

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
May 30, 2019

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 30, 2019, at 7:02 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹ Prior to the meeting, the Board members held a reception for the 2019 Honored Citizens.

Present were:

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Member
Nancy Van Doren, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Catherine Ashby, Acting Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
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 called the meeting to order and announced that Ms. Talento was not able to attend as she was recovering from recent surgery. He also announced that Ms. O'Grady was unable to attend due to a work commitment.

2. Recognitions:

The Board members recognized twelve volunteers who were selected as 2019 Honored Citizens.

Following the recognition, the Board took a recess and reconvened at 7:56 PM.

3. Announcements

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.

MEETINGS:

- May 31, 2019 Committee of the Whole, 5 PM, School Board Conference Rm.
- June 4, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee, General Policies, 2 PM, School Board Conference Rm.

4. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Dr. Murphy commented on Memorial Day and announced upcoming events, including end of year activities, graduations, and promotions. He thanked the Finance Department for providing breakfast to all students during Standards of Learning testing. Ms. Wales-Smith gave a brief update on the status of staffing for the coming school year.

Dr. Murphy then shared progress and next steps on 2018-19 School Board Action Plan items in the areas of new policies and policy revisions, operational planning, new schools and program moves, and capital initiatives. Dr. Natrass commented on policies and policy implementation procedures being developed and revised, and on the PreK to Grade 12 Instructional Program Pathways initiative. Mr. Chadwick and Dr. Murphy shared updates on capital projects. Dr. Natrass also provided a brief update concerning enrollment in Career Center courses.

Board members thanked staff for the updates on Human Resources and for efforts to ensure students have access to classes throughout APS.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:16 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board on Consent Items:

On Consent Item C-3 Settlement Agreement with the US Department of Justice: asking for stronger supports for ESOL/HILT students in all schools throughout APS:

Mary Anne McKown, Swanson parent

Lisa Blackwell, parent

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

Dean Fleming, W-L Alumni Association: expressing concern about the Board acting on certain items under consent rather than as Action items.

Ms. Van Doren moved for adoption of the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Kanninen. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. February 28, 2019 Budget Work Session #1

- b. March 12, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
- c. March 18, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting

2. Personnel Actions:

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 21 Appointments
- 27 Resignations
- 7 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 4 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 2 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 3 Resignations
- 2 Retirements

- 3. Settlement Agreement with US Department of Justice
- 4. Appointments to Joint Facilities Advisory Commission
- 5. Revisions to School Board Policy A-6.31 Evaluation
- 6. New School Board Policy M-12.1 Technology Infrastructure
- 7. New School Board Policy M-12.2 Technology Systems
- 8. New School Board Policy M-12.3 Technology Equipment
- 9. Revisions to School Board Policy I-7.1.11 Use of Animals
- 10. Revisions to School Board Policy B-6 School Board Policy Process
- 11. Amendment of School Board Policy F-5.7 Construction and Maintenance
- 12. First Amendment to Thomas Jefferson Community Center Bikeshare Agreement
- 13. Revisions to School Board Policy M-12 Technology

Mr. Goldstein announced that under consent, the Board appointed Stacy Snyder and Claire Noakes to the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission. He also noted that several policy revisions were approved. Dr. Murphy then provided a summary of the settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice that was approved. Dr. Natrass confirmed that the agreement does not have any adverse findings attached to it. She also noted that all

requirements in the agreement will be followed and some are already in place. Board members asked for regular updates on the steps being taken, and reassured the community that improvements will be made.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (8:36 PM)

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Michael Folb, Hoffman-Boston student: thanking APS for keeping the Autism Program at Jefferson Middle School.

The following speakers addressed the Board, expressing support for proposed Policy Implementation Procedure (PIP) J-2 Transgender Students in Schools, appreciating the support it will provide to students:

Kia Haynes, parent
Deborah Schneider, parent
Lorelei Brown, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board, expressing concerns about the implications and implementation of proposed PIP J-2 Transgender Students in Schools, and asking that more time be taken to consider this PIP:

Carmen Rives, Claremont and Gunston parent
Norma Zarrate, parent
Caroline Dana, Williamsburg Middle School

The following speaker also addressed the Board:

Lisa Blackwell, parent: concerning budget development for the 2021 school year, asking that the primary focus be on ensuring that all students perform on grade level.

The following Arlington Education Association (AEA) members addressed the Board, presenting resolutions approved by the AEA concerning interim steps to take while the compensation study is done. The steps are to place all employees on a pay scale, to require the Superintendent to include a STEP and cost of living increase in his Proposed Budget, to add annual increments for employees on longevity steps, and to give AEA a voting seat on the committee that will craft and act upon the results of the compensation study:

Josh Folb, Chair, Arlington Education Association (AEA) compensation subcommittee
Kelly Bryant, AEA member
Shelley Jennings, teacher and AEA member
Gail Perry, AEA member

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (9:00 PM)

1. ESOL/HILT Update

Mr. Sam Klein, ESOL/HILT Supervisor, presented an overview of the purpose of the ESOL/HILT program and reviewed the APS English-Language Learner (ELL) student population. He shared data on enrollment in ESOL/HILT by English Language Proficiency level, and presented data on SOL performance by students in the program. After highlighting ELL enrollment in advanced courses, Mr. Klein shared steps being taken to meet performance objectives in the Strategic Plan. He noted that staff is working on changing the name of the program to provide more clarity on its purpose, and is conducting the ESOL/HILT program evaluation. In closing, Mr. Klein acknowledged that staff in all schools contribute to this work.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Lisa Blackwell, parent: asking about how students advance through levels in ESOL/HILT, and how ESOL/HILT coordinates with English/Language Arts instruction.

The Board appreciated the report and asked for more detail on how student's progress through proficiency levels and why some students do not achieve a year's growth. Mr. Klein described factors that affect the performance of individual students as they acquire English. Also discussed was how to increase student participation in extracurricular activities that support language acquisition, and involving the ESOL/HILT Advisory Committee in the work done by this office.

2. English/Language Arts Program Evaluation Report: (9:39 PM)

Lori Silver, Supervisor, English/Language Arts, assisted by Ms. Robyn Ristau, Planning and Evaluation, presented the report. Ms. Silver reviewed the evaluation process and shared findings in terms of strategic plan goals. These findings related to quality of instruction and student access and participation in classes. She also summarized student outcomes and the availability of resources throughout the schools. Recommendations and next steps included recommendations to address the need to increase growth and leadership opportunities, to expand student access to reading specialists, and to manage resources to ensure there are high quality texts in all classrooms.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Lisa Blackwell, parent: looking for information on how concerns and issues with learning will be addressed, especially in terms of funding.

Donna Owens, parent: thanking the Board and staff for the progress that has been made in reading instruction.

Dr. Kanninen appreciated the report, but asked for more disaggregated data on students in future reports, and both Ms. Silver and Ms. Ristau clarified some of the data presented. The group discussed the recommendation on classroom resources, including the budget impact of adding resources, efforts to ensure that

appropriate resources are available for ELLs and students with special needs, as well as having culturally relevant texts for students. Ms. Silver acknowledged the costs of adding reading specialists, and agreed to provide further information. Also discussed was the use of technology in English/Language Arts instruction and classrooms, how to effectively use early screeners to identify students who need additional support, and efforts to identify better screeners.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (10:10 PM)

1. Washington-Lee Renaming Costs

Ms. Peterson summarized the costs associated with the renaming of Washington-Lee High School to Washington-Liberty High School. She described soft costs and hard costs associated with this change and shared the staff recommendation, which is to allocate approximate \$224,360 for this item. She confirmed the recommendation is to use one-time funds from the Future Budget Years Reserve for these costs.

The following speakers addressed the Board, asking to postpone this decision until the legal challenges to the name change are decided:

Susan Cox, alumna
Dean Fleming, Washington-Lee Alumni Association

Responding to a question, Ms. Peterson confirmed that there is approximately \$11 million in the Future Budget Years Reserve.

2. Solar Photovoltaic Rooftop Systems Power Purchase Agreements Delegation of Authority for Superintendent to Approve Lease Assignment: (10:17 PM)

Ms. Peterson summarized the process and the purpose of the proposed assignment of leases related to the solar panels installed on schools.

Responding to comments, Ms. Peterson confirmed there are no budget implications to this item.

3. Revisions to School Board Policy E-7.1.1 Use of Copyrighted Resources: (10:23 PM)

Mr. Jeff Luttrell, Supervisor, Library Services, briefly reviewed the proposed changes to the policy. The changes include explicitly addressing digital content, identifying responsible offices and job titles as points of contact, and providing additional background information referencing the Copyright Law.

4. Revisions to School Board Policies I-11.6.30 Graduation, I-11.6.31 Promotion and I-11.6.32 Retention: (10:25 PM)

Dr. Natrass reviewed these policies, confirming that the promotion and retention policies will be retired, as staff has incorporated the language from those policies

into the Graduation policy. She also highlighted additional revisions that align the policy to current practice and to replace language with currently used terminology.

Ms. Van Doren confirmed that the School Board Policy Subcommittee reviewed the proposed changes and provided input, and she appreciated the work of staff.

5. Contract Award for Arlington Tech Summer 2019 Construction: (10:27 PM)

Mr. Chadwick summarized the work planned for internal modifications to the Career Center to accommodate students in the fall of 2019. He noted that there are two CIP projects for the Career Center, and he reviewed some modifications that have already been completed. He then described the project management plans, funding, and project costs for this item, and presented the staff recommendation.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Matthew Emery, parent and Chair, Arlington Tech Advisory Committee: thanking the staff for the work on this project, and asking for specific improvements to ensure safety at the school, particularly in the parking lot.

Responding to questions, Mr. Chadwick described the funding source for this work, which will come from available bond funding. He described the kitchen addition in more detail, and the group discussed the impact of this project on funds for future Career Center work. Some Board members expressed concern about how this may affect the funding for additional renovation at this site. The group also discussed how this work will fit in with the future Career Center plans, how the Building Level Planning Committee will be involved in the project, and the impact on the timelines for the two projects at this site. Mr. Chadwick shared additional information about steps that have been taken to address student, parent and community concerns.

6. Construction Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) for Westover Library and New Elementary School at Reed: (10:59 PM)

Mr. Chadwick explained the need for this MOU, which outlines how the construction will affect library access. He then shared the staff recommendation.

7. First Amendment to Deed of Lease for Westover Library: (11:03 PM)

Mr. Chadwick summarized this amendment and confirmed that it relates to use permit conditions for the site during construction.

G. ACTION ITEM: (11:04 PM)

1. VSBA 2019 Legislative Positions:

Dr. Kanninen briefly reviewed the VSBA legislative process and the proposed positions that the School Board is planning to submit for consideration for the VSBA legislative package. She noted that two additional positions have been added to the packet since this item was presented for information. She then summarized the two new proposed positions related to mandatory reporting of misdemeanors and status offenses and disorderly conduct for school based offenses.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Kathleen McSweeney, parent: encouraging the Board to approve the two additional legislative positions, and shared statistics related to these items.

Ms. Van Doren moved for adoption of the proposed 2019 VSBA Legislative Positions as presented, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.

Ms. Van Doren thanked her Board colleagues for their support, and Mr. Goldstein spoke to the APS MOU with the Arlington Police to strengthen supports available to students and address discipline-related issues. Board members highlighted several additional initiatives in APS that support students in these areas.

Mr. Goldstein called for a vote and the motion was adopted in a vote of 3 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

I. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Arlington School Board