

## 2018 – 2019 BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 20, 2018

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The meeting started at 7:08 PM.

1. Welcome
  - a. Twelve members were present: Cecilia Ciepiela-Kaelin (Chair), Bob Ramsey (Vice-Chair), Sheila Leonard, Lida Anestidou, Melanie Bowen, Heather Jones, Chuck Rush, Dan Rosman, Juan Gordon, Sr., David Rosenblatt, Cristina Diaz-Torres and Jennifer Wagener; APS staff members Leslie Peterson and Tameka Lovett-Miller and School Board representative Tannia Talento.
2. Public Comments
  - a. Arlington Tech parent (Sharon)
    - i. Voice frustration on behalf of the Arlington Tech families about the expansion of the program, continuing to add students but not growing the space to accommodate this growth as promised
    - ii. Opposed cutting the Animal Technician as an example of cutting programs mid-stream (stop/start)
  - b. Josh Folb (AEA)
    - i. Compensation was part of the work session at the Board meeting March 19th – a lot of information was shared
    - ii. Shared a handout regarding the Teacher pay scale
    - iii. Wants to remind the Board and the BAC that we should consider these scales and make sure that at a minimum teachers are getting paid what they expect
      1. The STEP increase in the budget does not give all teachers an actual increase
      2. A lot of options were presented and discussed in the Board meeting session, including a COLA
        - a. The last COLA was done to part of the teacher scales about 3 years ago
  - c. Kevin Dezfulian, ACI representative
    - i. At last meeting, the ACI identified items with very strong support for and against cutting – from an instructional perspective
    - ii. ACI agrees with the BAC on Not doing the following:
      1. Postponing social workers
      2. Reducing teachers for gifted programs
    - iii. ACI generally agrees with the BAC on the “Agree” column
    - iv. Key items from the BAC “to discuss” list
      1. Eliminate library assistants – don’t support
      2. Eliminate Outdoor lab – don’t support
      3. Reduce 1 FTE at each Middle School – don’t support
      4. Eliminate vocational teachers at high school – don’t support
      5. Cap on Assessments – support doing this (2.39)
      6. Eliminate financial analyst position – support doing this
      7. Adobe/Microsoft office – support doing this
      8. Eliminate instructional coordinators at high school – don’t support
      9. Reduce special ed coordination time – don’t support

### 3. Staff Comments

- a. Suggestion to provide written report to School Board (from BAC) prior to the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting
- b. The School Board is still in information gathering mode
- c. The budget gap is \$9 million, assuming the 1 cent tax increase is approved from the County – important to remember that number in relation to the total amount of Tiers 2 and 3

### 4. Budget Discussion

- a. Going to focus on Tier 2 items tonight
- b. Will take another vote outside of the meeting (via the survey tool)
  - i. Discussion around whether the BAC can meet an additional time given the number of budget items to review and discuss
- c. Class size – BAC is not going to discuss tonight because we have discussed this extensively
- d. Library Assistants – suggestion to make some reductions without eliminating completely
  - i. Concerns about inequity across the County in terms of how the backup plan would be implemented
  - ii. BAC motion to consider a ½ reduction, rather than eliminating
    1. 11 in favor, 0 not in favor, 1 abstain
- e. Outdoor Lab – moving this to Disagree
- f. Reduce 1 FTE at Middle School – Principals would have discretion to implement this, with some parameters
  - i. Principals put this forward
  - ii. BAC motion to support the 1 FTE cut in Tier 2 but not Tier 3
    1. 8 in favor, 4 not in favor, 0 abstain
    2. BAC would like confidence that there is equity across schools in terms of how this is implemented
- g. Eliminate HILT Supplement positions at high schools – this is a planning factor item and supplements other HILT staff (33 staff at the high schools)
  - i. About 20% of students are HILT in APS
  - ii. Very strong language in the “Impact” in terms of the negative impact of reducing these positions
  - iii. Kevin will share more information to the BAC on the information published by this program
- h. Equity and Excellence Coordinators
  - i. Concern raised that APS may not have an overall strategy around equity; although work is being done in this area
    1. This is an area the BAC does not have a lot of first-hand knowledge – there is a section on the APS website that covers some of the work this area does
    2. These positions are directly interacting with students; the position at the central office does not work directly with students

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.