

# **Advisory Council on Instruction (ACI)**

Department of Teaching and Learning Updates

October 3, 2018

The Arlington Public Schools supports learning opportunities for **all residents of Arlington County and recognizes that the philosophy of lifelong learning benefits everyone in the community; children, youth, and adults.**

These opportunities, limited by available funding and space, may include:

1. Professional, personal, and extended learning courses and programs designed to meet the identified needs of adults residing in Arlington County,
2. English-language courses for limited English proficient (LEP) adults residing and/or working in Arlington County and to others on a contract basis,
3. Family literacy programs for LEP parents of children attending Arlington Public Schools, and
4. **General Education Development (GED) courses to prepare adults to successfully pass the GED exam and receive their high school equivalency credential.**

These opportunities are largely self-supporting through fees, tuition, and grants. The Arlington Public Schools supports these opportunities through the provision of classroom space and some administrative services.

The Arlington Public Schools provides instructional strategies that are relevant, engaging, and challenging; that seek to develop in-depth understanding; and that are based on current research on best practice including providing services to special populations in settings of general populations as much as feasible; encouraging diversity within classes and discouraging narrow range grouping.

The policy, previously adopted in 2007, is a general statement covered within other policies, including:

[I-7.2.5.31 Support, Resources, and Extended Time](#)

[I-7.2.9.30 Program Differentiation](#)

[I-I.7.2.9.31 Advanced Classes](#)

The Arlington Public Schools instructional program provides instructional strategies that

1. Are relevant, engaging, and challenging
2. Seek to develop in-depth understanding
3. Are based on current best practices research
4. Utilize high quality instructional materials and resources, including the use of volunteers
5. Recognize the value of diverse learning styles, cultures, and backgrounds
6. Integrates the appropriate use of technology

## Background & Purpose

- Define a variety of entry points to the APS instructional programs found across all schools and grade levels.
- Ensure all families and students have access to information about APS schools and programs and how they align as students matriculate through the system.

## Timeline:

- I. Develop the draft vision (Late Fall 2018)
- II. Gather community input on draft vision (Winter 2018/19)
- III. Implementation - use the pathways to propose the focus for specific school programs, ensuring each school is in alignment