

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting
August 12, 2021

Item C-1-a

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 5:30 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Monique O’Grady, Member
Cristina Diaz-Torres, 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 called the meeting to order and announced that Dr. Kanninen and Mr. Goldstein were out of town and not able to attend the meeting.

Ms. O’Grady moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider 67 appointments, 28 changes in position/salary, 22 resignations, 2 retirements, 2 reclassification requests, and 1 termination as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1), seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 - 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Ms. O’Grady, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively.

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 3 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Ms. Diaz-Torres – Aye; Ms. O’Grady – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye.

Ms. O’Grady called for brief a recess at 6:33 PM and the Board reconvened in open session at 7:05 PM.

Also present were:

Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
Kimberley Graves, Chief of School Support

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.

Bridget Loft, Chief Academic Officer
Dr. John Mayo, Chief Operating Officer
Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order

Ms. O’Grady called the meeting to order and announced that Dr. Kanninen and Mr. Goldstein were out of town and not able to attend the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

C. CONSENT ITEMS: (7:05 PM)

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved for adoption of the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 3 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Ms. O’Grady, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes:
 - a. June 9, 2021 Joint School Board/County Board CIP Work Session
 - b. July 1, 2021 Organizational Meeting
 - c. July 28, 2021 Policy Subcommittee Meeting

2. Personnel actions

P/E-SCALE

- 4 Appointments
- 9 Changes In Position/Salary
- 2 Resignations
- 1 Retirement
- 2 Reclassification Requests
 - Director of Finance
 - Assistant Division Counsel

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 52 Appointments
- 8 Changes In Position/Salary
- 10 Resignations
- 4 Resignations (With Prejudice)

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 6 Appointments
- 4 Changes In Position/Salary
- 6 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 5 Appointments

- 7 Changes In Position/Salary
 - 1 Retirement
 - 1 Termination
3. Appointment to Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee
 4. Revision of School Board Policy I-7.4.1.31 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
 5. Revision of School Board Policy I-7.4.1.33 Addition of New Sports Teams
 6. Certification of APS Emergency Management Plan

Ms. O’Grady announced that as a part of consent, the Board adopted revisions to School Board Policy I-7.4.1.31 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities and Policy I-7.4.1.33 Addition of New Sports Teams. She also shared that the Board approved the appointment of a student representative to the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee and approved the APS Emergency Management Plan for the 2022 School Year. In addition, Ms. O’Grady announced that the Board appointed Lisa Pellegrino as Assistant Director of Assessment; Amy Jackson as Supervisor of Educational Technology; Sharrin Saintil as Student Climate Coordinator; and Maggie Slye as Supervisor of English/Language Arts. The Board also appointed the following assistant principals: France Lee, Key Elementary, Crystal Moore, Charles R. Drew Elementary, Suzanne Paul, Hoffman-Boston Elementary, and Rebecca Ward, Alice West Fleet Elementary.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS: (7:18 PM)

1. Board Announcements:

August 25, 2021 Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 8:30 AM, Board Conference Room

2. Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán provided information related to back-to-school reiterating that school began on August 30, 2021. He shared that the 2021-2022 school year priorities focus on accelerated learning and support, mental health wellbeing, and health and safety. To protect the health and safety of students, staff and community, Dr. Durán stated that APS and Arlington County will require all employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccination or show proof of vaccination status no later than September 13, 2021 and he outlined the layered health and safety approach. Furthermore, Dr. Durán spoke about the multiple communication channels for parents to received information about APS, including the launch of the APS Facebook page in Spanish and family support helpline. Lastly, Dr. Durán shared a brief update on class sizes, noting that the administration office is working closely with principals to ensure class sizes are below the maximum number of students.

Dr. Durán congratulated the Washington-Liberty High School International Baccalaureate Program for achieving an overall pass rate of 92.6% for all W-L students participating in IB classes, the highest in the 25-year history of IB at W-L.

The Board discussed quarantine procedure communications, and back-to-school reopening logistics. Ms. O’Grady and Ms. Loft encouraged the community to apply for early childhood programs because they provide a rich educational experience for students. Ms. Diaz-Torres applauded the decision to require vaccines to keep students safe and learning in the coming school year. And inquired about the timeline for staff to submit their vaccination status. She also inquired about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Arlington County Police Department and updating any corresponding School Board policies to include community feedback. Ms. O’Grady briefly shared about the Virtual Learning Program virtual townhall and Dr. Durán expanded on information on the instructional options for families.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: NONE

F. ACTION ITEMS: NONE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: NONE

H. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board