

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Item C-1-b

School Board Public Hearing on the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2022 Budget
March 23, 2021

The Arlington School Board convened on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 8:19 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Monique O'Grady, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Member
Reid Goldstein, Member
David Priddy, Member
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

Also present was:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent

Ms. O'Grady called the meeting to order and reviewed the public hearing procedures and speaker guidelines.

The following speakers addressed the Board concerning compensation, asking for both a STEP and a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), and expressing concerns about the impact of not receiving STEPs and COLAs on staff. Some speakers noted the additional work that staff is doing to maintain learning during the pandemic, and some also commented that APS salaries are falling behind other local jurisdictions:

Ryan Zito, Yorktown teacher
Christine Bolon, Yorktown teacher
Danielle Anctil, teacher
Josh Folb, teacher, Chair of the Arlington Education Association Compensation Committee
Ingrid Gant, President, Arlington Education Association

The following speakers also addressed the Board, asking that funding for students to attend Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology be maintained in the budget. Speakers also spoke to the benefits to students of being able to participate in that program:

Lauren Fisher, student
Erik Winston, student
Trung Phi, student
Jennifer Atkin, parent

¹ 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.

The following speakers also addressed the Board:

Jorge Suarez, parent: asking for continuation of the Montessori satellite classrooms, speaking to the importance of the program and noting the diversity of students who participate in Montessori.

Reginald Goeke, parent: opposing the addition of central office staffing and asking that funds be spent on students and teachers, not administrators.

Gilbert Bell, parent: asking for more support for students and parents during virtual and hybrid learning.

Kip Malinosky, teacher: opposing cuts to academic and athletic stipends in the middle schools and commenting on how important these opportunities are to students, especially vulnerable students and those who do not have the means to pursue activities outside of school.

The following individuals sent statements in writing to the Board:

Carol Hudspeth, parent
Dave Patton, student
Brennan Divett, staff
Cris Ruthenberg-Marshall, parent
Jillian Zimmerman
Lisa Mangi
Jeremy Siegel
Jennifer Walker
Adrienne Bosco
Vitalie Diaconu
Heather Sheets
Tracy Pannozzo
Patrick Rasche

Ms. O’Grady thanked the speakers for sharing their comments. She also summarized messages related to the budget that have been received by the Board throughout the budget process.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O’Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board