

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Career Center After Action Work Session

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, January 14, 2021, at 6:33 PM. This 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
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
Arron Gregory, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation
John Mickevics, Director, Internal Audit
Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction
Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction
Michael DePalma, Facilities Planner
Kris Martini, Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education
Margaret Chung, Principal, Arlington Career Center

Dr. Durán began the work session by speaking to the School Board’s motion on the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that directed the Superintendent to conduct a study to identify improvements for APS’ construction planning and design process moving forward. This request resulted from the Career Center expansion project presented to the School Board being significantly more costly than the funds allocated.

Ms. Stengle shared the objectives of the Career Center After Action Analysis which included understanding how the concept design came in over budget and improving the APS construction planning and design process. She addressed points of discussion to develop an instructional and facility plan for the Career Center site. She also presented background information on the planning for the Career Center and Arlington Tech program over the course of the past decade, and Mr. Chadwick reflected on the lessons learned along the way.

Mr. Mickevics presented the findings of the Career Center After Action Analysis, concluding that the square footage assumptions for the Career Center project in the CIP differed from the square footage assumptions in the Educational Specifications; and the CIP was approved prior to the Educational Specifications.

In addition, Mr. Mickevics presented recommendations to improve planning and budget alignment with APS educational specifications. Ms. Chung and Mr. Martini eloquently spoke about the programs at the Career Center, the improvements made to the building to make it a welcoming place, the focus on creating diverse opportunities to offer work ready courses for students, changes to the animal science program, and their aspirations for the Career Center.

The Board discussed staffing needs and the recommended Project Management Professional (PMP) training for conducting community engagement, streamlining processes and community input, and the instructional needs at the Career Center site. The Board also commented on the analysis findings.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O'Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board