

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2022

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 5:30 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

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

**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 45 appointments, 48 changes in position/salary, 55 resignations, 5 retirements, and 1 termination as authorized by Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(1).* Dr. Kanninen also moved to discuss or consider Student Administrative Transfer Appeal SY 22-08 as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(2)(4). The motion was seconded by Ms. Kadera, 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 6:45 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 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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen – Aye; Mr. Priddy – Aye.

Dr. Kanninen called for a brief recess at 6:45 PM. The Board reconvened in an open session at 7:03 PM.

**Also present were:**

Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, School and Community Relations  
Kimberley Graves, Chief of Student Support  
Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff  
Joanne Uyeda, Interim Chief Academic Officer  
Claudia Mercado, Clerk

**B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING (7:03 PM):**

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

Dr. Kanninen expressed her heartfelt appreciation to everyone who persevered and tried their best during another eventful school year. On behalf of the School Board, she wished students, families, and staff a lovely, restful, and unplugged summer!

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3. Recognitions: Brian Stockton

The School Board was saddened to bid farewell to Mr. Stockton as he embarked on another career journey. Board members expressed their gratitude for his dedicated service to APS and wished him continued success in his new role. The Board echoed the sentiments shared by many in the community and commended Mr. Stockton as a leader who cares about people, listens, and helps to find solutions.

**C. CONSENT ITEMS (7:15 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, Ms. Kadera, Dr. Kanninen, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes

[C-1-a Minutes for the January 26, 2022 Virtual Policy Subcommittee Meeting](#)

[C-1-b Minutes for the January 27, 2022 Closed Meeting and Committee of the Whole](#)

[C-1-c Minutes for the February 3 Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting](#)

2. Personnel Actions

P/E-SCALE

10 Changes In Position/Salary

2 Resignations

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

40 Appointments

10 Changes In Position/Salary

47 Resignations

3 Retirement

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

5 Appointments

17 Changes In Position/Salary

4 Resignations

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

11 Change In Position/Salary

2 Resignations

2 Retirement

1 Termination

3. First Amendment to License Agreement for Quincy Site (Buck Property)

4. Revisions to School Board Policies B-3.6.36 School Plan Advisory Committees and C-30 Superintendent Advisory Committees

5. Revisions to School Board Policy E-5.30 School Board Owned Vehicles

6. Revisions to School Board Policies I-7.2.3.31 Communication about the Systemwide Instructional Program, I-7.2.3.34 Communication- Student Progress, Program, and Grading, and I-11.2 Homework

7. Revisions to School Board Policy K-2.3 Interviewing Students

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8. Revisions to School Board Policy M-16 Memorandums of Understanding
9. Family Literacy Grant and PluggedIn VA (PIVA) Grant

Dr. Kanninen announced that under consent, the Board adopted revisions to School Board Policies B-3.6.36 School Plan Advisory Committees, C-30 Superintendent Advisory Committees, E-5.30 School Board Owned Vehicles, I-7.2.3.31 Communication about the Systemwide Instructional Program, I-7.2.3.34 Communication- Student Progress, Program, and Grading, I-11.2 Homework, and K-2.3 Interviewing Students. Consequently, the Superintendent approved the Policy Implementation Procedures (PIPs) related to these policies. Dr. Kanninen announced the following appointments:

Dr. Gerald Mann, Chief Academic Officer  
 Stephen Linkous, Chief of Staff  
 Stacy Morris, Director of Counseling Services, Wakefield High School  
 Kimberly Jackson-Davis, Administrator, Alternative Continuation Program at Langston High School and New Directions  
 Gradis White, Director of School Climate and Culture  
 Holly Vesilind, Assistant Principal, Swanson Middle School

In addition, the Board made the following administrative changes:

Bermudez, Dual Language Immersion Coordinator  
 Jonathan Turrisi, Special Projects Advisor  
 Gladis Cruz Zyoud, Transportation Services Operations Manager  
 Kristin Devaney, Supervisor of Student Services  
 Hamed Hameedi, Senior Procurement Specialist  
 Melissa Marroquin, Coordinator of Transportation Services  
 Laura Newton, Supervisor of Student Services  
 Cristina Rivera, Instructional Technology Coordinator  
 Timica Shivers, Assistant Principal, Washington-Liberty High School

Dr. Kanninen called for a brief recess at 7:30 PM and the Board reconvened at 7:39 PM.

#### **D. ANNOUNCEMENTS (7:39 PM):**

##### 1. Board Announcements:

July 1, 2022 – Closed Meeting, 9 AM, Board Conference Room  
 July 1, 2022 – School Board Organizational Meeting and Board Meeting, 10 AM, Board Room

Dr. Kanninen reminded the community that the Board was accepting applications for School Board Advisory Committees.

##### 2. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán shared some of the COVID-19 mitigation measures to maintain safe and healthy schools in alignment with the current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Next, he commemorated the life of civil rights pioneer, Ron Deskins, who was among the four Black students who helped integrate Virginia schools in 1959 when he attended Stratford Junior High School. To mark the end-of-the school year, Dr. Durán presented a year-end report highlighting the ways in which the Strategic Plan and School Board Priorities were addressed during the school year to achieve student well-being, academic progress, and operational efficiency. Lastly, he congratulated the graduating class of 2022 and expressed his hopeful thoughts for the future of the students.

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The Board discussed some of the student assessments, interventions, and screening processes. The Board acknowledged that APS was working towards instructional equity and looked forward to the work to come. Ms. Kadera applauded the amount of data that had been shared with the community this school year.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS (8:23 PM):**

The following speaker addressed the Board:

Kelly Litzner, President, Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC), and Parent, Montessori Public School of Arlington, supporting the proposed FY 2023-32 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and moving the Montessori school to the Career Center site.

**F. MONITORING ITEMS (8:28 PM):**

1. Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL) Annual Report

Ms. Bethany Sutton, Chair, began by thanking the ACTL Co-Chairs, Kelly Alexis, Anne Paris, and Jason Papacosma for their collaboration. She also thanked Mr. Goldstein, School Board liaison, and the many staff liaisons who worked with Ms. Sutton during the school year to facilitate the work of ACTL. She then presented the priorities of the ACTL and she briefly shared the recommendations of the subcommittees. She also spoke about how ACTL members embedded the theme of equity in their discussions. In addition, Ms. Sutton presented the three-year summary of ACTL recommendations and status updates. Moreover, she provided information on the revision of the School Board Policy on Advisory Committees and the subsequent work on the ACTL Policy Implementation Procedures (PIPs). Lastly, recognizing the complexity of the ACTL, Ms. Sutton expressed that the focus of ACTL should continue to be on producing recommendations and outcomes that are strategic and actionable.

The Board expressed their deep appreciation to Ms. Sutton for her leadership and for helping to present coherent recommendations that interweave departments. Mr. Goldstein expressed the need for a mechanism to close the loop of recommendations presented and committed to working with ACTL on this process. Ms. Kadera welcomed continuing the conversation about advanced students and how to best challenge students. Mr. Priddy encouraged the community to apply to participate in ACTL.

2. Budget Advisory Council (BAC) Annual Report

Mr. Chuck Rush, Chair, started by expressing his gratitude to the staff, Ms. Diaz-Torres, and members for their contributions to BAC. Mr. Rush then highlighted some of the BAC's recommendations to achieve fiscal sustainability. He also shared areas of financial risk identified by the BAC and recommended some items that would allow APS to transition to a financial structure that can operate on a forward-looking framework.

Ms. Diaz-Torres thanked Mr. Rush for his leadership and she encouraged the community to become involved in the BAC. Mr. Goldstein invited Mr. Rush and BAC members to help the Board brainstorm more effective ways to engage with the BAC and other advisory committees. In response, Mr. Rush encouraged more cross-committee collaboration which would add value for everyone involved to understand the complexities of the budget. Dr. Kanninen agreed that additional cross-committee and cross-departmental collaboration would be valuable.

3. Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC) Annual Report

Ms. Rosa Cheney, Chair, presented the FAC's annual report for FY 2021-22 which aimed at providing recommendations concerning school capacities and projected enrollment by examining these matters in relation to the Mission, Vision, and Core Values set by the School Board. To guide the work of the FAC, Ms. Cheney spoke about the different factors considered by the members such as the continuity of service, maintenance, energy efficiency, health of students and staff, safety and security, flexibility and adaptability of facilities, and setting long-

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range planning priorities. She also expressed that the FAC looked forward to continuing to assist APS and the School Board with reviewing proposed policies that affect facilities and the learning environments.

Ms. Kadera commended that the FAC met in school buildings, and she appreciated the thoughtfulness of the end-of-year report. Mr. Goldstein reiterated his desire to learn about better ways that the School Board could better engage with the FAC and Dr. Kanninen applauded the work of the FAC and all other advisory committees, noting that APS is successful, in part, because of the great volunteer work of committee members.

## **G. ACTION ITEMS (9:31 PM)**

### **1. Resource Adoption (6-12 English Language Arts)**

*Mr. Goldstein moved that the Board adopt the proposed resource textbooks for 6-12 English Language Arts as presented in the June 23, 2022 Resource Adoption presentation which will be made part of the official record, seconded by Mr. Priddy.*

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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen– Aye; and Priddy – Aye.

### **2. Amendment to Sun Tribe Solar’s Comprehensive Agreement, 01FY18**

*Ms. Kadera moved that School Board approve change order 2 to Sun Tribe Solar’s Comprehensive Agreement 01FY18 with the following items:*

- Change name from Reed Elementary School to Cardinal Elementary School*
- Change in rate for Cardinal Elementary to \$0.0938/kWh with an annual escalation of 1.5% thereafter*
- Change in rate for Jefferson Middle to \$0.0796/kWh with an annual escalation of 2.5% thereafter*
- Remove Arlington Traditional Elementary School and Wakefield High School from Comprehensive Agreement 01FY18*

*Ms. Kadera also moved that the School Board authorize the School Board Chair to sign revised leases for Cardinal and Jefferson and terminate the existing leases for Arlington Traditional Elementary School and Wakefield, seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres.*

Ms. Diaz-Torres encouraged any community members who had questions about this agenda item, to watch the June 9 School Board meeting recording as the Board received some clarifying information.

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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen– Aye; and Priddy – Aye.

### **3. FY 2023-32 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**

Dr. Durán noted that there were some updates since the proposed CIP was presented to the Board and he recognized that feedback was received from many different stakeholders. Ms. Renee Harber, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations, presented the timeline of project completion and highlighted revisions to the timeframes of the projects. She then spoke about revisions to the Career Center campus project phases. Ms. Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management Services, presented information about the long-range plan to renovate existing schools which included adding project estimates. She then summarized the proposed updated project funding.

The Board briefly discussed the proposed entrance and security vestibule renovations to four additional schools in response to safety and security concerns and to give those schools the same standard as others.

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*Mr. Priddy moved that the School Board adopt the FY 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with the details as presented in Attachment A.2 at the June 23, 2022, School Board meeting which will be made part of the official record. The CIP*

- *Includes continuing annual funds for Major Infrastructure Projects,*
- *Completes 19 Entrance Renovations/Security Vestibules by fall 2024,*
- *Renovates kitchens at 8 schools to meet current standards,*
- *Modernizes the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System,*
- *Replaces all Lock and Key Systems and six PA Systems,*
- *Replaces Synthetic Turf fields at 4 schools and converts a Kenmore Field to Synthetic Turf, and*
- *Completes the Heights, with a Phase 2 project making the campus universally accessible.*

*Mr. Priddy also moved that the School Board direct the Superintendent to*

- *Complete the Schematic Designs for the ACC Building, Field and Parking Garage and present them to the School Board for approval in Fall 2022,*
- *Proceed with the temporary relocation of Arlington Community High School,*
- *Include plans for the Career Center Campus in the FY 2025-34 CIP addressing*
  - *Phase 2 which will refresh the existing ACC building for MPSA and open in fall 2028, and*
  - *Phase 3 which will demolish the existing MPSA building and be replaced by a new field and/or open space, with work commencing after fall of 2028.*

*Ms. Priddy also moved that the School Board direct the Superintendent to prepare for the FY 2025-34 CIP by*

- *Prioritizing the renovations of existing APS school facilities using the framework as described in Attachment B at the June 23, 2022, School Board meeting which will be made part of the official record, and replacing placeholder amounts with project estimates,*
- *Identifying and developing swing space, if needed, to support the renovation projects, and*
- *If feasible, beginning construction on the first renovation project by Fall 2026.*
- *Mr. Priddy further moved that the School Board direct the Superintendent to establish a plan and timeline to determine the feasibility, both legal and monetary, of including project labor agreements that expand the opportunities to connect APS students with industry partners.*
- *Finally, Mr. Priddy moved that the School Board approve the following actions:*
- *Establish the Kitchen and Entrance/Security Vestibule Renovations Program (“Program”) that includes the funding available as identified in the FY 2023-32 CIP.*
- *Allow staff to encumber funds as needed to complete the projects in the Program in the timeline provided in the FY 2023-32 CIP. School Board approval will be sought as required by the Procurement Resolution for professional or non-professional services fees or construction contract awards over \$500,000.*

The motion was seconded by Ms. Diaz-Torres.

First, Mr. Priddy expressed his support for the FY 2023-32 CIP and; as a former student of the Career Center, he was elated to approve the renovations of the Career Center to provide a path of opportunities for the new generation of students. Ms. Kadera then wanted to point out the input of advisory groups and community members and expressed her deep appreciation for the engagement which led to some revisions of the proposed FY 2023-32 CIP and paves the way for robust CIP conversations in the future. Moreover, Mr. Goldstein started by explaining that the CIP was not a promise but a plan for the future and that many factors could affect the feasibility of the plan. He thanked Dr. Kanninen for her leadership in moving the CIP forward on behalf of the School Board. Lastly, he expressed his support for the proposed FY 2023-32 CIP as it brought to fruition many projects. Next, Ms. Diaz-Torres appreciated all of the staff involved in developing the proposed FY 2023-32 CIP and she thanked the Superintendent for presenting a CIP that the School Board could build upon. In addition, Ms. Diaz-Torres thanked her Board colleagues for their questions leading to deliberations and proposing some great ideas as well. She then explained that after some careful research, she learned that the FY 2023-32 CIP invested about 64% of funds in renovating current facilities and providing much-needed modernizations to facilities and infrastructure. She also noted that the FY 2023-32 CIP would allocate money for future projects, which speaks of the commitment of the Board to the community. To conclude, Dr. Kanninen noted that the FY 2023-32 CIP represented a collaborative

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effort and allowed the Board to work on a framework for future CIPs. Dr. Kanninen was excited about the project labor agreement, as well as including placeholders for the Career Center campus project. She thanked the FAC for pointing out discrepancies in the CIP which resulted in the alignment of the County and APS CIP.

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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen– Aye; and Priddy – Aye.

*Ms. Diaz-Torres moved 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 \$165,010,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of capital projects for school purposes. This resolution shall take effect immediately, seconded by Mr. Priddy.*

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; Ms. Kadera – Aye; Dr. Kanninen– Aye; and Priddy – Aye.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS:**

To conclude the meeting, Dr. Durán thanked Dr. Kanninen for her outstanding leadership as chair of the Board for the 2021-22 school year. He expressed his honor and pleasure to have worked with her.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 PM.

#### **ATTEST:**

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Claudia Mercado, Clerk  
Arlington School Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Kanninen, Chair  
Arlington School Board

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