

ACI ADVISORY COMMITTEES

November 2019

Advisory Committee on English Learners (ACEL)

The Advisory Committee on English Learners advocates for English Learners and their families by providing recommendations to the School Board for improved curriculum and instruction that leads to student success. The Committee works to promote greater knowledge and understanding of, and respect for, cultural and linguistic diversity in our school community. The Committee focuses on a variety of issues, all in an effort to provide support to English Learners and their families. Members promote leadership in the non-native English-speaking community, participate in the development of research studies concerning minority populations; and monitor staffing in APS, focusing on expanding the number of bilingual personnel in the schools. The Committee also devises strategies to bridge the communication gap between English-speaking school staff teachers, and parents and non-native-English speaking students and parents. For additional information about the English Learners Advisory Committee, please contact the Office of English Learners at 703-228-6095, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Sam Klein at Samuel.klein@apsva.us, or its Chair, Anne Zebra, at anne.zebra@gmail.com.

Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC)

The Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC) space provides an opportunity for parents to have a voice in the way APS provides services to students with disabilities, from preschool to age 21. A majority of ASEAC members must be parents of students with disabilities, but the committee also welcomes other parents and community members, and must include one teacher. The committee also values the support and contributions of several APS staff, who serve as consultants to the committee.

ASEAC's role and duties are mandated by the Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia as defined by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). As described by the VDOE, Special Education Advisory Committees (SEACs) "are extensions of local school boards since members are appointed by them, and SEACs provide reports and recommendations to their school boards." ASEAC provides an annual report to the School Board, but also submits comments and recommendations throughout the year as needed. The Regulations state that ASEAC's official role is to:

1. Advise the local school division of needs in the education of children with disabilities;
2. Assist in the development of long-range plans designed to provide needed services for children with disabilities;
3. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;
4. Submit periodic reports and recommendations to the school board;
5. Assist the school division in interpreting educational plans to the community for meeting the needs of children with disabilities;
6. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the school board; and participate in the review of the school division's annual plan.

All ASEAC meetings are open to the public, parents, teachers, and community members are welcome to attend. Every month, the committee sets aside time to hear the concerns of parents of students with disabilities. If you wish to speak to the committee, or join in committee discussions, simply attend a meeting. You are encouraged to let one of the officers know ahead of time so they can set aside enough time on the agenda, but that is not required. ASEAC also sponsors an annual forum which typically combines a public presentation on a topic of interest to families of students with disabilities, with an extensive parent comment session. ASEAC is very interested in working with other APS advisory committees on topics of common concern, such as transportation, reading or math instruction and

interventions, or students who are identified as needing both special education and ESOL/HILT services. Join us! For more information, contact Committee Chair Nadia Facey at Nadia.aseac@gmail.com.

Arts Advisory Committee

The Arts Advisory Committee fosters support of the sequential and comprehensive learning process across the arts disciplines. Members seek to reflect the broad diversity of talent that is present in students who attend Arlington Public Schools. The group serves as an active advocate for arts education to the community. For additional information about the Arts Education Advisory Committee, please contact the Arts Education Office at 703-228-6170, or the committee's staff liaison, Pam Farrell, at pam.farrell@apsva.us, or the Committee's Chair, Susan Scott at susanscott703@gmail.com.

Career, Technical, and Adult Education Advisory Committee (CTAE)

The Career, Technical, and Adult Education Advisory Committee reviews the overall instructional program, developing recommendations for improvements, and supporting the introduction of new programs and/or new areas of study. The committee has approximately 20 members who meet generally on the third Tuesday of the month from September through May at the Syphax Education Center, but occasionally at other locations or times. Persons who wish to serve on the committee should have some degree of knowledge in the subject area or demonstrate a high level of interest in career and technical education programs. For additional information about the Career, Technical, and Adult Education Advisory Committee, please contact the CTAE Office at 703-228-7207, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Mr. Kris Martini, at kris.martini@apsva.us, or Committee Co-Chairs Alisa Cowen at acowen@cowendesigngroup.com and David Remick at Dremick@arlingtonva.us.

Early Childhood Advisory Committee (CTAE)

The Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee focuses on issues specific to pre-school through grade two. Topics may include Montessori programs, kindergarten, programs for four-year-olds and other instructional issues that affect young children. For more information on the Committee, contact. For additional information about the Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee, please contact the Early Childhood Education Office at 703-228-6157, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Elaine Perkins, at elaine.perkins@apsva.us, or its Chair, Meredith Jaeckel, at meredithjaeckel@icloud.com.

English Language Arts Advisory Committee (ELAAC)

The English Language Arts Advisory Committee studies all parts of the English Language Arts Program: reading, writing, speaking and listening. The committee focuses on how these components are taught throughout all grade levels, kindergarten through high school. Based on their study with the staff liaison, recommendations are made to the School Board on a biannual basis. For additional information about the English Language Arts Advisory Committee, please contact the English Language Arts Office at 703-228-8045, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Lori Silver at lori.silver@apsva.us, or Committee Chair, Cloe Chin, at cloechin@hotmail.com.

Equity and Excellence Committee: New Committee; description coming soon!

Gifted Services Advisory Committee (GSAC)

The Gifted Services Advisory Committee reviews materials and makes recommendations concerning the educational needs of Arlington's gifted students. The committee meets on the fourth Monday of every month from September

through May from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. at the Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Boulevard. For more information about the Gifted Services Office and the Gifted Services Advisory Committee, please contact the Gifted Services Office at 703-228-6160, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Cheryl McCullough or for info on the Committee, please contact Co-Chairs, Elaine Maag at elainemaag@gmail.com or Dan Corcoran at danjcorcoraniii@gmail.com.

Math Advisory Committee (MAC)

The Mathematics Advisory Committee (MAC), in support of ACI's role, evaluates student performance data provided by Arlington Public Schools' (APS) Math Office and recommends measures to improve student performance and appreciation for mathematics. While not required, it is helpful for members to work or have experience in a math-related field. Anyone interested in additional information about MAC (including how to become a member) should feel free to contact Staff Liaison Shannan Ellis (Math Supervisor) at shannan.ellis@apsva.us, or the Committee's Chair, Amy Smith Beaumont, at amy_smith_b@yahoo.com.

Science Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Science Advisory Committee studies all aspects of the science curriculum, reviews the types of courses offered and monitors how science instruction is delivered at all grade levels. The SAC works with APS staff to align science curriculum delivery with the mission and vision of the science program. The committee's work is especially focused on inspiring enthusiasm for science and science literacy, inquiry-based experiences, and the quality and equity of the science education experience for all APS students.

<https://www.apsva.us/science/>

MISSION: The APS Science Program serves to inspire an enthusiasm for scientific literacy, foster an inquisitive spirit in learners through inquiry-based experiences in real-life contexts, and create a community of scientifically literate individuals who are able to make informed decisions.

VISION: All APS students will have the scientific knowledge and skills to become part of a productive global work force of problem solvers and innovators

For additional information about the Science Advisory Committee, please contact the Science Office at 703-228-6166, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Dat Le at dat.le@apsva.us, or the Committee's Chair, Jason Papacosma, at sjpapac@hotmail.com.

Social Studies Advisory Committee

The Social Studies Advisory Committee reviews and makes recommendations regarding social studies curriculum at all grade levels. For additional information about the Social Studies Advisory Committee, please contact the Social Studies Office at 703-228-6140, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Kerri Hirsch at kerri.hirsch@apsva.us, or the Committee's Chair, Anne Paris, at achparis@gmail.com.

Student Services Advisory Committee

The Student Services Advisory Committee reviews the services offered by School Counselors, Substance Abuse Counselors, Psychologists and Social Workers, and makes recommendations to the Arlington Public Schools' Advisory Council on Instruction and the Arlington School Board for changes or improvements in those services. There are no special background or experiential requirements for service on this committee, although knowledge of, or interest in, student mental health issues is preferred. The committee meets from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on the second Thursday every month at the Syphax Education Center (2110 Washington Blvd., 22204), room 227, from September through May or June. The Student Services Advisory Committee is led by Arlington community members/parents/guardians.

For more information about the Student Services Office, click <https://www.apsva.us/student-services/>. For additional information about the Student Services Advisory Committee, please contact the Student Services Office at 703-228-6061. School Staff Liaisons: Dr. Laura Newton, Director of Student Services (laura.newton@apsva.us); Pam McClellan, Supervisor of Counseling (pam.mcclellan@apsva.us); and Wendy Carria, Supervisor of School Psychology and Social Work (wendy.carria@apsva.us). Committee Co-Chairs, Judy Hadden at cjhadden@gmail.com , and Kirstin Pickle at kpickle@earthlink.net.

World Languages Advisory Committee

The World Language Advisory Committee (WLAC) assists in the continuous review and assessment of world language programming and instruction. The WLAC offers recommendations for improvement of the different APS language programs, including for the addition of new programs, and it reviews other proposed changes. The WLAC also helps to inform the community about APS world language programs and the benefits of learning languages, for example, through community events. The committee welcomes members to present suggestions and concerns, invites content experts to address the committee, and learns about and discusses issues related to world language instruction and learning. It also seeks to collaborate with other committees in designing and implementing true international education for the development of global citizens. WLAC members include parents of APS students at all levels, career professionals in language education, and also Arlington high school students who are studying one or more world languages. For additional information about the World Languages Advisory Committee, please contact the World Languages Office at 703-228-6097, or the Committee's Staff Liaison, Elisabeth Harrington at elisabeth.harrington@apsva.us, or Committee Chair, Rick Jackson at hjackson@mac.com or fhjackson09@gmail.com.