

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2022**

The Arlington School Board convened on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 7:01 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.¹

Present were:

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

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Kimberley Graves, Chief of Student Support
Dr. John Mayo, Chief Operating Officer
Stephen Linkous, Chief of Staff
Dr. Gerald Mann, Chief Academic Officer
Renee Harber, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations

A. CLOSED MEETING: NONE

B. REGULAR MEETING OPENING (7:01 PM):

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

C. CONSENT ITEMS (7:03 PM):

Dr. 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

[C-1-a Minutes for the October 18, 2022 Work Session on Early Childhood](#)

[C-1-b Minutes for the October 25, 2022 Audit Committee](#)

[C-1-c Minutes for the October 26, 2022 Policy Subcommittee Meeting](#)

[C-1-d Minutes for the October 27, 2022 Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting](#)

[C-1-e Minutes for the May 12, 2022 Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting](#)

[C-1-f Minutes for the May 17, 2022 FY 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan \(CIP\) Work Session #1](#)

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[C-1-g Minutes for the May 25, 2022 Virtual Policy Subcommittee Meeting](#)

[C-1-h Minutes for the May 26, 2022 Closed Meeting and School Board Meeting](#)

[C-1-i Minutes for the May 31, 2022 Audit Committee](#)

[C-1-j Minutes for the May 31, 2022 FY 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan \(CIP\) Work Session #2](#)

[C-1-k Minutes for the June 2, 2022 Closed Meeting](#)

2. Personnel Actions

P/E-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 5 Appointments
- 1 Resignation

T-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 4 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 3 Resignations
- 6 Resignations With Prejudice

A-SCALE PERSONNEL

- 2 Appointments
- 1 Termination

SUPPORT SERVICES PERSONNEL

- 3 Appointments
- 1 Change In Position/Salary
- 3 Retirements
- 3 Terminations

- 3. Amendments to School Board Policy G-2.32 Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and Abuse
- 4. Appointments to School Board Advisory Committees

Mr. Goldstein announced that under consent, the Board adopted amendments to School Board Policy G-2.32 Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and Abuse to comply with Virginia law. In addition, the Board appointed Mr. Jerome Fleming as Supervisor of Social Studies.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS (7:06 PM):

1. Board Announcements:

- November 15 – Work Session on Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), 5:30 PM, Board Room
- November 16-18 – 2022 VSBA Annual Conference, Williamsburg, VA
- November 22 – Policy Subcommittee Meeting, 4 PM, Board Conference Room
- November 29 – Closed Meeting, 5:30 PM, Board Conference Room
- November 29 – Work Session with the Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL), 6:30 PM, Board Room
- December 1 – Committee of the Whole Meeting, 5:30 PM, Board Conference Room

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December 1 – School Board Meeting, 7 PM, Board Room

Mr. Goldstein shared that on November 10, APS hosted legislators from the area for Take Your Legislator to School Month. Legislators joined School Board members at Cardinal Elementary School for a tour where they got to see first-hand the hard work and dedication of APS professionals to provide quality education to students. Ms. Kadera shared about activities taking place at Escuela Key and Mr. Goldstein shared about events at his liaison schools. Lastly, Dr. Kanninen wished good luck to the Yorktown High School field hockey team on their state semifinals competition.

2. Superintendent’s Announcements and Updates

As part of the Every Student Counts series, Dr. Durán highlighted data and assessments and the focus on using student progress data to support all learners and help address gaps as well as student strengths. He then announced that the week of November 7 was National School Psychologists Week and applauded their work to promote positive behavior and mental health. He also announced that November was National American Indian Heritage Month which encourages all people to learn about the contributions and cultures of the indigenous people of the North American continent. Additionally, Dr. Durán provided an update about PAPER, an on-demand virtual academic support for secondary students. More than 2,062 APS students across 13 secondary schools have utilized PAPER support services since the start of the school year. Moreover, Dr. Durán announced that after an extensive review by Human Resources, effective immediately, Extended Day Aides working at least 15 hours per week would be eligible for benefits, including the accrual of sick leave. The Superintendent encouraged the community to participate in nominating a Principal of the Year, Assistant Principal of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Support Employees of the Year and Leadership Award by December 9. He then thanked the Arlington voters on the school Bond approval rate of 76.76% and congratulated newly elected Board member, Bethany Zecher Sutton. To conclude, Dr. Durán applauded students on their accomplishments in music at the Virginia State Marching Band Assessment, Virginia Music Educator's State Convention, and the Senior Regional Orchestra (SRO) event. He also commended Oakridge Elementary School students and staff for participating in a Kindness Parade to promote kindness.

Mr. Priddy and Ms. Kadera were interested in learning more about the usage breakdown of PAPER and how the service was promoted to students.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS (7:32 PM):

Mr. Goldstein announced as of the November 10 meeting, speakers would only have the option to speak in person.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

Name:	School or Affiliation:	Topic:
Major Webb	Webb for Virginia	Expressing concerns about the negative effects of the COVID-19 vaccine

F. MONITORING ITEMS (8:36 PM):

1. Operational Efficiency Update

Dr. Mayo began by speaking about the Strategic Plan goal and the strategies to strengthen and improve system-wide operations to meet the needs of Arlington's growing and changing community. He briefly spoke about the Board’s direction for a Planning Factors Budget Study to address staffing, supplies, and other supports as

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necessary to meet student needs. He also presented action steps to achieve operational excellence. On behalf of Information Services, Mr. Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent of Information Services, presented an update on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) modernization plan to help APS stay in regulatory compliance, improve operational efficiencies, and provide more functionality for staff and stakeholders. In addition, Mr. Adusumilli shared that Information Services addressed more than 16,250 Service Requests to date, worked to update the Wireless Infrastructure, and Integrated 40+ new or updated digital resources that support instruction. Ms. Reneé Harber, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations, presented information on the process for project requests under the Minor Construction/Major Maintenance (MC/MM) funding, which is supported by central and school-based stakeholders and seeks the collaborative agreement in the selection and prioritization of projects. Moreover, Ms. Harber presented the transportation efficiencies in the 2022-23 school year which included bell time changes, centralized hub stops transportation services, and the implementation of Where's the Bus/SchoolView mobile application. Ms. Harber then presented information on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Sustainability aimed at promoting and supporting sustainability efforts throughout APS. To conclude, Ms. Harber was excited to share about the efforts to recruit certified and licensed drivers, improvements in consistent and transparent communication, and the Sun Tribe Solar (STS) installation of solar panels at four locations.

Ms. Diaz-Torres applauded the detailed information provided in the appendix of the presentation and appreciated the careful analysis on how to improve operations at APS. She expressed the need to incorporate feedback already received from the community and advisory committees in the Planning Factors Budget Study and Dr. Mayo explained the tiered approach to address the different needs of the study. Regarding Board comments on Transportation Services, Ms. Harber spoke about the improvement in customer service, the benefits of the mobile app, and the proactive work to mitigate bus routes safety concerns. Mr. Priddy inquired about bus capacity issues with Ms. Harber clarifying the process to mitigate crowded buses concerns and noting that 77 passengers is the legal capacity of a school bus. Furthermore, Ms. Harber also spoke about bus tardiness for options schools and prioritizing routes where there are concerns in this area. In addition, Ms. Harber explained how the safety team addresses continued concerns about hub stops and the complexity in managing a centralized system. She briefly shared about the Safe Routes vacant position. In response to the discussion about MC/MM projects, Ms. Harber shared that the Board would receive a project update in the Spring and encouraged parents to work with principals on status updates on school projects. Ms. Kadera was curious to learn more about Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) requests for projects and the monetary threshold for consideration, which Ms. Harber explained that it was a dynamic process, and that staff was amenable to help the schools to improve their facilities. Mr. Priddy expressed his excitement about the ERP upgrade and looked forward to this much needed work. Ms. Kadera inquired about the standard operating procedure for student lost or stolen devices. Mr. Adusumilli shared about the 24-hour turnaround time goal so that students do not lose instructional time. Lastly, Dr. Kanninen applauded the work of the sustainability coordinators.

G. ACTION ITEMS (9:01 PM):

1. Taylor Elementary School and Williamsburg Middle School Entrance Renovations Construction Contract Award

Dr. Kanninen moved that the School Board take the following actions:

- Award contract 11FY23 for renovations at Taylor Elementary School to The Matthews Group, Inc. in the amount of \$1,271,897;
- Award contract 12FY23 for renovations at Williamsburg Middle School to The Matthews Group, Inc. in the amount of \$1,975,018; and
- Approve a project budget of \$8.82 million from the Kitchen and Entrance/Security Vestibule Renovation Program funding to support renovations at Gunston, Wakefield, Taylor, and Williamsburg.

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The motion was seconded by Mr. Priddy.

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. Arlington Career Center Project Architecture and Engineering Fee

Mr. Jeffrey Chambers, Director of Design and Construction, presented the final negotiated value of Contract 27FY17.

Ms. Diaz-Torres moved that the School Board take the following actions:

- *Approve an individual change order to Contract 27FY17 of \$10,938,295 and*
- *Establish the resulting contract amount not to exceed \$13,410,459.36 as the amount from which an increase of 25% will be calculated.* The motion was seconded by Dr. Kanninen

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

H. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS (9:05 PM):

1. Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Pandemic Relief Bonus

Dr. Mayo explained that as part of the 2022-24 biennial budget, the General Assembly provided a portion of the state’s federal pandemic relief funds to schools to pay a one-time bonus to employees. APS was awarded \$2.9 million in funds from State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which must be expended on or before December 1, 2022. He then presented the bonus allocation for employees to be issued on November 18, 2022.

Dr. Kanninen clarified that the \$2.9 million was distributed equitably across all full-time employees.

Ms. Kadera moved that the School Board approve the issuance of a one-time bonus on November 18, 2022, up to \$500 based upon the employee’s FTE wherein the employee was hired on or before November 1, 2022, and \$250 to hourly/temporary employees that have worked at least 245 hours between August 18 – November 1. Funds allocated to Arlington Public Schools through the State and Local Recovery Fund (SLRF) will be used in the amount of \$2.9 million, seconded by Mr. Priddy.

Ms. Diaz-Torres proposed amending the motion by adding add language to read “the issuance of a one-time bonus on or after November 18, 2022”, second by Ms. Kadera.

Mr. Goldstein called for a vote on the amendment, and it 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

Main motion as amended:

Ms. Kadera moved that the School Board approve the issuance of a one-time bonus on or after November 18, 2022, up to \$500 based upon the employee’s FTE wherein the employee was hired on or before November 1, 2022, and \$250 to hourly/temporary employees that have worked at least 245 hours between August 18 – November 1. Funds allocated to Arlington Public Schools through the State and Local Recovery Fund (SLRF) will be used in the amount of \$2.9 million

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Mr. Goldstein called for a vote on the main motion as amended and it 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

I. INFORMATION ITEMS (9:19 PM):

1. School Board Legislative Package

Ms. Diaz-Torres observed that the proposed legislative package was developed with the four core values of the Board’s priorities, leading the advocacy work in Richmond.

Representing APS in the Virginia General Assembly for 35 years, Ms. Lila Wise, Legislative Liaison, presented the proposed School Board Legislative Package.

The Board briefly discussed the proposed issues and legislation to support the teaching profession.

2. Annual Summer School Report and Proposed Fees for Summer School 2023

Ms. Corina Coronel, Summer School Coordinator, presented the work of Summer School 2022 that focused on strengthening students' academic skills in math and literacy, increasing language skills for English Learners (ELs), credit recovery for secondary students, and an Extended School Year (ESY) to serve students with disabilities (SWD). She also presented some of the areas of improvement, and reviewed student data. Dr. Mann presented the vision for Summer School 2023 to address quality instruction at the different levels.

Mr. Priddy noted his delight on the initiatives to recruit staff for Summer School, which led to additional discussion about staffing needs. Ms. Diaz-Torres appreciated the balance of instructional courses and other interests. Acknowledging registration issues in previous years, the Board suggested the consideration and creation of a cohesive plan to address a smoother registration process and overall program experience. Dr. Mann noted that staff is carefully considering past issues and identifying a plan moving forward. Dr. Durán added that his recommendations for Summer School will work to address the different aspects of the Summer School services for APS students. In addition, Dr. Kanninen suggested exploring addressing the different summer programs such as those at Career Center and bringing all the summer offerings under one umbrella. Ms. Kadera appreciated reviewing the data analysis. To conclude, Mr. Goldstein announced that the fees for the 2023 Summer School would remain the same as the 2022 fees.

J. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

K. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 PM.

ATTEST:

Claudia Mercado, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Reid Goldstein, Chair
Arlington School Board

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