

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting Minutes
 May 12, 2022

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 5:30 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
 Reid Goldstein, Vice Chair
 Cristina Diaz-Torres, Member
 Mary Kadera, Member
 David Priddy, Member
 Claudia Mercado, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Kanninen called the meeting to order and *moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider as many as 7 appointments, 15 changes in position/salary, 3 classification specification requests, 33 resignations, 2 resignations with prejudice, 11 retirements, and 1 termination as authorized by Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(1).* The motion was seconded by Mr. Priddy, and it was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Kadera, Dr. Kanninen, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively.

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

Dr. Kanninen moved to certify that pursuant to 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia, to the best knowledge of each School Board member, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting just held, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening this 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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye.

Dr. Kanninen called for a brief recess at 6 PM The Board reconvened in an open session at 7 PM.

Also present were:

Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations
 Kimberley Graves, Chief of School Support
 Joanne Uyeda, Interim Chief Academic Officer
 Christine Smith, Legal Counsel
 Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING (7 PM):

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation of Colors: Arlington Career Center AF JROTC Cadets Corps

Dr. Kanninen began the meeting by highlighting Teacher Appreciation Week. Board members, along with the Superintendent, celebrated many of APS's finest at the Celebration of Excellence event, which honored the Teacher, Principal, and Support Staff members of the Year. Dr. Kanninen expressed the Board's deep appreciation

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to all the educators who work hard to support students in the classroom and who are the core reason APS is the successful school system that it is.

C. CONSENT ITEMS (7:03 PM):

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved for the adoption of the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 5 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Dr. Kanninen, Ms. Kadera, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes: None

2. Personnel Actions

P/E-SCALE

- 10 Changes In Position/Salary
- 1 Resignation
- 19 Classification Specifications and Reclassification Requests

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 3 Changes In Position/Salary
- 27 Resignations
- 4 Retirements

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 1 Appointment
- 2 Resignations
- 3 Retirements

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 5 Appointments
- 2 Changes In Position/Salary
- 3 Resignations
- 2 Resignations With Prejudice
- 3 Retirements
- 1 Termination

3. Revisions to School Board Policies J-5.1.30 Attendance and J-5.1.31 Full-Day School Attendance

4. Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Excellence in Workforce Readiness Application

Dr. Kanninen announced that under consent, the Board adopted revisions to School Board Policies J-5.1.30 Attendance and J-5.1.31 Full-Day School Attendance and the Superintendent approved the Policy Implementation Procedures (PIPs) related to these policies. The Board appointed the following administrative changes – Dr. Jeannette Allen, Director of Secondary Education, Tyrone Byrd, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Laurel Cerrud, Assistant Principal to Oakridge Elementary School, Yvonne Dangerfield, Outdoor Lab Administrator, Latisha Ellis, Assistant Principal to Williamsburg Middle School, Scott McKeown, Assistant Principal to Swanson Middle School, Crystal Moore, Assistant Principal to Hamm Middle School, Laura Porter, Assistant Principal to Yorktown High School, and Erika Sanchez, Assistant Principal to Escuela Key Elementary. Lastly, Dr. Kanninen was pleased to announce that the Board appointed Inga Schoenbrun as the Assistant Principal of Arlington Traditional Elementary School. In addition, the Board briefly honored Ms. Holly Hawthorne, Principal at Arlington Traditional Elementary School, on her retirement after 48 years of service at APS.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS (7:15 PM):

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1. Board Announcements:

- May 17, 2022 – CIP Work Session #1, 6:30 PM, Board Room
- May 24, 2022 – Closed Meeting, 5:30 PM, Board Conference Room
- May 24, 2022 - CIP Work Session #2, 6:30 PM, Board Room
- May 25, 2022 – Virtual Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 8:30 AM

Dr. Kanninen announced that for 2022, the School Board named three outstanding volunteers who have made extraordinary contributions to Arlington Public Schools as Honored Citizens – Nelly Hernandez, Sarah Clarke LaBonte, and April Maddox. In addition, this year the School Board was honored to present a special recognition to one exceptional individual, Ms. Judy Hadden, for her four-decade-long volunteer service to APS going above and beyond in serving and supporting students and staff. Lastly, she encouraged the community to apply to serve on School Board advisory committees for the next school year.

Mr. Priddy encouraged the community to attend the Outdoor Lab Open House. He also encouraged parents to jump into the rewarding opportunity to volunteer in their school's Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). Dr. Kanninen sent a shout-out to LJ Seiff, a student at Swanson Middle School, whom the Board met at the Special Education PTA meeting that honored a number of educators and programs across APS for their extraordinary work.

2. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán was proud to announce the beginning of graduation season and shared that information and the full schedule of graduations and promotions were posted on the APS website. Noting that a priority of APS is to keep students safe, he encouraged students to use sound judgment during graduation celebratory season and encouraged conversations with teens about the risks associated with drinking and drug use. Dr. Durán then announced that the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) testing was going to be administered to students in grades 3-12 in the months of May and June. He also reminded families to register for Extended Day for Summer School and the 2022-23 school year. He highlighted the work of the Social Studies Office which focused on supporting inquiry-based practices and performance assessment across all grade levels. Lastly, Dr. Durán congratulated the team of Arlington Career Center students who earned top honors at the 57th annual State Leadership Conference and Skills Championships in April.

Dr. Kanninen congratulated Mr. Tom O'Day, Television and Multimedia Production Instructor, on the Career Center's accomplishment at the state competitions. Ms. Kadera inquired about the impact of elementary start time changes and the demand for Extended Day Services. Dr. Durán noted the need for families to register on time so that staffing could be appropriately allocated to meet the demand.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS (7:35 PM):

The following speakers addressed the Board:

First and Last Name:	Organization or school affiliation:	Topic: AGENDA ITEM
Molly Haines	Teacher, Hoffman Boston Elementary	Sharing lack of substitute pool concerns
Abbas Ravjani	Parent, Arlington Traditional School	Opposing the change in school start time
Maram Alkhatib		Suggesting the use of a bus tracking mobile application
Lisa Scott	Northern Virginia Community College	Opposing decreasing the space for the animal science program at the Career Center

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Erin Baynham	Parent, Williamsburg Middle School	Requesting the reinstatement of end-of-year pool parties
Sherrice Kerns	Parent, Wakefield High School, and Co-Chair of the Arlington Branch NAACP Education Committee	Urging more action on the disproportional reading and math performance levels for students of color
Jennifer Bartlett	President, Friends of Arlington's David M. Brown Planetarium	Requesting the opening of the Planetarium
Symone Walker	Arlington NAACP Education Committee	Requesting intensive reading intervention for grades 9-12
Christine Brittle	Penrose Civic Association	Requesting a long-term plan for the Career Center site
Brandon Clark	Teacher, Gunston Middle School	Expressing his gratitude to the Gunston Social Studies Team and thanking Dr. Ottley for visiting Gunston to address mental health
Darnell Carpenter		Sharing about the tax credit program
Miranda Turner	Arlington Parents for Education	Requesting allocating resources to address learning loss

F. MONITORING ITEMS: NONE

G. ACTION ITEMS (8:04 PM):

1. School Start Time

Ms. Renee Harber, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations, presented revisions to the proposed school start times and projected transportation services.

The Board inquired about the intricate community engagement process and optimizing services.

Mr. Priddy moved that the School Board approve the revised school start time recommendation as shown on slide 3 of the May 12, 2022 School Start Times and Results of 2022 Bell Time Study presentation which will be made part of the official record, seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres.

Acknowledging that change is hard and that there will be a period of adjustment, the Board expressed that APS would provide layers of support such as a mobile app to keep track of buses and adjustments to Extended Day Services. The Board also appreciated the community input received on this process. Nonetheless, Mr. Goldstein expressed his thoughts on the use of surveys and requested the Superintendent to work on engaging non-English speaking families and finding other effective ways to reach out to families.

Mr. Goldstein 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. Kadera – Aye; Mr. Priddy – Aye.

2. FY 2023 Final Budget

Dr. Durán was proud to present a budget that supported the Strategic Plan and prioritized employee compensation. Dr. Durán thanked the County for supporting APS and their collaboration to bring forward a budget that invests in students.

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Ms. Peterson, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Management Services, summarized updates to the School Board Proposed Budget and explained that the General Assembly's budget approval may impact the proposed budget, resulting in the need for an amendment. The FY 2023 Budget totaled \$749,919,963.

Ms. Kadera moved that the Arlington School Board adopt its Fiscal Year 2023 School Board Budget totaling \$749,919,963. The School Board's FY 2023 budget requires an on-going County Transfer of \$563,897,292, a one-time County Transfer of \$20,484,857, a Beginning Balance or Carry Forward of \$3,500,000, and funding from Reserves of \$21,306,528, broken into the following:

1. *The School Operating Fund at a total of \$632,844,529, requiring an ongoing County transfer of \$493,661,936, a one-time County transfer of \$20,484,857, a beginning balance or carry forward of \$3,500,000, and funding from reserves of \$20,362,018.*
2. *The Community Activities Fund at a total of \$17,399,263, requiring a County transfer of \$6,718,643.*
3. *The Debt Service Fund at a total of \$59,856,825, requiring a County transfer of \$59,112,315 and funding from reserves of \$744,510.*
4. *The Food and Nutrition Services Fund at a total of \$11,546,678, requiring a County transfer of \$0.*
5. *The Capital Projects Fund at a total of \$5,888,901, requiring a County transfer of \$1,892,648 and funding from reserves of \$200,000.*
6. *The Children's Services Act Fund at a total of \$4,975,000, requiring a County transfer of \$2,511,750.*
7. *The Grants and Restricted Programs Fund at a total of \$17,408,767, requiring a County transfer of \$0.*

I further move that the Arlington School Board authorize the advance placement of purchase orders for productivity software, HVAC replacements, minor construction projects, floorcovering, playground equipment, fire panel, textbooks, radio consoles and infrastructure, and computer equipment that are funded in the adopted FY 2023 budget. These orders will be placed only after the Finance Office verifies that the funds have been designated in the School Board's adopted FY 2023 budget. These items should be neither received nor invoiced until on or after, July 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Priddy.

The Board expressed their support for what they described as a "transformative" budget that specifically invests in staff compensation, addresses student needs and mental health services, and supports the hiring of a policy director. Mr. Goldstein expressed his heartburn on the use of one-time funds to support the budget which may put APS in a tough economic situation. The Board thanked Dr. Kanninen for her leadership in keeping everyone focused on the work at hand. The Board acknowledged that the budget process was a comprehensive effort and they also thanked staff for their work. Ms. Diaz-Torres shared her gratitude to the Budget Advisory Council (BAC) for providing the Board with sound guidance and their vantage point. Dr. Kanninen thanked the community for the advocacy on different areas of the budget.

Dr. Kanninen 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. Kadera – Aye; Mr. Priddy – Aye.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS (8:52 PM):

1. Arlington Career Center Schematic Design Architecture and Engineering Fee

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Mr. Jeff Chambers, Director of Design and Construction, recommended the approval of an individual change order to Contract 27FY17 not to exceed \$850,000. He explained that a future change order for the remaining design phases was expected at the conclusion of the schematic design and would require School Board approval.

At the request of the Board, Mr. Chambers clarified that APS was using Stantec because a contract was already in place and Stantec had already completed design services for the Career Center expansion. They also noted that there are usually multiple change orders in phases of construction as the scope of the work develops.

2. Superintendent's Proposed FY 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Dr. Durán began by acknowledging that the Proposed FY 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was the first ten-year CIP since 2018 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and fiscal uncertainty. The proposed CIP presented a comprehensive plan to invest in various projects to support student learning and a better approach to address capacity needs. The Superintendent was proud to present a CIP that provided environments conducive to learning, that included kitchen upgrades, field replacements, accessibility standards, and much-needed facility improvements. Dr. Durán presented the goals of his proposed CIP which were based on student success and well-being, the projects defined by the School Board direction, and changes in enrollment as factors that informed his proposed CIP. Dr. Durán then thanked the County Board, County Manager, and their staff for their continued collaboration with APS to make schools a priority as the County considered redevelopment and land use plans. Furthermore, Dr. Durán presented his proposed infrastructure projects, realignment of certain FY 2022-24 CIP funds, and a long-range plan to renovate existing schools. The Superintendent also presented his proposal to modernize the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System used by Finance and Human Resources and the replacement of the lock and key systems. In addition, Dr. Durán presented his recommendation for the potential long-term use of the Career Center campus to provide a state-of-the-art learning space for a diverse student body. Moreover, Dr. Durán explained the funding for projects in the proposed FY 2023-32 CIP, the monies set aside to anticipate escalation, inflation, and atypical rising construction costs, and he provided information on the 2022 Bond Referendum.

Recognizing the amount of information presented, Dr. Kanninen reminded Board members of opportunities to delve into details at the CIP work sessions. The Board appreciated the work involved in the CIP proposal and the breadth of projects included. They briefly discussed the implications of debt capacity. To conclude, the Board looked forward to engaging in more in-depth conversations about the Career Center site proposal and other projects.

I. NEW BUSINESS:

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Barbara Kanninen, Chair
Arlington School Board

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