

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
October 4, 2018

Item C-1-d

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, October 4, 2018, at 6:02 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Tannia Talento, Vice Chair (arr. 6:15 PM)
Barbara Kanninen, Member (arr. 6:03 PM)
Monique O’Grady, Member
Nancy Van Doren, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present was:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Goldstein moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Ms. Van Doren. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 - 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively. Dr. Kanninen and Ms. Talento were not present at the vote.

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

Mr. Goldstein moved to certify that to the best of his 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. Talento 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; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

Mr. Goldstein moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to discuss one P-scale appointment, five T-scale appointments, two A-scale appointments, two support services appointments, three support service suspensions and two support services resignations as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), 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.

¹ 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.

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

Mr. Goldstein moved to certify that to the best of his 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; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

Mr. Goldstein called for a recess, and the Board reconvened in open session at 7:01 PM.

B. REGULAR MEETING:

Also present were:

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Linda Erdos, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation
Jeannette Allen, Director, Administrative Services
Tyrone Byrd, Supervisor, Secondary Education

1. Call to Order
2. Recognitions:

Several students, accompanied by Anthony Hyman, Summer Literacy Coordinator and Math Instructor at Gunston Middle School, shared their experiences at the Summer Literacy Academy. In recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month, eight students from APS secondary programs were recognized for their leadership and accomplishments.

3. Announcements

- October 10, 2018, Work Session on Elementary Boundaries, 7 PM, Rooms 254-256-258
- October 12, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting, 8:30 AM, School Board Conference Room

Ms. Van Doren announced the upcoming APS Dyslexia Conference. Ms. O’Grady shared that Escuela Key Principal Marleny Perdomo made a special presentation on immersion at the Center for Applied Linguistics. She also congratulated Wakefield High School for their successful Back-to-School night.

Dr. Kanninen announced that Washington-Lee teachers Danielle Meyer and Chris Taylor were present as part of their participation in the Educational Leadership Cohort at Longwood University. Ms. Talento spoke about the history of Hispanic Heritage Month, and encouraged the community to celebrate all communities and cultures. Mr. Goldstein announced events and activities at several of his liaison schools.

4. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Announcing that October is Bullying Prevention Month, Dr. Murphy shared tips on dealing with bullying. He also announced Virginia Farm to School Week, the APS College Fair, and Walk and Bike to School Day. He invited all to attend the upcoming Harvesting Dreams event and the Dyslexia Conference, and reviewed other activities. Updates on the 2018-19 School Board Action plan were then shared in the areas of new policies and policy revisions, operational planning, new schools and program moves, and capital initiatives.

C. **CONSENT AGENDA: (7:44 PM)**

Mr. Goldstein announced that, as requested by Ms. Van Doren, Item C-2 Personnel Actions was removed from the consent agenda to be taken up immediately after Consent.

Ms. Talento moved for adoption of the consent agenda with the exception of item 2, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. 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. July 2, 2018 Organizational Meeting, School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
 - b. August 2, 2018 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
 - c. September 14, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting
 - d. September 15, 2018 School Board Retreat
3. ~~Grants and Restricted Programs: REMOVED FROM AGENDA~~
4. Appointments to the Washington-Lee Renaming Committee
5. Revision of School Board Policy J-5.3.30 Admission and Placement
6. Appointments to the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices

C. **2. Personnel Actions**

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt item 2, Personnel Actions, seconded by Ms. O'Grady.

Ms. Van Doren explained that she had concerns about some of the personnel actions and looked forward for an opportunity to discuss those concerns. Mr. Goldstein confirmed that the Board will do so. Mr. Goldstein then called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0, with one abstention, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively, and Ms. Van Doren abstaining.

Mr. Goldstein announced that as a part of consent, Erin Wales-Smith was appointed Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:50 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Alain Lapter, Key parent: opposing the proposed swap of Key School and Arlington Science Focus School and ask

Joshua Folb, Chair, Arlington Education Association (AEA) Compensation Committee: sharing concerns about the decline in APS compensation levels compared to other local jurisdictions and asking the Board to work with the AEA to address these concerns.

Amelia Black, Drew neighbor: commenting on the proposed boundary for Drew School and the high percentage of high poverty families that would be assigned to the school.

Erica Simon-Gross, Fort Myer and Long Branch: opposing redistricting Fort Myer neighborhoods to Hoffman-Boston, commenting specifically on how this will impact military families.

July Caracas, Key parent: opposing the proposed swap of Key School and Arlington Science Focus School, describing how this will negatively affect Hispanic families in the Spanish immersion program.

Ann Marie Douglass, parent: asking for a full evaluation of the 1 to 1 technology program, stating concerns about student’s overexposure to devices, and encouraging APS to upgrade to the Ios 12 operating system.

Dr. Murphy responded briefly to some of the concerns that were expressed by speakers.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:10 PM)

1. Final Report from the Career Center Working Group

Chair Kathleen McSweeney presented the final report from the Career Center Working Group (CCWG). She acknowledged the hard work of all members, including the County Board and School Board liaisons, and reviewed the CCWG charge, process, timeline, and focus. After describing the Career Center site, Ms. McSweeney highlighted items that impacted the CCWG’s recommendations. She also shared the CCWG’s overall vision for the site for the near-term and long-term, and reviewed the committee’s recommendations in terms of facilities, open space,

building design and sustainability, and other features. Site phasing recommendations were also shared including ideas for the Public Library.

Encouraging the School and County Boards to continue collaborating on this project, Ms. McSweeney then presented next steps recommended by the working group. These include conducting a visioning process to identify school and other building sites for the future, assessing field spaces and use, and conducting parking, transportation and TDM studies. In closing, Ms. McSweeney shared a proposed timeline going forward and shared the final sentence of the report which encourages cooperative and coordinated long-range planning to meet future needs.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Dr. Kristi Sawert, Arlington Heights Civic Association: thanking the CCWG for their work and sharing feedback from the community on aspects of the report.

Megan Haydasz, parent: advocating for a fourth comprehensive high school at the Career Center and sharing other suggestions for the site and planning process.

As liaison to the CCWG, Ms. Talento thanked the working group and the staff for their efforts and dedication. Other Board members also thanked the CCWG for their work, and the group discussed several topics in the report. Ms. McSweeney described how the CCWG considered all aspects of the project, including potential underground parking. She suggested that additional long-term planning be done. Dr. Kanninen encouraged collaboration with the County as the project moves forward and Ms. Van Doren supported an in-depth transportation study. Ms. O'Grady appreciated the focus on the site as the 'gem of the community' and noted opportunities for community involvement by students. Recognizing challenges facing APS and the County, Mr. Goldstein stressed the need to focus on a robust, long-term vision and planning to meet future needs. He reiterated the Board's appreciation for the CCWG and thanked Ms. McSweeney for her leadership.

2. Minor Construction/Major Maintenance Update: (9:21 PM)

Mr. Steven Bernheisel, Assistant Director, Maintenance Services, presented the report on Minor Construction and Major Maintenance (MC/MM). He described the MC/MM committee that determines projects to be included in the MC/MM each year. Mr. Michael Frida, Financial Analyst, then explained funding for MC/MM and project completion rates over the past three years. Next, Mr. Bernheisel described the types of projects undertaken under MC/MM and reviewed those completed in FY 2018. In closing, Mr. Bernheisel explained how projects are being selected for the next MC/MM and highlighted collaboration with the County.

Responding to questions, Mr. Bernheisel provided additional information about how decisions are made on projects to include in MC/MM, and Mr. Chadwick highlighted the maintenance schedule developed by staff to ensure that routine tasks are completed regularly. Other topics discussed were how donations from PTAs are

managed and the status of HVAC work throughout APS. Board members suggested bringing back an HVAC training program to Career Center. Additional information was provided to the Board on how projects are funded and managed.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (9:51 PM)

1. School Board's 2020 Budget Direction

Ms. Peterson summarized changes that have been made to the proposed FY 2020 budget direction, confirming that the changes were mainly edits to clarify the intent of the direction in the document.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Emily Vincent, Arlington Heights Civic Association: encouraging the Board to consider equity when looking at reductions and to base decisions on equity, not equality.

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the School Board's 2020 Budget Direction as edited, seconded by Ms. O'Grady.

Noting the addition of a step increase to the budget direction, Ms. Van Doren asked about a compensation increase for employees who do not benefit from a step, such as hourly workers or staff at the top of the pay scale. She also asked if direction for a step increase would prevent other compensation consideration. Ms. Peterson affirmed that this direction does not preclude an additional compensation increase and agreed to provide information to the Board on the cost of other compensation.

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

2. 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Performance Objectives: (10:03 PM)

Ms. Stengle presented the objectives, highlighting changes that have been made since the item was presented for Information. She noted that the most significant change was the addition of a new performance objective under operational excellence.

Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board adopt the 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Performance Objectives, seconded by Ms. Talento and the motion was adopted by a vote of 5 – 0 with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O'Grady, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:09 PM)

1. 2018-19 Internal Audit Plan

Mr. John Mickevics, Director of Internal Audit, presented his work plan. He explained criteria used to identify projects for the plan and described the APS processes selected for review this year. He also provided follow-up information on previous audit projects and shared highlights of the recent construction costs audit report and market study.

Noting the complexity of Special Education and the transportation cost study that Mr. Mickevics is planning, Ms. Van Doren encouraged bringing in expertise to support this work as needed. Staff recognized this complexity and agreed that outside consultants may be needed. Other Board members also appreciated the focus on transportation practices. Ms. O'Grady suggested looking at different technology to increase efficiency and decrease costs for payroll processes. Responding to questions, Mr. Mickevics provided more detail about how projects were selected for the Audit work plan.

2. Revisions to School Board Policy I-7.5 Adult Education: (10:37 PM)

Kris Martini, Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education, presented the proposed revisions to School Board Policy I-7.5 Adult Education.

Mr. Martini responded to questions, confirming that limited English proficiency classes are covered by this policy, and he spoke to efforts to add HVAC training to the programs offered. The group also discussed how the programs under this policy relate to courses at Arlington Community High School. Staff agreed to bring back additional information about these programs and the policies that apply to them.

3. Deletion of School Board Policy I-1.33 General Instruction: (10:53 PM)

Mr. Byrd presented the proposed deletion of School Board Policy I-1.33 General Instruction. He explained that this is suggested because the policy is general and is redundant, as there are three other policies that provide more specific guidance.

Some Board members were concerned about deleting this policy and asked for additional information on why this is being proposed. Staff agreed to provide a more in-depth explanation before the Board is asked to act on this deletion.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Arlington School Board