

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting
June 3, 2021

Item C-1-f

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 7:01 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
Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent, Information Services
Jeannette Allen, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services
Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Marcus Gregory, 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
Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff
Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction

A. CALL TO ORDER

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:

Elias Humes, student, and *Marianna Knight*, parent: supporting the proposed renovations for Arlington Tech and Career Center site.

Carolyn Holt, parent: supporting the funding of Arlington Tech and the proposed renovations for the Career Center site.

Christine Brittle, parent: opposing the new proposed renovations for the Career Center site and suggesting an alternate plan for community review.

Seth Watkins, parent, Taylor Elementary School: opposing the increase in class sizes and asking the Board to reconsider this decision.

Haywon Kim, Chair, Arlington Tech Advisory Committee: supporting the proposed renovations for the Career Center site and Arlington Tech.

Samuel Hamilton Humes, community member: supporting the proposed renovations for the Career Center site.

Ingrid Gant, APS community member: reminding the Board to be mindful of communications with staff.

Michelle Van Lare, teacher, Arlington Tech: supporting the proposed renovations for the Career Center site and Arlington Tech.

Laura Edelbrock, parent: supporting the proposed renovations for the Career Center site and the Program for Employment Preparedness (PEP).

Ryoko Reed, parent, Washington-Liberty High School: supporting the virtual instructional model and remaining virtual this school year.

Tannia Talento, ASHPA: thanking the Board for remaining virtual this school year and listening to the voices of the minority community.

Mary Kadera, parent: concerning the presence of School Resource Officers (SROs) in schools.

Henry Hines, teacher, Arlington Tech: supporting the proposed renovations for the Career Center site and Arlington Tech.

Emily Vincent, parent: supporting the recommendations of the School Resource Officers (SROs) Work Group.

4. Recognitions

The Board honored over 100 employees on their retirement from APS. Dr. Durán specifically congratulated Melanie Elliott, Clerk of the School Board, for her tremendous work on behalf of the Board. The Board congratulated students who were recognized as National Latin Scholars and Chief Master Sergeant Kim Turner presented the 2021 class of JROTC Cadets, recapping their journey this school year.

As the 2020-21 liaison to the Student Advisory Board, Mr. Goldstein introduced Abby Dhakal, chair, Sully Atkin, vice chair, and Henry Vo, secretary, who then presented the Student Advisory Board annual report to the School Board.

5. Announcements

- June 7, 2021 Virtual Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 2 PM
- June 8, 2021 Virtual Work Session on the Code of Conduct
- June 10, 2021 Virtual Closed Meeting, 5:30 PM
- June 10, 2021 Public Hearing on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- June 16, 2021 Virtual Closed Meeting, 5:15 PM
- June 21, 2021 Virtual Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 2 PM

Dr. Kanninen announced that Wear Orange weekend was June 4-6 and honors survivors of gun violence. Mr. Goldstein spoke about service projects at Swanson Middle School. Ms. O’Grady announced that the School Board was accepting applications for the School Board advisory councils for the 2021-22 school year and she provided an update on correspondence received by the Board.

6. Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán recognized four employees for their years of service at APS who were not included in the official recognition at the May School Board meeting. He announced that APS recognizes National Pride Month in June. He also shared that Kathryn Petroskey, teacher at Arlington Traditional Elementary School, was the recipient of the 2021 No Place for Hate Educator of the Year Award. He then encouraged the community to participate in the planning unit data review questionnaire, shared important end-of-the-year information, and provided an update on the School Board’s Action Plan.

Mr. Goldstein suggested communication to schools about end-of-year celebrations expectations.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:30 PM)

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Ms. Diaz-Torres – Aye; Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:

- a. April 8, 2021 School Board Meeting
- b. April 20, 2021 Work Session 2 with the Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning
- c. April 22, 2021 School Board Meeting
- d. April 28, 2021 School Board Retreat
- e. May 13, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- f. May 13, 2021 Closed Meeting
- g. May 17, 2021 Policy Subcommittee Meeting
- h. May 20, 2021 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Appointment
13 Changes In Position/Salary
1 Resignation
3 Retirements
1 Reclassification Request
Classification Specification – Supervisor of English Language Arts (Elementary and Secondary)

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

1 Appointment
34 Resignations
1 Resignation With Prejudice
3 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

4 Resignations
1 Retirement

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

1 Appointment
3 Changes In Position/Salary
2 Resignations
3 Retirements

3. Profile of a Graduate Brief
4. Proposed Revisions to School Board Policy I-7.2.8 Instructional Delivery Options
5. Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund Contribution
6. Appointments to Joint Facilities Advisory Council

Ms. O’Grady confirmed that as part of consent, the Board accepted the Profile of a Graduate Brief. She also announced that the Board adopted revisions to School Board Policy I-7.2.8 Instructional Delivery Options. As part of the policy review process, the accompanying Policy Implementation Procedures, I-7.2.8 PIP-1 Alternative Secondary Instructional Delivery and I-7.2.8 PIP-2 Virtual Instruction, were reviewed and revised as needed by the Superintendent, to ensure that they continue to align with the updated policy. Finally, Ms. O’Grady was elated to announce that the Board appointed Kim Graves as Chief of School Support.

D. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:37 PM)

1. School Year 2020-2021 Update

Dr. Durán presented an update on the APS COVID-19 Dashboard and mitigation measures for the summer and fall of 2021. He confirmed APS will continue to adjust measures for the 2021-22 school year based on the latest guidance and best practices. He also spoke about high school graduation plans. As part of this Teaching and Learning update, Dr. Durán highlighted that the Washington Post reported that APS currently serves the largest percentage of students in person among area school divisions. He also explained that APS has prioritized giving as many students as possible the opportunity to attend classes in-person at least two days per week, versus transitioning in-person students to more days. As a result, a greater percentage of students have been able to attend in person compared to other school divisions. Dr. Durán then described the planned summer school model and technology support, and the model for five days of in-person instruction in the fall. He also briefly spoke about back-to-school communications.

The Board discussed communications, the timeline for families to change their instructional model preference, provision of hard copies of the Back-to-School Family Guide to families who do not have internet access, and technology support during the summer.

2. 3rd Quarter Fiscal Monitoring Report: (8:57 PM)

Ms. Peterson explained that the purpose of the 3rd Quarter Fiscal Monitoring Report is:

- To measure the financial progress of the current school year
- To ensure the current year's budget accurately reflects the spending plan
- To determine if adjustments to the current year's budget may be necessary
- To help shape the development of next fiscal year's budget

She provided a status update on the FY 2021 budget which included a summary of revenue and expenditures. Ms. Peterson also reviewed the Coronavirus relief payments and COVID-19 related expenditures. Net funds available in the 3rd Quarter Fiscal Monitoring Report are \$22.5 million, and because these funds currently are the only funds available to replenish the reserves, Ms. Peterson did not have any recommendations for the reallocation of the funds. Lastly, she gave an update on the FY 2021 Minor Construction/Major Maintenance funds.

The Board acknowledged the difficult, yet critical, work staff had to engage and manage the current budget during an unprecedented fiscal year. The Board discussed reserve funds and the contingency monies for additional and unknown expenses related to COVID-19.

E. ACTION ITEMS: (9:20 PM)

1. Proposed Name for the Key Immersion Program at the ATS site

Dr. Kanninen moved that the School Board adopt the name, Escuela Key Elementary for the immersion program at the Arlington Traditional School site,

seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Ms. Diaz-Torres – Aye; Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye.

2. Syphax Education Center Internal Modifications: (9:22 PM)

Since this item was presented in May, Mr. Chambers noted that the final project budget changed from \$485,000 to \$385,000.

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved that the School Board approve the proposed Syphax Education Center Internal Modifications. She also moved that the Board authorize staff to transfer up to \$385,000 from the Capital Reserve for the project; and authorize staff to transfer remaining project funds at completion back to the Capital Reserve. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen and was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Ms. Diaz-Torres – Aye; Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS: (9:25 PM)

1. School Board Proposed FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Emphasizing that student success and well-being informed the proposed CIP, Dr. Durán presented the Arlington Career Center site proposal, the Heights Building project, and the upgrades to kitchen facilities. Ms. Peterson then described the funding and project cost for the proposed CIP and the timeline for the completion of each project. Lastly, Mr. Chambers provided a thorough presentation of all the proposed projects.

The Board discussed the construction impact on schools that will be undergo renovations, a viable budget for the Career Center proposal and the instructional pathway for the programs at this site, the community engagement process, and a timeline for Board approval related to the CIP projects. Dr. Kanninen spoke about the collaboration with the County Board for funding support.

2. Arlington Community High School Accreditation: (10:27 PM)

The Arlington Community High School (ACHS) must submit an alternative accreditation plan that addresses all the Virginia State Standards of Accreditation and School Quality Indicators. Dr. Barbara Thompson, principal, presented the proposed plan to allow for ACHS to seek the alternative school accreditation.

3. School Resource Officer Work Group Update and Superintendent Recommendations: (10:33 PM)

Mr. Stockton began by thanking the School Resource Officer (SRO) Work Group members and the Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) liaisons for their time commitment and their important feedback. He summarized the engagement of the SRO Work Group and explained the process used to develop the

recommendations to evaluate and examine APS' partnership with the ACPD and to review the longstanding practice of SROs in schools. He detailed the subgroup recommendations in the areas of mental health and substance abuse, education and mentorship, physical security, and law enforcement. In addition, he presented ten primary recommendations of the work group.

The Superintendent recommended that, based on the input from the community and the SRO Work Group, School Resource Officers no longer have a daily presence in schools. He also recommended the relationship with ACPD be reimagined to ensure school safety. He then detailed additional recommendations for APS to continue its longstanding relationship with ACPD and their role in providing support to students, staff, and the APS community.

The Board discussed the possible budget impact of the recommendations, the Work Group input, shifting towards a restorative justice model, and working with Arlington County to increase services and supports. In response to Board questions, Dr. Juliette Shedd, SRO Work Group facilitator, provided additional information on the work group's framework. The Board appreciated the efforts of the Work Group and staff, noting that the productive engagement on this sensitive topic was critical and necessary to move forward. Some Board members expressed their support for the Superintendent's recommendations.

4. Education Center Reuse Change to Construction Manager Advisor Contract: (11:22 PM)

Mr. Chambers proposed the change to the Construction Manager Advisor (CMA) services contract with McDonough Bolyard Peck (MBP), which is required due to the changes in project scope and construction duration. He recommended the approval of the individual change order of \$163,945 and the increase of the contract with MBP to \$794,952.

The Board briefly discussed the need for the CMA and funding.

G. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

H. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O'Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board