

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting  
June 25, 2020

**Item C-1-d**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 5:20 PM. This meeting was held by electronic communications means due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, using Microsoft Teams.<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:**

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent  
Dan Redding, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND CLOSED MEETING**

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider the appointments of Principal, Washington-Liberty High School, Principal, New elementary School at the Key site, Director of Athletics, Wakefield High School, Director of Counseling, Williamsburg Middle School, and Chief of Staff, as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1); and for discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 14 of Section 2.2-4705.2, including the assignment or deployment of school resource officers, where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, or building; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure, as authorized in section 2.2-3711(A)(19), 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 closed meeting adjourned at 5:51 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 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*

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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.

follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider a personnel appointment as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1); and for discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 14 of Section 2.2-4705.2, including the assignment or deployment of school resource officers, where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, or building; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure, as authorized in section 2.2-3711(A)(19), 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 closed meeting adjourned at 7:09 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 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. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – Aye.*

Ms. Talento called for a brief recess. The Board reconvened in an open meeting at 7:19 PM.

**Also present were:**

Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services  
Catherine Ashby, Interim Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
John Chadwick, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations  
Cintia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Bridget Loft, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management  
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation  
Arron Gregory, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING:**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Citizen Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items:

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Edward Brown*, parent: sharing health professional guidance on the importance of in-person schooling for children and encouraging APS to reopen.

*Nick Walkosak*, incoming Chair of ASEAC: noting concerns on some policy revisions and asking for more time for advisory groups to review policies prior to Board action.

*Evangelia Riris*, resident: stating concerns about the effect on students of police in the schools and asking that School Resource Officers be removed from APS.

*Ingrid Gant*, Arlington Education Association: Thanking APS for supporting staff, and asking the Board to be cautious and thoughtful as plans are made to reopen.

4. Recognitions:

Arlington Career Center Instructor Colonel Scott Dierlam recognized the Career Center JROTC Cadets for their many achievements over the year. Eighty-five APS students who have been designated as National Latin Scholars were recognized for this award. Debbie DeFranco, Supervisor of Health, Physical Education, Drivers Education and Athletics, congratulated Virginia High School League Winter athletes from Wakefield, Washington-Liberty and Yorktown High Schools for their accomplishments. Ms. Pam Farrell, Supervisor of Arts Education celebrated National Scholastic Arts Award winners from APS.

4. Announcements

- *June 26, 2020 Closed Meeting, 5 PM – Virtual meeting*
- *June 29, 2020 Joint School Board/ELT Retreat, noon – 5 PM, Virtual meeting*

Mr. Goldstein congratulated Randolph Elementary School for a recognition from the IB Organization. Ms. Talento acknowledged Barrett School for receiving a state continuous improvement recognition and appreciated the recent “Let’s Talk” discussion on racism and acknowledged concerns heard from the community.

5. Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán congratulated students who have graduated or were promoted to the next school level in June. He provided a brief update on the Meals on the Go Program which will continue in the summer, and commented on the partnership between Comcast and Arlington County to provide free internet service to families in need. He also described recent Town Hall meetings and the upcoming Let’s Talk Summer Series for students to have a conversation on racism.

Dr. Durán then presented an update on progress made on the initiatives in the School Board’s 2019-2020 Action Plan, including work on capital improvement, planning for growing enrollment in 2020-21, and policy review and updates.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:10 PM)**

Ms. Talento announced that at Ms. Van Doren's request, the Personnel Actions were removed from Consent and would be acted on immediately following the vote on the remaining consent items.

*Ms. Van Doren moved to adopt the consent agenda as revised with the removal of Personnel actions, seconded by Ms. O'Grady. The motion 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 following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:*

1. Minutes:
  - a. February 20, 2020 School Board Meeting
  - b. March 12, 2020 School Board Meeting
  - c. March 25, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting
  - d. April 14, 2020 Policy Subcommittee Meeting
  - e. April 21, 2020 Public Hearing on the Interim Superintendent's Proposed FY 2021 Budget
2. Personnel Actions: REMOVED FROM CONSENT
3. Planetarium Letter of Agreement
4. Appointments to School Board Advisory Groups
5. Revisions to SBPs 5.3.30 Admissions and Placements and J-5.3.31 Options and Transfers
6. School Board Policy M-12.4 Information Security
7. Retirement of Select School Board Policies

Ms. Talento announced that under consent the Board approved the annual Letter of Agreement with the Friends of the Planetarium, made appointments to several school advisory groups, and approved new and revised policies.

**Personnel Actions: (8:11 PM)**

*Dr. Kanninen moved to approve Personnel actions, seconded by Ms. O'Grady. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 1. The voting record is as follows: Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O'Grady – Aye; Ms. Talento – Aye; and Ms. Van Doren – No.*

P/E-SCALE

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Appointment                |
| 4 | Changes in Position/Salary |
| 2 | Resignations               |

1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

2 Changes In Position/Salary  
1 Reduction In Force  
32 Resignations  
4 Retirements  
1 Termination

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Resignations  
1 Retirements

Ms. Talento announced that under Personnel Actions, the Board appointed Elise Kenney Director of Counseling Services at Williamsburg Middle School; Nate Hailey as Director, Student Activities, Wakefield High School; Claire Peters, Principal of the New Elementary School at the Key Site; Antonio Hall, Principal, Washington-Liberty High School; and Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff for Arlington Public Schools.

**D. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:21 PM)**

1. Return to School Status Update

Dr. Durán presented an update on plans to return to school, highlighting state guidance and essential starting points for this planning process. He reviewed health and safety measures that are being developed, spoke to collaboration with the County, and highlighted the Return to School Task Force that was formed to provide input on decisions related to instruction, operations, activities and communications. He reviewed the Task Force charge and guiding principles, and the work they will undertake. He also shared feedback and key takeaways from the recent survey of families and staff about the return to school in the areas of instructional model, staffing, and transportation.

Dr. Durán next described plans for summer distance learning opportunities and learning enhancements. He introduced the proposed instructional model for the return to school that will be implemented if Virginia is in Phase 3 on Aug. 31. The plan is a hybrid in-school and distance learning model with 2 days in-school, 2 days of distance learning, and 1 day for teacher planning/distance learning or student interventions. The model includes an option for families to select all virtual learning if there are health concerns. Dr. Durán stressed the importance of taking a phased approach that considers health guidelines and he outlined the synchronous and asynchronous instruction that will be provided. After summarizing the task force input and rationale in selecting this model for consideration, Dr. Durán shared communications plans and next steps. In closing, he recognized the challenges that families face and confirmed work will continue to refine plans.

Board members appreciated the update and work that has been done by staff and the community and recognized the complexity of planning to reopen. Topics discussed included efforts to ensure staff safety, childcare options, and addressing students' social/emotional needs through the pandemic. Other topics of interest included use of outdoor places, school attendance hours, devices for students, and block scheduling. Also discussed was how reopening schools will align with reopening of businesses and facilities, and how virtual learning will be provided.

2. Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC) Annual Report (9:22 PM)

Chair John Giambalvo presented the FAC's annual report, noting that the Council provides a county-wide perspective on capacity and facility needs and considers the impacts of growing enrollment and costs. After recognizing the challenging situation caused by the pandemic, he summarized FAC's feedback in areas such as projections, Minor Construction/Major Maintenance, the expanded AFSAP/APS Master Plan, the Facilities optimization study, and the streamlining of Use Permit conditions and processes. In closing, Mr. Giambalvo shared thoughts on moving forward with facilities planning and projects.

Mr. Chadwick appreciated the work of the FAC and the support they provide to staff. Mr. Goldstein, Board liaison to FAC, thanked the Council for their ongoing work. Mr. Giambalvo responded to questions on how the FAC's work may change with the pandemic and how to accommodate the altered delivery of instruction. Board members thanked Mr. Giambalvo and the FAC for their work and looked forward to their continued support.

2. Budget Advisory Council (BAC) Annual Report: (9:58 PM)

Bob Ramsey, Chair, presented the BAC's annual report. He thanked BAC members for their work, particularly Lida Anestido and Heather Jones, who will be leaving the BAC. He reviewed principle activities and highlights of the Council's work over the year, noting that two budget reviews were conducted due to changing situations. He then shared recommendations related to the budget review process, budget presentation, the long-term budget structure and the role of the BAC. Additional recommendations focused on adjusting for inflation in the cost per pupil chart and completion of the compensation study.

Ms. Peterson appreciated the work and recommendations of the BAC and looked forward to working with the Council in the future. As Board liaison, Ms. O'Grady also thanked the departing members, and highlighted their work that benefited APS. Board members appreciated the thoughtful recommendations and looked forward to implementing changes to improve the budget process.

**E. ACTION ITEMS: (10:31 PM)**

1. FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan:

Dr. Durán provided a brief introduction to the FY 2021 CIP, highlighting the changing environment that has affected its development. Ms. Stengle provided an overview of the CIP process, and Ms. Peterson summarized project funding included in the proposed CIP. Dr. Durán then reviewed School Board direction to develop a 4- to 6-year CIP in the coming spring. Ms. Peterson shared additional details about the projects in the proposed CIP and Mr. Chadwick presented an update on planning and design funds in the CIP and how those funds are laid out in upcoming referenda. Dr. Durán then reviewed next steps in the CIP process.

*Dr. Kanninen made the following motion:*

*Typically, every two years, the School Board adopts a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) addressing capital needs over the next ten years. This approach to capital planning anticipates needs for the next decade, while providing flexibility to adjust to changing circumstances.*

*During the CIP development process that began in the fall of 2019, the School Board focused on providing seats for students in the areas of most critical need in light of the continued, sustained growth in student enrollment.*

*However, beginning in March 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic caused major economic uncertainties in Arlington and across the nation. This resulted in the need for the School Board to approach the development of this biennial CIP differently.*

*The School Board recognizes that its priority in this CIP is identifying the funding needed for the 2020 bond referendum, in order to begin work on the areas of most critical need. With this in mind, and to align with Arlington County's CIP process this year, the School Board developed a one-year CIP.*

*The School Board further recognizes that an interim four- to six-year CIP will need to be developed in Spring 2021. With that in mind, the School Board is providing additional direction to the Superintendent for the coming year.*

*Consistent with these goals, I move that the School Board adopt the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan, delineated in Slides 17 through 21.*

*I further move that the School Board direct the Superintendent to complete an instruction-driven staff analysis to inform the FY 2022 CIP. The analysis will provide capital and/or non-capital solutions that:*

- Meet the projected need for seats at all levels based on the Fall 2020 projections*
- Potentially include additions, modifications, program moves, leased space, new construction, and/or other solutions that fit within the projected 10-year CIP funding*

- *Consider creative solutions for sizes, grade levels, and locations of all option schools, to include consideration of Pre-K thru 8 and/or Grades 6-12 models of instruction for some option schools*
- *Provide the appropriate facilities to accommodate the full-time high school students on the Career Center campus*
- *Examine creative solutions for more efficient use of the Career Center campus*
- *Consider creative solutions to meet accessibility and short-term parking needs at The Heights*

*The School Board shall also direct the superintendent to bring forward for Board approval no later than January 7, 2021, an overall plan, to be embodied in the School Board's Direction for the FY 2022 CIP to guide development of capital project options that, upon execution, will meet middle, high, and elementary seat needs as confirmed by the Fall 2020 enrollment projections, that are in alignment with planned further development of the Instructional Program Pathways (IPP) process, and that can be completed as close as possible to when the seats are needed and within anticipated available funding. This will result in a process that develops concept designs and total project cost estimates for the capital projects, narrows options, and results in the inclusion of specific capital projects in the School Board's FY 2022 CIP.*

- *For each capital project developed, staff shall prepare a project scope, outline educational and construction specifications, the estimated project cost, and a commitment to the number of seats to be provided and to the date on which the project will be completed. The estimated total cost of capital projects should be within the anticipated limits of capital funding available. The above information on the capital projects developed should be provided not later than March 2021. The estimated total cost for each project will then be considered for inclusion in the FY 2022 CIP.*
- *The Board shall approve the concept design for each project in a public session. Included in the plan should be projected cost monitoring checkpoints to ensure that each capital project remains within the allocated funding stated in the FY 2022 CIP as the design and construction phases proceed for each project.*
- *Every effort shall be made by the Superintendent to utilize only those capital funds needed for planning and design and reserve any excess funds from this allocation for construction of other needed capital projects.*

*In addition, the School Board directs the Superintendent to conduct an after-action study of the Career Center project to determine how to improve APS' construction planning and design process to avoid significant overruns and ensure needed projects are completed on time, within budget, with the seats needed. This study should be completed in time to inform the above capital project development process for the FY 2022 CIP.*



*I further move that the School Board direct the Superintendent to hire an independent consultant to collaborate with the School Board and staff to revise, and as appropriate, supplement the Policies and Policy Implementation Procedures relating to the CIP and the planning, design and construction of capital projects in order to improve financial controls and reporting to the School Board during the process leading up to School Board approval of capital projects in the CIP and during public engagement on and design and construction of capital projects.*

*The Policies and Policy Implementation Procedures to be revised include, but are not limited to:*

- *Policy F-1 Financial Management – Capital Improvement Plan*
- *Policy Implementation Procedure F-1 PIP-1 Financial Management – Capital Improvement Plan*
- *Policy F-5.7 Construction and Maintenance*
- *Policy Implementation Procedure F-5.7 PIP-1 Capital Program Implementation*
- *Policy Implementation Procedure F-5.7 PIP-2 Building Level Planning Committees*
- *Policy Implementation Procedure F-5.7 PIP-3 Project Planning*

*The Policies and Policy Implementation Procedures shall be revised and approved by November 2020, so that they may be applied to development of the School Board’s FY 2022 CIP and the capital projects included in it.*

*WHEREAS, Section 15.2-2640 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the “Code”), requires that the School Board of Arlington County (“School Board”) request, by resolution, that the County Board of Arlington County (“County Board”) adopt a resolution regarding the contracting of a debt and the issuance of general obligation bonds of Arlington County for school purposes;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board, as required by Section 15.2- 2640 of the Code, does hereby request that the County Board adopt a resolution setting forth the maximum amount of its general obligation bonds to be issued for capital projects for school purposes and requesting that the Circuit Court of Arlington County order an election on the question of contracting a debt and issuing the general obligation bonds of Arlington County in an amount not to exceed \$52,650,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of capital projects for school purposes. This resolution shall take effect immediately.*

Ms. Van Doren seconded the motion.

Ms. Van Doren proposed the following amendment: *I move that on page 22 of the direction to the Superintendent in bullet three with the following wording, “consider creative solutions for sizes, grade levels, and locations of all option schools, to include consideration of Pre-K thru 8 and/or Grades 6-12 models of instruction for some option schools” that the word option be stricken from the sentence.* The motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Goldstein.

Ms. Van Doren explained why she proposed this motion, which provides staff with more flexibility than the main motion allowed.

Ms. Talento called for a vote and the motion to amend and it passed by 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 appreciated the work of staff and the community throughout the CIP development process and spoke to the importance of ensuring that this plan is done well and effectively meets the needs of the community and students.

Ms. Talento called for a vote, and the main motion as amended passed by 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.

2. FY 2020 3rd Quarter Fiscal Monitoring Recommendations: (11:04 PM)

Ms. Peterson summarized efforts in place to minimize expenditures, and presented the proposed recommendation, to forego the OPEB Trust annual contribution based on the status of the FY 2020 budget at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.

*Mr. Goldstein moved move that the School Board forego the OPEB Trust annual contribution of \$2.6M FY 2020 as recommended, seconded by Dr. Kanninen.*

Ms. Talento called for a vote and the motion passed by 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.

3. Proposed Revision for the 2020-2021 Barcroft School Calendar: (11:15 PM)

Mr. Redding summarized the proposed recommendation, which will help ensure that preparations can be in place for the Barcroft students prior to school opening in light of the adjustments needed due to the pandemic closure. He shared highlights of efforts taken to address concerns with this change.

*Ms. Talento moved that the Board approve the proposed revision to the 2020-2021 Barcroft School Calendar as presented, seconded by Van Doren.*

Ms. Talento called for a vote and the motion passed by 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.

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS:** (11:20 PM)

1. Arlington Career Center Contract Award for Columbia Pike Branch Library Renovation:

Mr. Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction, presented this item related to the renovation at the Career Center, describing the funding, planned work and timeline for this work. In closing, he shared the staff recommendations, which fall within current approved funding.

Responding to a question, Mr. Chambers stated that there will likely be eight relocatables moved onto this site during this work.

2. Revision of School Board Policy J-8.3.1 School Health Services (11:31 PM):

Ms. Loft described the updates that have been proposed for the revision of Policy J-8.3.1 to align it with state code concerning administration of certain medications, and to clarify language in the policy. Ms. Loft confirmed that input received from ASEAC on these revisions will be responded to by staff.

3. Revision of School Board Policy M-10 Planetarium (11:35 PM):

Ms. Loft summarized minor changes proposed for this policy to clarify use of the facility.

4. Proposed School Board Policy K-2.3.30 Media Relations (11:38 PM):

Ms. Ashby explained that this is a new policy that will provide guidelines to staff on interactions with media and will also provide media with protocols for seeking information from APS.

Ms. Ashby confirmed that any media on school grounds, including at the request of parent or other groups, must be managed by School and Community Relations.

5. Revisions to School Board Policy K-6 Distribution of Non-school Materials (11:41 PM):

Ms. Ashby presented the proposed revisions to Policy K-6 which update the policy name and align it with criteria and practices for distribution of paper and electronic materials in the schools.

**G. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**H. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Melanie Elliott, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Tannia Talento, Chair  
Arlington School Board