACI's contributions, Dr. Natrass shared staff responses to the priorities and described actions that have been taken to implement these recommendations.

Board members appreciated the work of the ACI, and thanked them for their recommendations and efforts to improve the committee's work. Board members encouraged community members to consider joining the ACI.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:02 PM)

1. Superintendent's Recommended 2018-2024 Strategic Plan:

Dr. Natrass presented an overview of the proposed Strategic Plan, thanking the Strategic Plan Steering committee and co-chairs Meredith Purple and Ted Black. She reviewed the strategic plan development process and highlighted community engagement and the work of the steering committee. She then shared the proposed Mission, Vision and Core Values and the proposed goals of multiple pathways to success for all students; healthy, safe and supported students; an engaged workforce; operational excellence; and strong and mutually supportive partnerships.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Mike Webb, citizen: appreciating the importance of a mission statement and how important it is in informing the work of the community.

Michael Beer, parent: appreciating the mission, vision and core values statements, and commenting on some additional areas he would like to see in the plan.

Noting that the proposed plan does not mention high academic standards, Ms. Van Doren asked how these standards will be addressed. Dr. Natrass and Mr. Black explained that the steering committee focused on high academic standards as they drafted the goals, and confirmed the group chose the proposed wording as it is inclusive of all children and looks to address the needs of the whole child.

Mr. Goldstein moved that the School Board adopt the mission, vision, core values, and goals of the 2018-2024 strategic plan as presented. He further moved that the Superintendent bring forward final strategies and performance objectives of the

strategic plan for School Board approval no later than September 2018, seconded by Ms. O’Grady.

Acknowledging the committee’s work, Mr. Goldstein appreciated the process and the proposed plan. He also recognized that there will be opportunities to refine this plan.

Ms. Van Doren moved that the Board revise the Mission statement of the proposed Strategic Plan to include “with high academic standards” and adopt this revised Mission statement as part of the present motion, so that the mission statement reads: “To ensure all students learn and thrive with high academic standards in safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments.” The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento.

Ms. Van Doren explained that she is proposing this amendment to reflect the APS commitment to every student. Ms. Talento appreciated committee’s explanation of why they did not include high academic standards in the mission statement, but felt it should be included as it encourages all students to achieve. Ms. O’Grady appreciated the intent of the proposed amendment but stated she supports the plan as presented. Mr. Goldstein also acknowledged the importance of high academic standards, but noted there will be opportunities to refine efforts to ensure that high standards remain a focus. Dr. Kanninen stated her support for the committee’s proposed statement and appreciated their careful deliberation in drafting the plan.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote on the motion to amend, and the motion was defeated in a vote of 2-3, with Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively and Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen and Ms. O’Grady opposing.

Ms. O’Grady spoke to the main motion, noting that equity is included and looking forward to working to ensure that equity remains a focus. Ms. Van Doren stated her support for the proposed plan and vowed to work to support all students. She also asked about community input in the development of the strategies, outcomes and objectives. Dr. Natrass stated that proposed strategies, outcomes and objectives have been drafted with significant community input, and Dr. Murphy confirmed that work will continue to refine these as the plan moves forward. Ms. Talento continued to express concern that addressing the achievement gap is not specifically identified in the plan, and stated she will look for verification that it does continue to be a focus.

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

2. REMOVED FROM AGENDA
3. Revision of School Board Policy 20-3.400 Family Life Education: (8:42 PM)

Ms. Debbie DeFranco, Supervisor, Health and Physical Education, confirmed that this revision was to remove operational information from the policy and transferred to the policy implementation procedure.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Mike Webb, citizen: encouraging the Board to look more broadly at incorporating family life goals throughout the school programs.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed revision of School Board Policy 2-3.400 Family Life Education, seconded by Mr. Goldstein. Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

4. Revision of School Board Policy 20-3.600 High School Credit at Middle School: (8:45 PM)

Mr. Tyrone Byrd, Director, Secondary Education summarized the proposed revision, confirming that this change provides students flexibility in deciding whether to include credit earned in middle school towards their diploma.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed Revision of School Board Policy 20-3.600 High School Credit at Middle School, seconded by Ms. O'Grady. Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Dr. Kanninen suggested and the Board agreed to hear Information Item G-3 for action at this time.

3. Revision of School Board Policy 20-1.9 Locally Awarded Verified Credit: (8:46 PM)

Mr. Byrd presented the proposed revisions to this policy which responds to changes by the Virginia Department of Education to state standards. The changes to this policy relate to criteria for earning locally verified credits.

Responding to a question, Mr. Byrd confirmed that by approving on this revision at this meeting, some students will have an opportunity to graduate this June instead of in August. Board members stated their support for this action.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed Revision of School Board Policy 20-1.9 Locally Awarded Verified Credit, seconded by Ms. O'Grady.

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

Dr. Kanninen called for a brief recess and the Board reconvened at 9:05 PM.

5. Revision of School Board Policy 50-1.10 Naming of Facilities: (9:05 PM)

Ms. Erdos summarized the proposed revision and reviewed the proposed criteria for selecting names for school facilities. These criteria are names of individuals, geographical names, and names based on other considerations such as names that articulate aspirations or reflect the instructional focus of the school. She also reviewed the proposed process for addressing school names that do not meet the criteria.

The following speakers addressed the Board, stating concerns about changing the name of Washington-Lee High School. Some speakers commented on Lee's legacy, and asked for a community process to determine if the name should change:

Lynne Lilly, alumna
Tom Hafer, alumnus
Bernard Berne, alumnus
George Dodge, alumnus
Dean Fleming, alumnus
Betsy Lockman, alumna
Philip Bjorlo, alumnus
Nathan Brinkman, parent and resident

The following speakers addressed the Board in support of the proposed revision of the naming policy and supporting changing the name of Washington-Lee:

Tom Jensen, parent
Andrew Douglass, parent
Natalie Roy, parent
Terron Sims II, resident
Malcolm Douglass, Washington-Lee student
Dana Raphael, alumna

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

John McIntire, parent: suggesting that APS should phase out schools named for individuals, and just using names of locations or aspirational considerations.

Ms. O'Grady made the following motion:

I move to approve the proposed revisions to Arlington Public Schools Policy 50-1.10 Naming of Facilities. These revisions include the expanded criteria to be used in selecting the name for APS schools and facilities and the added process for the School Board when considering future school re-naming requests, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

Mr. Goldstein proposed the following amendment to the policy criteria to clarify that a school named for a location could be changed:

I move that the following statement should be added to paragraph c to the section on geographical or historical relationships:

c) The principal legacy (i.e. the key activity or significance for which the site is known) aligns with or reflects the APS mission, Vision and core values and beliefs.”

The group discussed whether the revised policy as proposed would allow an individual to request that a school named after a location be renamed, and the consensus was that it would be allowed without this amendment.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote on the proposed amendment and the motion failed in a vote of 2 – 3 with Mr. Goldstein and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively, and Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the motion on the policy revision was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

Ms. O’Grady made the following motion:

I move to approve the Staff Naming Committee’s recommendation for re-naming Washington-Lee High School because Robert E. Lee’s name does not meet the with the newly-adopted APS School Naming Criteria and to direct the Superintendent to initiate a community process to rename Washington-Lee High School that aligns with the naming criteria in School Board Policy 50-1.10.

I further direct the Superintendent to identify members of the Washington-Lee High School Re-Naming Committee, by September 2018. The School Re-Naming Committee will be charged to work through the fall of 2018, in accordance with the Arlington Public Schools’ Naming of Facilities Implementation Procedures 50-1.10, and to submit a recommendation for a new name for Washington-Lee by December 2018, for consideration and approval by the School Board, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

Ms. O’Grady thanked the staff and committee for their work and stated her support for the proposal to change the name as it will honor all students. She recognized the importance of learning from the past and confirmed that students in Arlington will continue to learn about Robert E. Lee. She acknowledged that when the school was named, the sentiments and beliefs about race were very different than current beliefs, and she reiterated the importance of treating all students with respect and providing equal opportunities for all. She encouraged the community to work together to select a new name that reflects the values, goals and aspirations of APS.

Mr. Goldstein stated concerns with the proposed motion related to how the revised policy will be implemented and the timing of written requests to rename the school. He suggested more time was needed and proposed the following substitute motion:

I move to direct the Superintendent to develop a basis for initiating a school naming process that will use the adopted criteria in recommending a name. I further move to direct the Superintendent to appoint a committee to review any submitted renaming

request and provide a recommendation to the School Board as appropriate. The motion was seconded by Ms. Talento.

Ms. Erdos reviewed past naming processes, and shared a written request to rename Washington-Lee. The group discussed how naming requests have been handled in the past and the Board's responsibility to provide direction to initiate a naming process.

Dr. Kanninen called for a vote and the substitute motion was defeated in a vote of 1 - 4, with Mr. Goldstein voting affirmatively and Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady, Ms. Talento and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

Ms. Van Doren encouraged the Board and community to work together to move forward and to set a good example for the students. Board members confirmed they have read all letters received, and understand concerns that have been expressed by both sides. They expressed hope that the community can come together with a compromise that represents the values of the community. Mr. Goldstein spoke to the history of Robert E. Lee, and explained why he believed the name should be changed.

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

6. Change to the Guarantees Maximum Price for the New School at Wilson: (10:22 PM)

Mr. Chadwick briefly summarized the proposed change order and the funding adjustment requested with this change. Board members reviewed the process for presenting consent items and the sharing of information with the public.

Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the change to the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the New School at Wilson, seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

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

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:26 PM)

1. School Board's Proposed 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan:

Ms. Stengle presented the School Board's Proposed 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan, briefly reviewed the priorities and the process to develop this plan. She then outlined the projects and plans included in the proposed CIP, highlighting seats to be added at each level. Ms. Peterson then explained the funding needed to implement the plan and summarized bond funding for the proposed CIP. She also reviewed the use of relocatables and provided information about debt service over the CIP timeline. She then highlighted opportunities for County and Schools collaboration, and reviewed next steps in the CIP process.

The following speakers addressed the Board, asking that the CIP include a comprehensive high school at the Career Center with the same amenities as the other comprehensive schools:

Megan Haydasz, parent
Christine Brittle, parent
Monica Ullagaddi, parent
Christopher Gabel, parent
Heather Zepeda, parent
Mark Bayer, parent
Jeremy Dutra, parent
Matthew Ambrose, parent
Erin Wasiak, parent
Christian Brittle, parent
Kristi Sawert, parent
Andrea Lehn, parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Audrey Clement, resident: Appreciating the need for added capacity for students, but asking APS to build less expensive facilities.

Michael Beer, resident: thanking the Board, staff and community for their efforts on the CIP, and encouraging the Board to look for ways to increase CIP funding.

Kathleen McSweeney, Career Center Working Group (CCWG) Chair: commenting on both the CIP and the CCWG, confirming the CCWG will provide a thorough report, and appreciating the education that APS provides to students.

Appreciating community concerns, Board members confirmed that they are focused on providing all students with a quality education, and to provide options that allow all students to attend a school that best meets their needs. Mr. Goldstein noted that although the Career Center plans do not include a school with full amenities at first, it is a phased project that can be expanded. Ms. Talento asked about the impact of changing the timing of the field and parking garage and staff agreed to bring information on this to the next work session. Mr. Chadwick described how the cost for the Career Center project compares to the Wakefield renovation, noting several limitations. Dr. Kanninen reviewed the projects in the proposed CIP and reiterated it is updated every two years. She acknowledged the strong programs at the Career Center, and encouraged all to work together to find a solution for this site. She then reviewed next steps in the CIP approval process.

2. Proposed School Board Policy 40-3.1 Unpaid Meal Charges: (11:32 PM)

Ms. Peterson presented the proposed policy, required to meet USDA and Code of Virginia requirements to establish a process that provides for children who cannot pay for meals, and for collection of unpaid charges.

4. Revision of School Board Policy 25-1.12 School Hours/Compulsory Attendance: (11:35 PM)

Dr. Laura Newton, Director, Student Services, explained the changes being proposed for Policy 25-1.12 to better align the policy with the Code of Virginia. The group briefly discussed requirements for school attendance. Dr. Newton agreed to review the policy to ensure that the reference to religious exemption is clear.

5. License Agreement for Historic Markers at the Drew Property: (11:41 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented the proposal to allow the County to place historical panels about the Nauck community on APS property at Drew Model School. He confirmed there are no costs to APS for these panels, and the County will be responsible for the markers. He also confirmed the design focused on ensuring student safety.

Board members asked about community involvement in developing this plan, as the space is heavily used. Mr. Chadwick agreed to bring back information about community engagement conducted by the County for this project.

6. Contract Amendment for Architecture and Engineering Services for the Yorktown High School Internal Modifications: (11:50 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented this item, explaining that this funding will be used for services for added security at the Yorktown vestibule. He summarized the cost for this project and reviewed the staff recommendation.

7. Verizon Easement for Barrett Elementary School: (11:52 PM)

Mr. Chadwick presented this item which is needed so that Verizon service can be provided to Barrett Elementary School.

I. NEW BUSINESS: (11:54 PM)

Mr. Goldstein informed his Board colleagues that he will propose that closeout funds be used for a one-time position in the Board office to support the Chair in the coming year. Board members looked forward to further discussion and consideration of this proposal.

J. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board