

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Board Meeting and Closed Meeting  
June 24, 2021

**Item C-1-b**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 6:02 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**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  
Dan Redding, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

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

*Ms. O’Grady moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider up to 7 appointments, 27 changes in position/salary, 14 resignations, 7 retirement, and 3 reclassification requests; as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 - 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. O’Grady, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively.*

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

*Ms. O’Grady 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 Mr. Priddy 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.*

Ms. O’Grady called for a brief recess, and the Board reconvened in an open meeting at 7:02 PM.

**Also present were:**

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  
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  
Cathy Lin, Director, Facilities and Operations  
John Mickevics, Director, Internal Audit

**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 supporting to remove School Resource Officers (SROs) from schools and the School Resource Officer Work Group – Superintendent’s Recommendations:

*Jennie Apter*, parent, Barrett Elementary School  
*Peter Anderson*, teacher  
*Courtney Massie*, Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Northern Virginia  
*Emily Vincent*, parent  
*Benjamin Portner*, student, Washington-Liberty High School  
*Erik Lotke*, member, School Resource Officer Work Group  
*Symone Walker*, co-chair, Education Committee, NAACP Arlington Branch  
*Yvonne McIntire*, community member

The following speakers addressed the Board reprimanding the decision to maintain the closing of schools during the 2020-2021 school year and sharing concerns about student achievement:

*Andrew Alexander*, parent  
*Deanna Caputo*, parent  
*Aaron Asimakopoulos*, parent  
*Reade Bush*, parent

The following speakers addressed the Board requesting that in vitro fertilization (IVF) coverage be included in employee health benefits:

*Katrina Reed*, teacher, Washington-Liberty High School  
*Joe Reed*, teacher  
*Chris Barulic*, teacher, Dorothy Hamm Middle School

The following speakers addressed the Board:

*Sonia Rosen*, parent: sharing her student’s experience with bullying and its impact on mental health.

*Frank Lusby*, community member: discouraging the use of critical race theory curriculum.

*Seth Watkins*, parent: requesting reconsideration of the class size increase at the elementary level.

*Edward Allen*, vice chair, Aquatics Committee: supporting School Board Policy M-15 Aquatics Facilities and Programs

4. Recognitions

Debbie DeFranco, Supervisor of Health, Physical and Driver Education and Athletics, recognized student athletes on their accomplishments at the state level in the 2020-2021 school year. On behalf of Arlington Public Schools, Kristin Haldeman, Director of Multimodal Transportation Planning, thanked the Arlington County Department of Transportation, Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Arlington County Police Department for helping APS meet student transportation needs throughout the pandemic. Ms. Kristin Devaney, Supervisor of School Counseling, congratulated McKinley and Fleet Elementary Schools for receiving the Recognized American School Counselor Association Model Program Designation.

5. Announcements

- June 29, 2021 Closed Meeting, 6 PM
- July 1, 2021 Organizational Meeting, 9:30 AM.

Mr. Goldstein spoke about the Arlington Traditional Elementary School move to a new building and their new summer reading initiative. He also shared about the Career Center's mural art. In addition, Mr. Goldstein congratulated Mary Begley, Principal at Arlington Science Focus Elementary School, on receiving the National PTA Life Achievement Award, and Chip Bonnar, Principal at New Directions, on earning his doctorate degree.

Ms. O'Grady announced that beginning on July 1, the Board will hold all meetings in-person and will adopt the 2021-2022 regular school year meeting calendar. She also announced that Open Office Hours are not held during the summer.

6. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán shared information about the new process for virtual students to transition to in-person instruction for the 2021-22 school year, summer meal distribution, and the School Board Action Plan.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA: (8:20 PM)**

*Dr. Kanninen moved to adopt the consent agenda*, 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. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
  - a. April 29, 2021 Public Hearing on School Board Proposed FY 2022 Budget
  - b. May 5, 2021 Policy Subcommittee Meeting
  - c. May 11, 2021 FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan Work Session #1
  - d. May 27, 2021 Closed Meeting
  - e. June 1, 2021 Committee of the Whole on the Capital Improvement Plan
  - f. June 3, 2021 School Board Meeting
  - g. June 7, 2021 Policy Subcommittee Minutes
  - h. June 10, 2021 Closed Meeting
  - i. June 16, 2021 Closed Meeting

2. Personnel Actions:

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 2 Changes in Position/Salary
- 3 Resignations
- 1 Retirement
- 1 Reclassification Request
- Classification Specification – Accounts Coordinator for the Dept. of Teaching & Learning

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 61 Resignations
- 2 Resignations (With Prejudice)
- 6 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 16 Changes In Position/Salary
- 6 Retirements

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 11 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Resignations
- 1 Resignation (With Prejudice)
- 4 Retirements
- 1 Reclassification Request
- Classification Specification – Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer

3. Family and Community Engagement Brief
4. Arlington Community High School Accreditation

5. ~~Appointments to the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs POSTPONED TO July 1~~
6. ~~Appointments to the Budget Advisory Council POSTPONED TO July 1~~
7. ~~Appointments to Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (Co-Chairs and Vice Chairs) and the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (Appointments to Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning POSTPONED TO July 1)~~
8. ESEA Program Applications
9. Education Center Reuse Change to Construction Manager Advisor Contract

Ms. O’Grady confirmed that the Board accepted the Family and Community Engagement Brief, and announced that the Board appointed members to the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee. Ms. O’Grady congratulated Iliana Gonzales who was appointed Principal of Taylor Elementary School.

**D. MONITORING ITEMS: (8:24 PM)**

1. School Year 2020-2021 Final Update:

Dr. Durán acknowledged the difficulties of the 2020-2021 school year and highlighted the academic achievements and accomplishments throughout the school year.

As part of this final update on the 2020-2021 school year, he summarized the preparation to implement distance learning, ensuring internet connectivity for students and staff, and meal distribution. He described work to prepare for the safe return to in-person instruction that included air quality analysis, capacity and transportation planning, creative use of outdoor space for lunch, and COVID-19 response and testing. He also shared professional development and employee engagement work to adjust curriculum, assessment, and instructional delivery. In addition, he spoke about the various diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

In preparation for the new school year and planning for the future, Dr. Durán shared some of the work taking place to support students and prepare for growth.

2. Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC) Annual Report: (9:05 PM)

Outgoing chair John Giambalvo provided a summary of the FAC and their focus on providing input on capacity and facility needs for the school division. He spoke about the uncertainty of projections and possible deviations due to the pandemic and shared about some of the Minor Construction/ Major Maintenance (MC/MM) projects. He reiterated the FAC’s recommendation to expand the Arlington

Facilities and Student Accommodation Plan (AFSAP) to create a comprehensive APS master plan, support for a facilities optimization study, and streamline the use permit processes. Mr. Giambalvo also reviewed past FAC recommendations and their importance to the present and he shared feedback on the FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Goldstein inquired about improving council engagement and Ms. O'Grady thanked the FAC for their important work and recommendations.

3. Budget Advisory Council (BAC) Annual Report: (8:49PM)

Outgoing chair Melanie Bowen provided a summary of the BAC, confirming that the council provides input on APS financial policies, feedback on the School Board's budget direction, and recommendation on the proposed budget. She presented recommendations for the 2020-2021 school year and expressed support for past BAC reports. Ms. Bowen also presented guidance for the FY 2023 budget that focused on a balanced budget, multi-year planning, more transparency, differentiated funding formula, and tighter enrollment forecasts.

The Board discussed some of the BAC recommendations such as the compensation plan and building community partnerships. They thanked Ms. Bowen for her leadership and the BAC for their recommendations.

4. ~~Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL) Annual Report:~~  
POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE

5. Internal Audit Annual Report: (9:36 PM)

Mr. Mickevics presented an internal audit overview and shared the FY 2021 Audit that included after-action analysis of the Career Center, compliance with the Department of Justice (DOJ) settlement agreement, analysis of operating costs for option schools compared to neighborhood schools, and identifying potential efficiencies, cost savings and revenue opportunities. For the upcoming school year, Mr. Mickevics noted he will work to update the APS Risk Analysis and develop the FY 2022 internal audit plan.

The Board discussed staffing and professional training related to the DOJ settlement agreement and transportation cost analysis for option schools. As the audit committee chair, Dr. Kanninen expressed her gratitude for Mr. Mickevics's work which ensures APS is identifying efficiencies and cost saving opportunities.

**E. ACTION ITEMS: (10:05 PM)**

1. FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):

Ms. Peterson reviewed the Revised Proposed FY 2022-24 CIP and the proposed timeline for project completion. The projects included in the CIP include major infrastructure Projects, HVAC improvements, kitchen renovations, entrance

renovations and security vestibules, The Heights building renovation, and synthetic field turf replacements. She also presented the details on the Career Center site possible new construction, renovation, and alterations.

The Board requested clarifying information about the planning phases of the Career Center Campus and costs estimates.

*Dr. Kanninen made the following motion:*

*Due to the pandemic and related economic uncertainties, the School Board adopted a one-year capital improvement plan in 2020 rather than a traditional ten-year CIP. The one-year CIP, by definition, focused on the school system's immediate needs and delayed consideration of longer-term projects, even those that were previously planned, such as the Career Center project.*

*This year, the School Board will adopt a three-year-CIP. Like the one-year CIP, this CIP is not a long-term plan. Rather it is a bridge that leads APS back toward the traditional ten-year CIP that will be developed in the coming year and adopted in spring 2022. As such, this CIP focuses on immediate and short-term needs and also returns to planning for the longer-term future, including a renewed focus on the Career Center project and seat needs as well as direction to begin developing plans to renovate our oldest school buildings in the future.*

*I therefore move that the School Board adopt the 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan with revisions as presented in Attachment A to this motion (slides 6-12).*

*I also move that the School Board direct the Superintendent to:*

- *Proceed with relocation of ACHS at a maximum total project cost of \$6.18 million, to be completed by August 2023.*
- *No later than October 2021, present to the School Board for approval the proposed educational specifications, diagrammatic site and building plans, and a reconciled cost estimate for a project at the ACC site that meets these requirements:*
  - *Provides 3 options, each at the lowest possible cost*
  - *Provides facilities for existing programs within the ACC building, including appropriately sized cafeteria, library, gymnasium, arts space and CTE labs;*
  - *Adds the maximum number of secondary seats within the stated cost limit;*
  - *Adds an athletic field similar in size to what was proposed in the May 2020 concept;*
  - *Completes new and/or renovated space as close to December 2025 as possible; and*
  - *Includes parking to meet expected demand of the various uses on site.*

*I also move that the School Board direct the Superintendent to include in the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023-32 CIP in Spring 2022 a long-range plan to renovate existing school facilities that provides:*

- *A schedule of renovations to be completed, and*
- *The order of priority with supporting rationale.*

*I further move that the School Board approve the following actions:*

- *Create the ACHS Relocation capital project and transfer \$6.18 million from previous bond funding into the project;*
- *Create the Career Center Campus capital project and transfer \$14.62 million from previous bond funding into the project;*
- *Create the Air Quality and HVAC Upgrades capital project and transfer \$10.5 million from previous bond funding into the project;*
- *Create the Campbell and Swanson Kitchen Renovation capital project and transfer \$1.72 million from the Capital Reserve into the project; and*
- *Transfer \$2.85 million from the Capital Reserve into The Heights Phase 2 capital project.*

*I also move that the board adopt the following resolution:*

*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 \$23,010,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of capital projects for school purposes. This resolution shall take effect immediately.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres. Board members shared their position on the CIP and supported its emphasis on infrastructure maintenance. They also shared concerns about the future of the Career Center site and The Heights Building parking. In addition, Dr. Kanninen commended staff for their extraordinary work to address the CIP while also tackling the pressing needs caused by the pandemic.

Ms. O'Grady called for a vote and 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. School Resource Officer Work Group Update and Superintendent Recommendations: (10:50 PM)

Dr. Durán presented an update to the Superintendent's recommendation, explaining that APS and Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) will collaborate to determine the best method of providing law-enforcement services to schools, but officers would not be located in school buildings. He spoke about increasing mental health services and reiterated the addition of counselors in the FY 2022 Budget.

The Board discussed the proposed implementation timeline, policy revisions, and updating the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to specifically address working with youth.

*Ms. Diaz-Torres moved that the School Board approve the following Superintendent's Recommendations regarding the findings of the School Resource Officers:*

1. *APS will continue its longstanding relationship with ACPD.*
2. *APS and ACPD will collaborate to determine the best method of providing law-enforcement services to schools, but officers will not be located in school buildings.*
3. *In the event of an emergency or for law-enforcement needs, ACPD will provide police services as needed.*
4. *The services of SROs will be reimagined to meet the needs of students, staff, and the APS community.*
5. *ACPD will continue to provide training to students and staff as needed with the hope of implementing the recommendations of the SRO Work Group.*
6. *The name of the SRO program will be changed to reflect the new support role they will be providing to students and staff. (e.g. Juvenile Response Group or Youth Resource Officer).*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Priddy. The Board thanked Mr. Stockton for spearheading the School Resource Officer Work Group and presenting a comprehensive report that prioritizes the commitment of the Board on this topic.

Ms. O'Grady called for a vote and 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.

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS:** (11:14 PM)

1. Cherrydale Farmers Market – Open Air Market License Agreement at Dorothy Hamm Middle School

Ms. Lin recommended the approval of the open-air market license agreement with Field to Table, Inc. for the Cherrydale Farmers Market at Dorothy Hamm Middle School on Saturdays from April through November from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The permit use would allow vendors to set up in the plaza area outlined in Exhibit A of the presentation with up to twenty vendors allowed.

The Board discussed the potential noise disruption to neighbors and considered changing the start times.

**G. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS: (11:33 PM)**

1. Revision to School Board Final FY 2022 Budget

Ms. Peterson proposed a revision to the total FY 2022 Budget amount adopted on May 6. The revision is a result of using the net change for Compensation Option 4 as the amount of increase in the budget rather than the actual increase.

Mr. Priddy suggested updating the budget system to avoid future mistakes and easier manipulation of the budget.

*Mr. Goldstein moved that the Arlington School Board revise its Adopted Fiscal Year 2022 School Board Budget totaling \$700,933,893 and increase it by \$657,783 to reflect the actual total cost of Compensation Option 4. The School Board's FY 2022 Adopted budget as revised totals \$701,591,676.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres 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.

**G. NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**H. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Monique O’Grady, Chair  
Arlington School Board