

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
October 17, 2019

Item C-1-c

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, October 17, 2019, at 5:08 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Tannia Talento, Chair
Monique O’Grady, Vice Chair (participated via telephone until arrival at 5:25 PM)
Reid Goldstein, Member
Barbara Kanninen, Member
Nancy Van Doren, Member

Also present were:

Joshua Makely, Assistant Director, Procurement
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
David Webb, Director/Purchasing Agent

A. CLOSED MEETINGS:

Ms. Talento moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(29), seconded by Ms. Van Doren. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, M. O’Grady, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Ms. Talento moved to certify that to the best of her knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting just held, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening this closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monique O’Grady 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.

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.

Ms. Talento called for a brief recess and the Board reconvened in a second closed meeting at 6:25 PM.

Also present were:

Cintia Johnson, Interim Superintendent

Dan Redding, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Ms. Talento moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointment of Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning 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, M. O’Grady, Ms. Talento, and Ms. Van Doren voting affirmatively.

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

Ms. Talento moved to certify that to the best of her knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting just held, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening this closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monique O’Grady 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.

The Board reconvened at 7:07 PM.

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:

Also present were:

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services

Dr. Jeannette Allen, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

Catherine Ashby, Interim Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations

John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations

Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation

1. Call to Order and Presentation of the Colors
2. Recognitions

The Board recognized Bulling Prevention Month. Pam McClellan, Supervisor, Counseling Services, shared events happening in the schools and a video on bullying prevention targeted to help meet Performance Objective #6 of the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Talento thanked staff for their work in bullying prevention, and encouraged adults and children to continue to stand together to create an environment where bullying is not tolerated.

3. Announcements

- *October 21, 2019 Closed Meeting, 5 PM, School Board Conference Room*
- *October 22, 2019 Work Session on English Learners Program Evaluation, 7 PM, School Board Conference Room*
- *October 29, 2019 Closed Meeting*
- *November 6, 2019 Employee Pre-Budget Work Session, 5 PM; Work Session on CIP Planning, 6 PM, Rooms 254-256*

Mr. Goldstein shared information about different activities happening at his liaison schools, Campbell Elementary School, Long Branch Elementary, and Kenmore Middle School. Ms. Van Doren took the opportunity to raise awareness on the seriousness of concussion injuries. She asked that any student suffering a concussion visit a doctor and take the medical advice seriously.

Ms. Talento provided an update on the superintendent search process. She shared that the deadline to submit proposals for the Superintendent search firm was October 11, 2019 and that the Board will begin the selection process. The Board is expected to award a contract between November and December.

4. Interim Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Ms. Johnson announced that Campbell Elementary School received the Expeditionary Learning Education Credential in recognition for implementing the EL Education model and its remarkable student achievement. She invited the community to Harvesting Dreams for Our Children in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the ribbon cutting for Alice West Fleet Elementary School, and Middle and High School Information Nights. She reminded employees about the benefits open enrollment deadline of October 31st.

Ms. Johnson provided an update on 2019-20 student enrollment. She announced that as of September 30, 2019 the PreK to 12 grade student enrollment was at 28,020. She also provided an update on the 2019-20 School Board Action Plan, which included a status on the Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer vacancy, current Capital Improvement Plan projects, and the upcoming 2020 elementary school boundary process.

Ms. Van Doren noted that on October 14, 2019 staff participated in Professional Learning Day. She thanked Ms. Johnson for providing this opportunity to staff.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (7:24PM)

Ms. Van Doren moved to adopt 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. September 5, 2019 School Board Meeting
- b. September 19, 2019 School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting
- c. September 23, 2019 Closed Meeting and Committee of the Whole Meeting
- d. September 24, 2019 Work Session on the Arlington Facilities and Student Accommodation Plan

2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL
2 Changes In Position/Salary
1 Resignation
2 Retirements

T-SCALE PERSONNEL
5 Appointments
1 Resignation

A-SCALE PERSONNEL
6 Appointments
1 Change In Position/Salary

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL
2 Appointments
8 Changes In Position/Salary
6 Resignations

3. Appointment to Joint Facilities Advisory Commission

Ms. Talento announced that as part of consent, the Board appointed Natalia Uro-DeLeon to the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission as a student representative, and Bridget Loft Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning.

D. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (7:46 PM)

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Symone Walker, Arlington NAACP Education Committee: spoke about dyslexia and allocating more money in the budget for early identification and interventions in all schools.

E. MONITORING ITEM: (7:51PM)

1. Minor Construction/Major Maintenance Update

Mr. Jim Meikle, Director of Maintenance, provided the update on minor construction and major maintenance (MCMM) projects. He shared about infrastructure updates, summary of current projects, overview of funding, and spoke about learning experiences to improve future planning.

Board members discussed the need for relocatable classrooms, the process of prioritizing work orders, and field renovations.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (8:33 PM)

1. Internal Audit Plan

Mr. John Mickevics, Director, Internal Audit, summarized the proposed 2019-20 internal audit work plan. The work plan includes identifying savings and efficiencies in construction costs, revenue opportunities, employee expense reimbursement, and compliance of the English Learner settlement agreement.

Mr. Goldstein requested clarification on the construction costs savings. Mr. Mickevics explained that this recommendation is needed to analyze cost reduction suggestions and decide if they are feasible.

Ms. O'Grady moved that the Board adopt the Internal Audit Plan for the 2019-2020 School Year, 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.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (8:37 PM)

1. The Children's School Specialized Improvements Costs

Ms. Peterson recommended that the School Board transfer \$500,000 from Capital Reserve to pay \$280,000 towards the construction of the TCS building and to pay TCS \$220,000 for the build-out of Integration Station specific spaces, as per the Service Agreement signed in March 2019.

The Board discussed TSC tuition reimbursement.

2. Career Center Expansion Educational Specifications:

As part of the FY2019-28 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), funds were allocated to expand the Career Center site capacity to add additional seats for Arlington Tech and the Career Center. Mr. Chambers, Director, Design and Construction Services, presented the proposed educational specifications criteria which included planning and design parameters, framework for expansion, and program spaces. Ms. Chung,

Principal, Career Center, spoke about the community engagement process that has taken place to develop the educational specifications and the Career Center instructional future. Mr. Doug Jeffrey, Architect, Stantec, spoke about capacity, space program use, and space types.

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Sarah McKinley, Career Center Working Group Member: shared concerns regarding the proposed parking garage.

Ms. Van Doren expressed her expectation to involve all instructional staff in the design planning phases of the site to ensure space is appropriate for their needs. The Board discussed capacity and space needs for a pool and career and technical education programs.

3. Capital Projects Status Update and Transfer:

Ms. Peterson shared with the Board that APS completed five construction projects (Abingdon Elementary School, Connect Arlington, McKinley Elementary School, Syphax Education Center, and Yorktown High School space conversion) under budget resulting in savings to APS. She requested Board approval to transfer \$2,355,000 from the five completed capital construction projects to the Capital Reserve.

Mr. Goldstein and Ms. Peterson briefly spoke about allocations.

4. Hamm Middle School Change to Construction Contract and Project Funding:

Mr. Chadwick requested the transfer of an additional \$3,900,000 from Capital Reserve to the Hamm Middle School construction project to increase the total project funding to cover several unexpected construction and soft costs.

The Board discussed ameliorating unexpected costs. Board members encouraged staff to review expenses and to continue to find savings. In addition, the Board discussed the protocol for receiving staff response to Board questions prior to Board meeting presentations.

5. Heights Building Change to Construction Contract and Project Funding:

Mr. Chadwick requested the transfer of an additional \$5,600,000 from Capital Reserve to The Heights Building construction project to increase the total project funding to cover several unexpected construction and soft costs.

The Board discussed reviewing unexpected costs to find savings in future projects.

F. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Tannia Talento, Chair
Arlington School Board