

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Organizational Meeting, School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
July 1, 2019

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Monday, July 1, 2019, at 8:15 AM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Tannia Talento, Vice Chair
Nancy Van Doren, Member
Monique O’Grady, Member
Barbara Kanninen, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Patrick K. Murphy, Superintendent
Erin Wales-Smith, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

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, School and Community Relations; Principal, Alice West Fleet Elementary School; Principal, Long Branch Elementary School; and Director of Transportation Services, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), 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 closed meeting adjourned at 8:48 AM, 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. Van Doren – Aye; and Ms. Talento – Aye.

Mr. Goldstein called for a recess, and the Board reconvened in open session at 9:02 AM.

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.

Also present were:

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
Cintia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Erin Wales-Smith, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Catherine Ashby, Interim Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Facilities and Operations
Sarah Putnam, Director, Curriculum and Instruction
Ty Byrd, Director, Secondary Education

B. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mr. Goldstein called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees, including County Board Chair Christian Dorsey and member Matt De Ferranti, and former School Board member and Chair, Emma Violand-Sánchez.

1. School Board Code of Conduct

Ms. Talento moved that the School Board adopt the Code of Conduct, 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. All Board members then signed the document.

As outgoing chair, Mr. Goldstein thanked his Board colleagues and the staff for their support during his term, and spoke to the many accomplishments that APS achieved over the past year, summarizing meetings, progress on initiatives, and student successes that were achieved. He recognized and highlighted many accomplishments that show progress on the Strategic Plan Goals. He acknowledged the challenges ahead and expressed confidence that APS can continue to progress and improve.

2. Election of the Chair of the Board:

Commenting that the Chair should be someone who is ready to take on the challenges in the coming new year; to work hard to better the school system and community; to keep the focus always on the students - their well-being, their opportunities, and their academic success; and to be an effective collaborator, especially with the County Board and the community, and to trust and believe in the staff, *Dr. Kanninen nominated Ms. Talento for Chair for the 2019-2020 school year. The motion was 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.*

3. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Board:

Noting that he has known Monique O’Grady for over 20 years; and recognizing her journey as an advocate for parents and students; and as a community leader with experiences that brought her to the School Board; and stating his belief that she is ready to take the next step on the road to leadership; and that these experiences have

prepared her well for that step, *Mr. Goldstein nominated Ms. O’Grady for Vice Chair for the 2019-2020 school year*, 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.

Dr. Kanninen moved for adoption of organizational items 4 through 14, seconded by Ms. O’Grady 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.

The following items were approved:

4. Appointment of the Clerk of the Board:

Melanie Elliott was re-appointed Clerk of the Board for the 2019-2020 school year.

5. Appointment of the Deputy Clerk of the Board:

Claudia Mercado was reappointed Deputy Clerk of the Board for the 2019-2020 school year.

6. Approval of Payment of Claims

7. Supervision of Construction

8. Adoption of Schedule of School Board Meetings, 2019-2020 School Year

9. Adoption of Proposed Schedule of Pay Dates, 2019-2020 School Year

10. Adoption of Existing Policies and Regulations

11. Adoption of Proposed Guidelines on Executive Session Confidentiality

12. School Board Member Liaison Assignments, 2019-2020

13. School Board Speaker Guidelines

14. Audit Committee Chair

Ms. Talento announced that, as part of the organizational item actions, the School Board re-adopted existing policies for the administration of Arlington Public Schools. A current copy of the policy manual is posted publicly and can be accessed through the Arlington Public School’s website. In compliance with § 22.1-253.13:7 of the Code of Virginia, which requires that copies of policies be available to citizens who do not have online access, paper copies of the policies are available in the Board Office for viewing, and the Department of School and Community Relations can also help citizens obtain access to copies.

Ms. Talento reviewed additional items that were adopted with the action, including Board liaison assignments and the Speaker Guidelines for public comment at Board meetings.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS: (9:10 AM)

Mr. Goldstein recognized Mr. Ramirez, the Arlington Teacher of the Year, in the audience, and recognized that the Board faces the most important task they can face, the hiring of a new superintendent, and he confirmed he will dedicate his work to that effort.

Ms. Van Doren congratulated Ms. Talento and Ms. O'Grady, and thanked her Board colleagues for a successful year. Appreciating Mr. Goldstein's review of the achievements of the past year, she recognized the growth and change in the community. She confirmed the Board members represent different parts of the community and different perspectives, but collaborate and accomplish what needs to be done. She acknowledged major projects ahead and encouraged community engagement. Thanking the County Board colleagues for their support, she recognized the excellent partnership between the two Boards. She also thanked the community for their active engagement and thanked the staff for supporting the Board. She acknowledged former School Board member, Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez and family members in the audience, thanking them for their support. In closing, she looked forward to a great year and a great future under the new leadership.

Dr. Kanninen congratulated Ms. Talento, thanked her Board colleagues, Dr. Murphy, the staff, the County Board members and the entire community for their support over the past year. Recognizing that the community and school system continue to grow, she acknowledged challenges ahead. She pledged to trust the professionalism of the staff, look for ways to support their work, and always focus on the well-being of students and staff, ensuring that every student finds their path. She looked forward to a successful new year.

Ms. O'Grady thanked her colleagues for trusting her to serve as vice chair and looked forward to collaborating with Ms. Talento. She appreciated Mr. Goldstein's leadership and thanked her Board colleagues and the office staff for their support since she joined the Board. Appreciating their dedication to students and families, Ms. O'Grady also thanked Dr. Murphy, the executive leadership team, and the APS staff. She recognized that change is a constant, and pledged to work to minimize negative outcomes, focus on priorities and values, and move forward in ways that benefit APS. Noting the Board's top priority of hiring a new superintendent, she encouraged the Board to let instruction lead their decisions. She recognized challenges ahead and highlighted initiatives for 2019-2020 such as budget and compensation studies, the instructional program pathways project, and hiring a chief diversity officer. She confirmed her belief that the state of APS is promising, and she looked forward to helping deliver on that promise.

Ms. Talento thanked her Board colleagues for electing her as Chair, and her family for their ongoing support. She appreciated the County Board members, friends and supporters in attendance, and thanked Mr. Goldstein for his leadership, acknowledging the progress made in many areas during his term as chair. Noting that she will be the second Latina to serve as School Board Chair, Ms. Talento thanked Dr. Violand-Sánchez for being a mentor to her. She also recognized Ms. O'Grady as the first elected African American woman on

the School Board, and thanked her for serving as Vice Chair. She noted that it is important for students to see diversity in leadership, and appreciated the support of her colleagues.

Looking ahead to a year of change, Ms. Talento acknowledged it will also be a year of opportunities for APS. The Board is guided by the strategic plan priorities, and she reiterated that the top priority is to hire a new superintendent. The Board will look for a highly qualified individual who will sustain the positive culture and promote excellence and equity for all students. She outlined next steps in the selection process, confirming that it will include input from staff, families and the community. Ms. Talento then appreciated the contributions Dr. Murphy has made to APS, commenting on his passion for education and his efforts to promote the well-being of students. Noting that he led the school division through significant growth and change, championed major initiatives, and provided vision and leadership to APS, she wished him the best in his future pursuits.

Ms. Talento then stated that the Board will continue to focus on the instruction and well-being of students, and that she will continue her support and advocacy in the areas of mental health awareness and education, as well as equity and the elimination of opportunity gaps. She recognized the current climate of fear for immigrant families, and reaffirmed that the public schools are a safe place for students and that they are supported. She thanked the County Board for the support and reassurance they provided to the community by confirming that Arlington does not participate in federal immigration enforcement and that it will remain a welcoming and compassionate community.

In closing, Ms. Talento thanked the executive leadership team for their dedication to students. She stated her belief that these leaders, and all APS staff, will continue to move the most important work forward, and their dedication and passion for education is what drives our success. She thanked the staff for their support, appreciated the opportunity to lead the Board through this year of change and the search for new leadership and vision, and looked forward to great work and a great year ahead.

Dr. Murphy thanked Mr. Goldstein for his leadership and accomplishments this past year and congratulated Ms. Talento and Ms. O'Grady on their new roles. He spoke of the importance of making opportunities and choices available to all students, and to keep hope alive. He appreciated the many capable people in APS and in Arlington, and looked at this transition as an opportunity to grow and improve. He appreciated the time and energy and contributions of the Board members, and wished them great success.

D. CONSENT ITEMS: (9:41 AM)

Ms. Van Doren 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 28, 2019 School Board Meeting
 - b. April 12, 2019 Joint School Board/County Board Work Session
 - c. April 24, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting

- d. April 25, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
- e. May 2, 2019, Budget Work Session #7
- f. May 8, 2019 School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
- g. June 12, 2019 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 3 Changes in Position/Salary

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 17 Appointments
- 32 Resignations
- 3 Retirements
- 1 Termination

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 15 Appointments
- 11 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Resignations
- 2 Retirements

- 3. Membership in the Virginia High School League
- 4. FY 2021 Budget Development Calendar
- 5. Purchasing Resolution
- 6. School Health Advisory Board Brief
- 7. Revisions to School Board Policy E-3.31 Health and Safety
- 8. Waiver of School Board Policy B-3.6.31 Advisory Council on Instruction
- 9. Appointment of Career Center Expansion Building Level Planning Committee Chair

Ms. Talento announced that as a part of consent, the following appointments were made: Catherine Ashby was appointed Interim Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations; Dr. Frances Legagneur was appointed Principal, Alice West Fleet Elementary School, Principal; Jessica DaSilva was appointed Principal, Long Branch Elementary School; and Kimberly Wilks was appointed Director of Transportation Services. She also announced that Mr. Ted Black was appointed Chair of the Career Center Expansion Building Level Planning Committee. The Board accepted the annual School Health Advisory Board Brief, adopted the Budget Development Calendar and revisions to the Health and Safety policy, and approved a waiver of ACI policy.

E. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:49 AM)

1. First Amendment to Westover Open Market License Agreement

Mr. Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction, presented the proposed agreement, which is related to construction that will begin later this year at the Reed site. This agreement relates to the use of the site for the Farmers Market. He confirmed this amendment is needed because the area available for the market will change as the construction occurs.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Kanninen asked Ms. Talento to introduce her family

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Tannia Talento, Chair
Arlington School Board