

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
March 28, 2019

**Item C-1-a**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, March 28, 2019, at 7:06 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Tannia Talento, Vice Chair  
Barbara Kanninen, Member  
Monique O’Grady, 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. Tara Natrass, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Teaching and Learning  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management  
Erin Wales-Smith, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

**A. CLOSED MEETING - NONE**

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:**

1. Call to Order and Presentation of the Colors

Mr. Goldstein invited Randolph Elementary Principal Carlos Ramirez, as a new US citizen, to lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Recognitions:

Health and Physical Education Supervisor Debbie DeFranco introduced student athletes who were recognized at the state level. Mark Goldman, Marine Corps Marathon Organization and Steve McQueen, Sodexo, presented Claremont and Taylor Elementary Schools with the Healthy Schools Award. The School Board

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

thanked School & Community Relations Assistant Superintendent Linda Erdos for her many years of service to APS on her retirement.

3. Announcements

*MEETINGS:*

- April 5, 2019 School Board Committee of the Whole meeting, 8 AM, School Board Conference Room

Ms. O’Grady stated that she will propose a budget related motion under New Business. Ms. Van Doren stated she will support Ms. O’Grady’s motion and reviewed opportunities for public comment on the County’s proposed Budget.

Mr. Goldstein announced that at the retreat on March 23, the School Board voted unanimously to join in the Amicus Brief of Fairfax County School Board and other Virginia School Boards in support of the student in the G.G. v. Gloucester County School Board litigation. He also shared activities and events at his liaison schools, including a charity fundraiser basketball game between Jamestown and Ashlawn Elementary School staff members.

4. Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

Dr. Murphy announced events and celebrations including Autism Awareness Month and School Library Month. He noted dates for Extended Day and Summer School registration and announced upcoming workshops on APS Transportation services. He also reviewed the budget development schedule. He then shared progress on School Board Action Plan items including new policies and policy revisions, operational planning, new schools and program moves, and capital initiatives. Dr. Natrass described work on the Equity and Inclusion policies and the Transgender and Gender Non-conforming policy implementation procedure. She also updated the Board on the PreK-12 Instructional Program Pathways. Dr. Murphy reviewed the status of the Education Center project and briefly described work on the Career Center site.

**C. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SUPERINTENDENT’S PROPOSED FY 2020 BUDGET: (8:02 PM)**

Mr. Goldstein briefly reviewed the budget process and status of the proposed budget. He reiterated that no decisions have been made about any reductions at this point.

The following speakers addressed the Board, asking for continued funding and support for the Equity and Excellence counselors in the schools and commenting on the importance of their support for minority student success:

*Alexander Bennett*, student  
*Kristin Alleyne*, student  
*Feben Lemma*, student

*Ruth Haileselassie*, student  
*Jose Pomarino* student  
*Caliyah Riley*,  
*Tsion Mamo*, student  
*Naomi Bergena*, student  
*Faith*, student  
*Ralph Johnson*, resident

The following speakers addressed the Board, asking the Board to keep the current level of funding for the crew program. Many commented on how students benefit by participating in this sport:

*Musse Yimer*, student  
*Colin*, student  
*Elizabeth Kelly*, student  
*Rebecca Nance*, student  
*Allison Lea*, student  
*Ellie Walsh*, student  
*Ukas Draugelis*, student  
*Kathleen Love*, student  
*Jackson Quinn*, student  
*Bill Gillen*, parent  
*Joe Walsh*, parent  
*Blaine McLaughlin*, parent  
*Darren and Sue Donahue*, parents  
*Bruce Cameron*, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board opposing cuts to funding for student attendance at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, commenting on the valuable experiences it provides:

*Aiden Zurcher*, student  
*Jason Klein*, student  
*Anuj Khemka*, student  
*Thomas Cynkin*, parent  
*Jo-Ellyn Klein*, parent  
*Anne Paris*, parent  
*Finch Collins*, THJSST alumnus  
*Mark Golden*, parent  
*Jen Atkin*, parent  
*Greg Morse*, parent  
*Joanne Zurcher*, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board, asking that full funding be maintained for student participation in the Outdoor Lab program, commenting on the unique opportunity and learning experiences provided by the Lab:

*Bridget Cohmeyer and Daniel Paul*, students  
*Zaria Bartell*, student  
*Milana Bartell*, student  
*Mary McLean*, parent  
*Nicole Merlene*, parent  
*Michael Maleski*, parent  
*Todd Parker*, President, Arlington Outdoor Lab

The following speakers addressed the Board, urging them to not reduce funding for library assistants, and describing the work performed by these staff members:

*Nicole Gustafson*, library assistant  
*KC Hoffman-Blaylock*, librarian  
*Karen Bentall*, resident  
*Jackie Pippins*, staff member  
*Eva Fadel*, library assistant

The following speakers addressed the Board opposing cuts to Montessori assistants, and describing the work they perform and how it benefits students:

*Jonathan Hui*, parent  
*Patrick Kirwin*, parent

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

*Cynthia Hilton*, Chair, Aquatics Committee: Commenting on operation of the school aquatics facilities and suggesting that the County be charged equitably to use the pools.

*Levi Novey*, Chair, Sustainability Committee: thanking the Board for supporting sustainability efforts in schools, and asking for continued funding for the Outdoor Lab.

*Emily Vincent*, parent: Encouraging the Board to continue supporting students by funding the Outdoor Lab and Equity and Excellence counselors at current levels.

*Gerry Collins*, Arlington Education Association: on behalf of Josh Folb, encouraging the Board to include compensation adjustments for all staff members in the budget.

*Dan Carroll*, teacher: opposing increasing class size.

*Dean Fleming*, alumnus: stating concerns about several proposed budget cuts.

Mr. Goldstein thanked the speakers and reiterated that the Board is still considering how to address the budget shortfall, and he reviewed next steps in the budget process.

The Board agreed to take non-agenda speakers before the Consent agenda.

**D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (10:02 PM)**

The following speakers addressed the Board concerning transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, appreciating efforts to ensure that all students are respected and supported:

*Nadine Asef-Sargent, parent*  
*Pablo Moulden, Virginia Coalition for Sex Ed Reform*

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

*Matthew Emery, Arlington Tech parent: appreciating Arlington Tech and efforts to expand the program, but sharing concerns about managing its growth.*

Mr. Goldstein called for a brief recess and the Board reconvened at 10:23 PM.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA: (10:23 PM)**

Mr. Goldstein announced that Ms. Van Doren has requested that item C-2 Personnel be removed from consent. This item will be taken up immediately following the vote on the remaining consent items.

*Dr. Kanninen moved for adoption of the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Ms. Van Doren. 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. January 31, 2019 ACI Work Session
  - b. March 13, 2019 Closed Meeting
2. Personnel Actions: REMOVED FROM CONSENT
3. School and Community Relations Brief
4. Appointments to the Aquatics Committee
5. Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices
6. Furniture Procurement for 2019 School Openings
7. Change Order for Architecture and Engineering Services at the Career Center
8. Drew Elementary Refresh Construction Contract Award and Project Budget
9. Henry Elementary Refresh Construction Contract Award and Project Budget

10. Access Easement for Dominion Energy at Fleet Elementary School

Mr. Goldstein announced that as part of consent, the Board approved a number of facilities. Ms. Talento confirmed that the Board received the School and Community Relations Brief, and shared highlights of the report.

Personnel Actions:

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the Personnel Actions, seconded by Dr. Kaninnen.*

Mr. Goldstein called for a vote, and the motion was adopted in a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Talento voting affirmatively and Ms. Van Doren opposing. The following items were adopted:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Change In Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Appointments

8 Resignations

10 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Appointments

1 Change In Position/Salary

1 Resignation

1 Retirement

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

1 Appointment

1 Change In Position/Salary

3 Retirements

**E. MONITORING ITEMS: (10:26 PM)**

1. Transportation Update

Ms. Kristin Haldeman, Director, Multi-modal Transportation Planning, and Kim Wilks, Acting Director of Transportation, presented the update. Ms. Haldeman shared the APS transportation philosophy for students and staff. She updated the Board on staff participation in the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program, and described work on updating the transportation policy. Staff is also looking at bell schedules, bus routes and specialized transportation to improve service, and has done community outreach to inform this work. Ms. Haldeman then spoke on Safe Routes to School, the ART bus pilot, and collaboration with the County, particularly for the new schools opening in the fall.

The Board appreciated this work and outreach, and encouraged communicating in multiple languages. Staff responded to questions about TDM, and the group also briefly discussed bell schedules, proposed pilots, and other transportation topics.

2. REMOVED FROM AGENDA
3. 1:1 Technology Phase One Study Update: (10:51 PM)

Dr. Natrass introduced the update, noting that an indepth work session will be held later. She described the purpose of the study and introduced Dr. Kellogg of the Friday Institute, who conducted the study. Dr. Kellogg summarized the study goals and preliminary questions. He then reviewed data sources and shared findings and tentative conclusions in terms of use, supports and barriers, and impact. He then shared recommendations and next steps for phase II of the study.

Recognizing that this work will continue, the Board briefly discussed use of technology in APS. Board members suggested topics to be explored in phase II of the study, and encouraged involving parents in this work. Also briefly discussed was the timeline for phase II of the study.

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (11:28 PM)**

Mr. Goldstein announced that the Board will take the Drew Naming Item and The Children's School Services Agreement before the other Information items.

2. Proposed New Name for Drew Model School:

Principal Kim Graves and committee member Jen Dean presented the proposed new name for Drew. Ms. Graves reviewed the school's history and described Dr. Drew's professional achievements and community contributions. Ms. Dean reviewed the committee membership and the process that was followed. Ms. Graves then shared three names that were considered by the committee, and confirmed the discussions focused on not only honoring Dr. Drew but also representing the community that will attend the school. The committee and community overwhelmingly preferred Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School. Charles Drew Elementary was provided as an alternate name.

Board members appreciated the committee's work and recommendation, and suggested voting on the name immediately. Mr. Goldstein stated that the community should have an opportunity to comment on the proposed name before the Board action.

*Ms. O'Grady moved that the Board accept the name of Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School, seconded by Ms. Talento. 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.*

8. The Children's School Services Agreement: (11:44 PM)

Ms. Peterson presented the proposed agreement, describing The Children's School (TCS) and the partnership APS has had with TCS, which has included the Integration Station program for students with special needs. The proposed services agreement will allow APS to continue to partner with TCS in its new location.

The following speakers addressed the Board, urging them to continue supporting TCS and Integration Station and asking the Board to sign the agreement:

*Jessica Homburg, parent*  
*Erin Robinson, parent*  
*Kristin Montalbano, parent*  
*Felicite Midden, parent*

Board members commented on the work that has been done to move this agreement forward, and it will be acted upon at the April 11 Board meeting.

1. Special Education Annual Plan: (11:56 PM)

Mr. Paul Jamelske, Director, Special Education, summarized the annual plan which must be submitted to the state and provides federal funds to APS for services for students with special needs at all levels. Mr. Jamelske briefly described the services this funding will support, and highlighted next steps in the submission process.

Responding to questions, Mr. Jamelske confirmed that this application has been shared with the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee.

3. Proposed New School Board Policy I-11.6.34 Secondary Course Withdrawal: (12:05 AM)

Mr. Tyrone Byrd, Director, Secondary Education, presented the proposed policy that will ensure that students and families understand the impact of dropping a secondary course.

Board members made suggestions to clarify the language about dual enrollment and discussed whether APS should allow withdrawal without a pass or fail notation on the transcript. These suggestions were taken back for staff consideration.

4. Revisions to School Board Policy J-15.31 Reporting Students Enrolled in Programs: (12:14 AM)

Dr. Natrass explained that the proposed revisions clarify how APS reports students enrolled in programs to the state, both in terms of assessment and enrollment.

The group discussed adding information that specifies which programs are affected by this policy and making that information available to the public.



5. Proposed Revisions to School Board Policy I-7.2.3.32 Addition or Deletion of Courses:(12:20 AM)

Mr. Byrd summarized the proposed changes to language so that the policy will better reflect current APS strategic goal language.

6. Proposed School Board Policy G-1.2 Acceptable Use Policy - Staff: (12:22 AM)

Mr. Adusumilli presented the proposed new policy, explaining that it is based on the student acceptable use policy, and complies with state code requirements.

Board members appreciated the staff work to develop the policy.

7. Proposed Revisions to School Board Policies: (12.26 AM)

Ms. Talento summarized the proposed changes recommended for the following School Board policies:

- School Board Policy B-2.61 Conflict of Interests
- School Board Policy B-3.2 Board Leadership (formerly titled Board Chair and Vice Chair)
- School Board Policy B-3.7.30 Legislative Liaison (formerly titled Legislative Coordinator)
- School Board Policy B-8.4 Compensation and Benefits for School Board Members (formerly titled Benefits for School Board Members)
- School Board Policy G-1.8 Financial Interests

Ms. Talento confirmed that the Board will act on the changes at the next meeting.

**H. ACTION ITEM: (12:30 AM)**

1. Determination to Use Construction Management at-Risk (CMR) Delivery Method for Career Center Project

Mr. Chadwick briefly reviewed the recommendation, and the Board discussed concerns previously expressed about this item. It was confirmed that although this item relates to services that will be provided to both the Arlington Tech build-out and the Career Center renovation projects, each project has a distinct funding source.

*Dr. Kanninen moved that the Board approve the use of Construction Management at-Risk procurement method for the Career Center/Arlington Tech project, and direct staff to begin the competitive negotiation selection process, seconded by Ms. Talento.*

Ms. Van Doren stated her reservations about not including the specific funding information for the two projects in this motion. She also stated concerns about how

plans for Arlington Tech have changed over time, and that the expansion of the program has been delayed. Mr. Chadwick provided information about the two projects, confirming that additional work on both will be incorporated into the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan. He also commented on the importance of proceeding thoughtfully with work on the projects, as they are both located at the Career Center site. The Board agreed additional discussion of this topic is needed and will continue to be held.

Mr. Goldstein then called for a vote on the motion and it was adopted in a vote of 4 – 1, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Ms. Talento, voting affirmatively, and Ms. Van Doren opposing.

**I. NEW BUSINESS: (12:44 AM)**

Ms. O’Grady recognized the budget shortfall facing APS and the concerns expressed by the speakers. She noted an upcoming opportunity for the community to appeal to the County to encourage additional funding for APS, and made the following motion:

*I move that the School Board Chair convey to the County Board Chair that in our initial review of the Superintendent’s budget, there are many possible cuts that go beyond efficiencies and, in some cases, go against APS’ mission, vision, values, and goals as stated in our strategic plan.*

*With that in mind and because the County Board has advertised the possibility of a tax rate increase to address APS’ growing needs, we will likely request a dedicated one cent increase for schools over the county manager’s proposed one cent increase for schools. That additional \$7.8 M above the manager’s proposal still requires APS to make at least \$11 M in reductions, including 23 FTEs, but would keep APS from cutting so deeply that students would be harmed and equity would be compromised.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Doren.

Ms. Van Doren recognized the strong budget prepared by the Superintendent, which includes reductions. She acknowledged that the County Board has been supportive of APS, and stated her belief that it would be appropriate to make this request. Ms. Talento expressed concerns about budget reductions being considered, and felt it would be wise to make the County aware of these cuts and how they will impact instruction.

After reviewing the status of the County and the APS budget processes, Dr. Kanninen asked for clarification of what is being asked of the Chair. While she agreed with many of the concerns expressed, she stated her belief that it was premature to ask for additional funding before the School Board has approved a proposed budget. Mr. Goldstein also commented that this action was not appropriate yet, as the budget development process was still underway. Ms. O’Grady reiterated her reasons for making this motion.

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

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 AM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Arlington School Board