

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
February 27, 2020

**Item C-1-a**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 7:04 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

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

**Also present were:**

Cintia Johnson, Interim Superintendent  
Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services  
Jeannette Allen, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations  
Bridget Loft, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services  
Dan Redding, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Arron Gregory, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer  
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation  
Tameka Lovett-Miller, Budget Director

**A. CLOSED MEETING: NONE**

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:**

1. Call to Order and Presentation of Colors
2. Announcements:  
*Meetings in Rooms 254-256 at 7:00 PM unless otherwise indicated:*
  - *March 10, 2020 Budget Work Session #2; 5 PM*
  - *March 17, 2020 Budget Work Session #3*
  - *March 24, 2020 Budget Work Session #4*
  - *March 25, 2020 Public Hearing on Interim Superintendent’s Proposed Budget*
  - *March 31, 2020 Budget Work Session #5, 6:30 PM*
  - *April 2, 2020 Board Action Item – School Board’s Proposed FY 2021 Budget*
  - *April 3, 2020 Joint School Board/County Board Budget Work Session, 4-6:30 PM*
  - *April 21, 2020 Budget Work Session #6*

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

- *April 30, 2020 Public Hearing on School Board Proposed 2021 Budget*
  - *May 7, 2020 Board Action Item - School Board's Adopted FY 2021 Budget*
- Important County Budget Dates:*

- *March 31, 2020 - Public Hearing on the County Budget*
- *April 2, 2020 - Public Hearing on tax rate*
- *April 21, 2020 - County Board adoption of FY 2021 County Budget*

**C. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT’S PROPOSED FY2021 BUDGET:**

Ms. Johnson began the presentation by confirming that the focus of all decisions is on honoring the APS commitment to every student and staff member. Thanking staff, including the Budget and Finance Department, Executive Leadership Team, and principals, for their work, she also acknowledged County and community support. Confirming the proposal is for a needs-based budget, she reviewed the School Board’s adopted budget direction. She then confirmed that the proposed budget supports current initiatives as well as the recommendations and requirements from the program evaluations for English Learners and Students with special needs, and the recent DOJ settlement. Recognizing funding challenges, she confirmed the proposal is for a conservative, needs-based budget.

After reviewing external budget factors such as an increase in the retirement system contribution rate, state-mandated student-to-school-counselor ratios, and the need to provide competitive teacher salary scales, Ms. Johnson then highlighted county manager’s proposed budget. She outlined rising costs that APS faces, such as enrollment increases, capacity issues, and rising costs for several operating items. Ms. Johnson then presented budget highlights, including the cost for enrollment growth, compensation, instructional supports, funds to support the operational infrastructure, and funding for continuing initiatives. She confirmed a gap of \$27.5 million between the proposed budget and the anticipated county transfer.

Ms. Johnson next highlighted steps taken to reduce the budget deficit, such as incorporating efficiencies in baseline budgets, using funds from reserves for one-time costs, and reallocating FLES funding to more urgent needs. She then presented tiered options to be considered to address a budget deficit if needed. She also reviewed the expenditure summary for all funds, the distribution of funds, and the revenue summary for all funds. In closing, Ms. Johnson shared key takeaways and reviewed the budget calendar.

Ms. Talento thanked Ms. Johnson and her staff for preparing the proposed budget.

**D. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**E. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Tannia Talento, Chair  
Arlington School Board