Purpose

The Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning Subcommittees (subcommittees) support the work of the Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (Council) by assisting the Council with executing its charge in the area of focus of the subcommittee. Subcommittees work with Council leadership and staff liaisons to establish annual priorities, areas of focus, and deliverables. Subcommittee deliverables from year to year may include but are not limited to findings, recommendations to address findings, annual reports, and other work products.

Each subcommittee is charged with:

- Advocating for the content and/or program area,
- Reviewing instructional components and materials
- Reviewing content/program area-specific student performance data as needed, and
- Making recommendations in support of improvements to the instructional program that positively impact student achievement and staffs' development.

Each subcommittee also looks at industry trends, career pathways in relation to Arlington Public Schools course offerings, teacher professional development, and teacher retention. Some subcommittees may have additional responsibilities or guidelines they must meet according to state and federal law.

| Subcommittee | Charter |
|-----------------|---|
| Arts | The Arts Advisory Committee supports the continuous improvement of arts |
| | education for Arlington Public Schools students. |
| Career, | The Career, Technical, and Adult Education Advisory Committee supports the |
| Technical, and | continuous improvement of CTAE for Arlington Public Schools students. In |
| Adult | compliance with Federal regulations, this committee also supports the Perkins |
| Education | Grant requirements. |
| (CTAE) | |
| Early | The Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee supports the needs of |
| Childhood | students in grades PreK-2. |
| Education | |
| English | The English Language Arts Advisory Committee supports the continuous |
| Language Arts | improvement of English language arts education including reading, writing, |
| (ELA) | speaking, and listening for Arlington Public Schools students. |
| English | The Advisory Committee on English Learners supports Arlington's PreK- |
| Learners | Adult English Learners and their families. |
| Gifted Services | The Gifted Services Advisory Committee supports Arlington's gifted students |
| | in grades K-12. |
| Mathematics | The Mathematics Advisory Committee supports the continuous improvement |
| | of mathematics education for Arlington Public Schools students. |
| Science | The Science Advisory Committee supports the continuous improvement of |
| | science education for Arlington Public Schools students. |
| Social Studies | The Social Studies Advisory Committee supports the continuous improvement |
| | of social studies education for Arlington Public Schools students. |
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| Student | The Student Services Advisory Committee supports the social-emotional |
| Services | health of all Arlington Public Schools students. |

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| Subcommittee | Charter |
|--------------|---|
| Educational | The Educational Technology Advisory Committee supports the effective use |
| Technology | of technology to advance student learning and the improvement of teaching |
| | practice through digital pedagogy. |
| World | The World Language Advisory Committee supports the continuous |
| Languages | improvement of world language education for Arlington Public Schools |
| | students. |

Membership

- 1. Each subcommittee should be composed of no less than 5 and no more than 25 members with a broad representation including parents/guardians, students, staff, external subject matter experts, and other interested citizens.
- 2. Members shall be appointed by the School Board based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.
- 3. Members' terms shall be for two fiscal years and are renewable for two additional terms. Members may not serve on a single subcommittee for more than six cumulative years.
- 4. If a member is appointed at any point during a fiscal year, it shall be considered the first year of their two-year appointment.

Subcommittee Officers

- 1. The subcommittee officers shall consist of the chair, vice-chair, and secretary or the chair, co-chair, and secretary. For the purposes of this document, references to the roles and responsibilities of the chair also apply to the co-chair.
- 2. If the subcommittee uses a chair/vice-chair model, the term for the chair and vice-chair/co-chair shall be one fiscal year. If the subcommittee uses a co-chair model, the term for each co-chair will be for two fiscal years.
- 3. The term for the secretary is limited by their subcommittee eligibility.
- 4. The subcommittee shall select a vice-chair/co-chair and secretary through an election or by unanimous consent. Candidates for vice-chair/co-chair must have at least two years of remaining subcommittee eligibility.
- 5. The chair shall be the prior vice-chair/co-chair. For subcommittees using a co-chair model, the subcommittees are encouraged to stagger the elections for continuity in committee leadership.
- 6. The chair emeritus shall be the prior chair or co-chair. The chair emeritus is a voting member of the subcommittee but is not a subcommittee officer.
- 7. Members may only serve one one-year term as chair, or one two-year term as co-chair.
- 8. The School Board shall approve the slate of officers for the following fiscal year. If the School Board concludes an elected officer will not be able to fully discharge their duties, the subcommittee shall conduct the election again.
- 9. Subcommittee officers are responsible for ensuring subcommittee members are familiar with this Policy Implementation Procedure.

Staff Liaison

- 1. An appointed staff member shall serve as the staff liaison to the subcommittee.
- 2. The staff liaison collaborates with the subcommittee chair and serves as the primary conduit of information exchange between the committee and Arlington Public Schools. Duties include:
 - a. Obtaining meeting locations;

- b. Participating in the recruitment of committee members;
- c. Participating in recommending the appointment of potential committee members;
- d. Inviting other staff members to committee meetings as requested by the chair; and
- e. Requesting non-publicly available information required by the committee to discharge its duties in accordance with the committee research provision of this Policy Implementation Procedure.

Meetings

- 1. The chair/co-chair shall schedule meetings as required to complete the work of the subcommittee. The subcommittee shall meet at least four times a year and no more than twelve times a year. Meetings shall occur between the first and last days of the regular school year. Meeting dates shall be published on the subcommittee's web page.
- 2. Unless otherwise established by the subcommittee, meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.
- 3. A quorum for a meeting shall consist of a majority of the appointed members of the subcommittee being physically present at the meeting or in accordance with Policy B-3.6.37 Electronic Participation in School Board Advisory Committee Meetings.
- 4. Voting shall only occur at meetings where the subcommittee has a quorum, votes must be publicly recorded.
- 5. All meetings shall be conducted in compliance with public meeting requirements under the Code of Virginia and are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The subcommittee secretary shall ensure that:
 - a. Meetings are conducted in-person or in accordance with Policy B-3.6.37 Electronic Participation in School Board Advisory Committee Meetings;
 - b. Meeting are open to the public, conducting the business of the subcommittee via email or other non-public means is prohibited;
 - c. The meeting date, time, and location are posted on a public bulletin board, in the staff liaison's office, and on the subcommittee's web page at least three working days before the meeting. The staff liaison or designee will assist the secretary with the placement of required postings;
 - d. All agendas and materials are available for inspection by the public at the time of the meeting; and
 - e. Minutes are taken summarizing key themes discussed by the subcommittee and documenting any votes or decisions. Minutes shall be publicly published on the advisory committee's web page.

Operations and Procedures

1. Topics explored by the subcommittee shall reflect the subcommittee charter. Work outside of this area shall be referred to the appropriate subcommittee through the respective staff liaisons.

2. The subcommittee shall provide the Council with a summary of its activities and recommendations at a designated time each school year.

Sub-Subcommittees

- 1. The subcommittee may form subcommittees (sub-subcommittees).
- 2. The chair/co-chair shall appoint sub-subcommittee members.
- 3. Sub-subcommittees may seek the advice and/or support of additional subject matter experts on their topics. These subject matter experts are not subcommittee or sub-

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- subcommittee members and have no voting rights. The School Board shall be informed of subject matter experts who regularly advise and/or support the sub-subcommittee.
- 4. Special sub-subcommittees, created for a particular purpose and which are disbanded at the end of that purpose, may be formed and disbanded at the discretion of the subcommittee chair/co-chair. The School Board shall be informed of the formation of special sub-subcommittees. Special sub-subcommittees shall not exist for more than one calendar year.
- 5. Formation and disbandment of standing sub-subcommittees, which have responsibility over a particular subject matter over multiple years, shall be approved by the School Board.

Conduct of Members

- 1. Members are expected to conduct themselves according to Arlington Public Schools policies and procedures and to attend all meetings. Upon recommendation of the chair, a member may be removed by the School Board for failure to follow Arlington Public Schools policies and procedures and/or attend 50% of the meetings in one fiscal year. In this case, the School Board may appoint a new member.
- 2. Arlington Public Schools encourages the free flow of ideas and opinions within advisory committees.
 - a. Members of the subcommittee shall not represent their personal actions, views, statements, etc. as those of the committee.
 - b. In communicating with the media, the public, or other organizations, subcommittee members must exercise caution to ensure that, unless authorized by the subcommittee, they specifically indicate that any expressed opinions or views are, in fact, their own.
 - c. Members shall respect the opinions of others and refrain from hostile actions, harassment, or any other activities that may restrict the free flow of ideas.
 - d. Subcommittee members are liaisons to and from the community. In that capacity, members should represent the views of the subcommittee to the community and the community to the subcommittee.
- 3. Subcommittee members and advisory members are expected to be community role models, upholding and exemplifying the core values of Arlington Public Schools.

Subcommittee Research

- 1. While the subcommittees may do independent study and research, work should be coordinated with staff and not duplicate or overlap staff work.
- 2. Subcommittees will be provided access to and be encouraged to exhaust existing public data and information sources, such as Arlington Public Schools data dashboards and information published by the Virginia Department of Education, before making data requests.
- 3. Subcommittees may request additional data that has been gathered and analyzed by Arlington Public Schools staff that is strategically necessary to perform the charge of the subcommittee. Any such requests will be fulfilled in a timely manner, pending staff capacity and at the discretion of the staff liaison and School Board liaison.
- 4. If a subcommittee feels that Arlington Public Schools should conduct original research, the subcommittee should make a recommendation through the subcommittee's recommendation process.
- 5. Any requests related to subcommittee work from subcommittee members should be

communicated through the chair/co-chair. Chairs/co-chairs should communicate with Arlington Public Schools staff members through the staff liaison.

External Communications

- 1. All official notices and announcements to the public from subcommittees using Arlington Public Schools communications systems shall be routed through the staff liaison. Routine communications such as required meeting notices, copies of subcommittee recommendations, and meeting minutes will be published by designated staff members. Non-routine communications such as requests for a message to be distributed using SchoolTalk will be sent to the Director of School and Community Relations for decision and possible dissemination.
- 2. Any requests for information from subcommittees using Arlington Public Schools communications systems, including but not limited to polls and questionnaires, shall be routed through the staff liaison and approved in advance by the Superintendent.
- 3. Arlington Public Schools' communications channels have a broad reach and are a trusted source of information for our families and community. If subcommittees use non-Arlington Public Schools communications systems for purposes such as notices, announcements, or requests for information the communication should clearly state that it is coming from the subcommittee and not Arlington Public Schools.

Freedom of Information Act

All e-mail, notes, written communications, or other documents concerning subcommittee business are subject to FOIA. Subcommittee chairs/co-chairs should collaborate with the subcommittee's staff liaison to ensure all subcommittee members understand how FOIA applies to them.

Evaluation

The subcommittee will forward all recommendations to the School Board for information and consideration according to the subcommittee's established reporting schedule.

187 Exceptions

188 The School Board may make exceptions to these procedures, as it deems appropriate.

190 References

- 191 Code of Virginia §22.1-275.1
- 192 School Board Policy B-3.6.30, School Board Advisory Committees

Policy Adoption and Revision History

194 Adopted September 8, 2022. Effective September 8, 2022