

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2022

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 5:31 p.m. at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Vice Chair
Mary Kadera, Member
Barbara Kanninen, Member (Not present due to personal reasons)
David Priddy, Member
Carmen Mejia, Deputy Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Dr. John Mayo, Chief Operating Officer

A. CALL TO ORDER AND CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Goldstein called the meeting to order and *moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting to consider as many as 79 appointments, 22 changes in position/salary, 17 resignations, 2 retirements, 1 resignation, and classification specifications for the Executive Director and Director of Curriculum and Instruction 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 4 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Kadera, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. Dr. Kanninen was not present at the time of the vote.*

The closed meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM and the Board reconvened in an open meeting.

Mr. Goldstein 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. Kadera and was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0. The voting record is as follows: Ms. Diaz-Torres – Aye; Mr. Goldstein – Aye; Ms. Kanninen – Aye; and Mr. Priddy – Aye. Dr. Kanninen was not present at the time of the vote.

Mr. Goldstein called for a brief recess at 6:32 p.m. The Board reconvened in an open session at 7:01 p.m.

Also present were:

Kimberley Graves, Chief of School Support
Dr. Gerald Mann, Jr., Chief Academic Officer
Christine Smith, Legal Counsel
Stephen Linkous, Chief of Staff
Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent of School and Community Relations

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING: (7:01 p.m.)

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance

¹The recording of School Board meetings is posted on the APS Web site following the meetings. Regular meetings are also broadcasted on Comcast Cable Channel 70 and Verizon FIOS Channel 41.

C. CONSENT ITEMS: (7:01 p.m.)

Ms. Diaz-Torres *moved for adoption of the consent agenda*, seconded by Ms. Kadera. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Kadera, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. Dr. Kanninen was not present at the time of the vote. The following items or actions were approved as a part of consent:

1. Minutes

C-1-a Minutes for July 1, 2022, Closed Meeting and Organizational and School Board Meeting

C-1-b Minutes for July 19, 2022, Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting

2. Personnel Actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

3 Appointments
 3 Changes In Position/Salary
 2 Resignations
 1 Retirement

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

66 Appointments
 7 Changes In Position/Salary
 11 Resignations

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

4 Appointments
 1 Resignation

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

6 Appointments
 12 Changes in Position/Salary
 3 Resignations
 1 Resignation with Prejudice
 1 Retirement

3. Emergency Preparedness Management Plan

4. Termination of Membership to the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC)

5. Appointments to the Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL)

Mr. Goldstein announced that under consent, the Board appointed Dr. Kevon Bruce as the Director of Counseling at Gunston Middle School.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS: (7:03 p.m.)

1. Board Announcements:

August 12, 2022 – School Board & Superintendent/Cabinet Retreat, 10 AM, Fairlington Community Center

August 18, 2022 – Closed Meeting, 5:30 PM, Board Conference Room

August 18, 2022 – School Board Meeting, 7 PM, Board Room

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Mr. Goldstein announced that applications for the School Board Advisory Committees for the upcoming school year were being accepted. Ms. Kadera announced that she attended a kick-off meeting for parents of students enrolled in Virtual Virginia and announced her plans to attend an event sponsored by Friends of the Planetarium. Ms. Diaz-Torres announced that the Arlington Community High School achieved full accreditation as a high school.

2. Superintendent's Announcements and Updates

Dr. Durán provided information about staff vacancies, upcoming recruitment events, and the efforts to build a substitute pool. He announced that each school would have two building substitutes this school year. He briefly provided registration information for incoming students to APS and key dates for the school year. The Superintendent concluded his presentation with Bright Spots, highlighting The Amazon Think Big Space opening at Wakefield High School.

E. MONITORING ITEMS: (7:16 p.m.)

1. Virtual Learning Program (VLP) Update

Ms. Kim Graves gave an update related to the School Board Charge on the VLP and the plans for the program moving forward. She talked about the decision to pause the program to create a more robust and comprehensive program and to create a task force to develop a new VLP program. She shared the status of students from the VLP including how many were returning to their home schools and how many students would participate in Virtual Virginia. She talked about the steps to support the VLP students returning to their home schools and participating in Virtual Virginia. She also shared about resources and information available on the APS website. She mentioned the number of staff members hired to serve as mentors and, in some cases, provide supplemental instructional support. Ms. Graves explained that besides the task force, there would also be a working group of staff that will help with creating the new VLP. She described the difference between the two groups and shared the dates that the groups would be meeting.

The Board reminded the community that the purpose of the charge was to inform the outcome of the students in VLP. They clarified the requirements of Virtual Virginia regarding the mentor positions assigned by the Department of Education. They also discussed that a correction was made to one of the charts in the presentation, reflecting that the number of students in VLP did not include seniors.

F. ACTION ITEMS: (7:40 p.m.)

1. Barcroft HVAC Replacement Architectural and Engineering Fee

Mr. Chambers, Director of Design and Construction, updated the board on the architecture and engineering team fee of \$631,200, less than the number when presented as an information item on July 19, 2022. He clarified that this amount was for the design fee, not the project.

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved that the School Board approve an architecture and engineering team fee of \$631,200 for CMTA funded by any combination of available Major Infrastructure Projects bonds and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF) grant funds, seconded by Mr. Priddy. The motion was adopted in a vote of 4 – 0, with Ms. Diaz-Torres, Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Kadera, and Mr. Priddy voting affirmatively. Dr. Kanninen was not present at the time of the vote.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS: (7:44 p.m.)

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1. Revisions to School Board Policies B-3.6.37 Electronic Participation in School Board Advisory Committee Meetings, B-4.4 Electronic Participation in Meetings by Individual Members, E-4.3.30 Use of School Equipment, E-4.3.31 Telecommunication Facilities on School Property, E-5.1 Student Transportation Services, G-3.14.30 T-Scale Evaluation, G-3.14.31 P-Scale Evaluation, I-5 Opening Exercises, I-8.2 Class Size, and K-3 Program Changes

Mr. Marku, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs, presented each of the policies and explained the revisions.

The School Board discussed the difference between electronic participation for Joint Committees of the County and the School Board. They clarified how an amendment works in relation to a policy. The Board shared concerns regarding the policy K-3 Program Changes and noted that the Board should act on this policy as a stand-alone item. The School Board Chair suggested that Board members who have questions should meet with Mr. Marku to have their concerns clarified.

H. NEW BUSINESS: (8:06 p.m.)

Dr. Duran introduced Dr. Gerald Mann, the new Chief Academic Officer who started on August 1. This was the first meeting he attended.

I. ADJOURNMENT: (8:07 p.m.)

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

ATTEST:

Carmen Mejia, Deputy Clerk
Arlington School Board

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Arlington School Board

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