

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Budget Work Session #3

Item C-1-h

The Arlington School Board convened on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:02 PM. The meeting was held by electronic communications due to the Covid-19 Pandemic emergency, using Microsoft Teams.

Present were:

Monique O’Grady, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Member
Reid Goldstein, Member
David Priddy, Member
Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
Jeannette Allen, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Cathy Lin, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Bridget Loft, Assistant Superintendent, Teaching and Learning
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Dan Redding, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation
Arron Gregory, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer
Dr. Richard Grip, Consultant, Statistical Forecasting

Department of Teaching and Learning (DTL)

Ms. Loft began by presenting the department’s organizational chart and describing the proposed restructuring of DTL to the Chief Academic Office with the goal of creating a robust systemic instructional focus. She then spoke about budget priorities, new funding requests, and proposed tier reductions.

The Board discussed the proposed funding requests and reductions that were presented.

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Mr. Gregory presented an organizational chart and the proposed restructuring for this office and he highlighted some of the work that has been done by this office to support diversity, equity, and inclusion. As this was the first year that the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion participated in a budget work session, Mr. Gregory presented a financial summary and new funding requests.

The Board discussed the need for a cohesive framework for professional learning related to diversity, equity, and inclusion moving forward, and also discussed the proposed request for the equity influencer equity team stipends.

New School Costs

Ms. Peterson presented a summary of start-up costs and on-going costs needed for new elementary schools that are opening and schools relocating to new sites this fall.

The Board briefly discussed costs associated with the different schools and locations.

Ms. O’Grady called for a brief recess at 7:52 PM and reconvened at 8:01 PM.

Enrollment Projections

Ms. Stengle and Mr. Grip prefaced the presentation by emphasizing that the unprecedented nature of the pandemic resulted in an enrollment anomaly impacting projections not only at APS but nationwide. Mr. Ruiz presented the 2021-22 projections produced using different considerations that acknowledge the enrollment anomaly of 2020 and other atypical factors.

The Board discussed concerns about projections, staffing, and budgetary implications of enrollment projections.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O’Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board