

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Closed Meeting and Budget Work Session #2 Meeting Minutes**  
**March 7, 2023**

The Arlington School Board convened on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 5:34 PM at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

Reid Goldstein, Chair

Cristina Diaz-Torres, Vice Chair

Mary Kadera, Member

David Priddy, Member

Bethany Zecher Sutton, Member (Participated virtually in the Closed Meeting using Microsoft Teams from Arlington, Virginia, due to medical reasons)

**Also present were:**

Christine Smith, Division Legal Counsel

**CLOSED MEETING ON THE DETERMINATION OF A GRIEVANCE**

Mr. Goldstein called the meeting to order and *moved that the Board immediately convene in a closed meeting as authorized by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1) to make a determination in a grievance.* 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, Mr. Priddy, and Ms. Zecher Sutton voting affirmatively.

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 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; Mr. Priddy – Aye and Ms. Zecher Sutton – Aye.

**Also present were:**

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent

Dr. John Mayo, Chief Operating Officer

Kim Graves, Chief of School Support

Dr. Gerald Mann, Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Darrell Sampson, Executive Director of Student Services

Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Management Services

Sarah Putman, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Kerri Hirsch, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Terri Murphy, Director of the Office of English Learners

Kris Martini, Director of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

Carmen Mejia, Deputy Clerk

Introduction

Dr. Durán explained that at each budget work session, staff and the Board would examine the priorities set forth by the School Board in their budget direction. He the introduced the topic of enrollment projections and reviewed Priority #1

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<sup>1</sup>The recording of School Board meetings is posted on the APS Web site following the meetings.

of the proposed budget - Ensure student well-being and academic progress with a focus on innovation, equity, and evidence-based practices.

### Presentation

Ms. Peterson reviewed the enrollment projections for the upcoming school year. Dr. Durán clarified that enrollment projections were part of the discussion because additional staffing was requested in the budget due to the projected number of students. He also acknowledged the many needs put forth by both schools and departments based on planning factors, adjustments, and changes, such as support positions like counselors, psychologists, and social workers. However, these requests were not part of the proposed budget and would be considered in the planning factor study to be conducted. Moreover, Dr. Durán further highlighted Priority #1 and Ms. Peterson presented the costs. It was explained that Priority #1 included recommendations from the various curriculum areas of advisory groups and monitoring reports.

Ms. Murphy explained the English Learners enrollment projections and spoke about the consultant's role in their 5-year strategic plan. Dr. Mann explained the development of the special education enrollment projections and the special education 5-year plan. In addition, Dr. Mann explained the difference between math coaches and math interventionists. Mr. Martini described the role of the Career and Technical Education teacher specialist request, and Ms. Putnam described the duties of the Early Childhood teacher specialist. Furthermore, Dr. Sampson presented the different positions, responsibilities, and roles related to the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) staff. He also briefly explained funding for translators and Medicaid reimbursements. Lastly, in alignment with increasing student resources, Ms. Graves explained the role of the proposed Dean of Students for the comprehensive high schools.

### School Board Discussion

The Board discussed enrollment projections. The Board conversed about a zero-based budget and the difference between the baseline and one-time funding. The Board also inquired about the different staffing requests and raised the question about the steps principals would need to take to meet staffing needs after the budget was approved. Board members discussed the responsibilities of assistant principals, who are now supported by other positions such as testing coordinators, interventionists, and deans. The discussion also included questions on the staffing of the Dual Language Immersion Program and the implementation of the new 80/20 model. Moreover, they discussed the pilot of the SEL positions and assessments by the state. One board member commented how uneasy she felt about not increasing the number of social workers and psychologists until the planning factor review was done. Lastly, they acknowledged that the Inclusive Practice Review and the Planning Factor Review would occur simultaneously.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, Dr. Durán reviewed the future budget work session agendas and the FY 2024 Budget Calendar. Mr. Goldstein requested Board members to note their changes to the Superintendent's Proposed Budget in preparation for the School Board's Proposed Budget, which was scheduled to be acted upon on March 30.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

### **ATTEST:**

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Carmen Mejia, Deputy Clerk  
Arlington School Board

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Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Arlington School Board

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