

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Joint School Board and County Board Budget Work Session Meeting Minutes**  
**March 31, 2023**

The Arlington School Board convened on Friday, March 31, 2023, at 3:01 PM at Bozman Government Center, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

**Present were:**

School Board

Reid Goldstein, Chair  
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Vice Chair  
Mary Kadera, Member  
David Priddy, Member  
Bethany Zecher Sutton, Member (Absent due to personal reasons)

County Board

Christian Dorsey, Chair  
Libby Garvey, Vice Chair  
Takis P. Karantonis, Member  
Matt de Ferranti, Member  
Katie Cristol, Member

**Also present were:**

Dr. Durán, Superintendent  
Dr. John Mayo, Chief Operating Officer  
Kim Graves, Chief of School Support  
Dr. Darrell Sampson, Executive Director of Student Services  
Mark Schwartz, County Manager  
David Carlson, Arlington County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families  
Deborah Warren, Deputy Director, Arlington County Department of Human Services  
Kendra Jacobs, Clerk  
Carmen Mejia, Deputy Clerk

Introduction

Mr. Dorsey welcomed the School Board members and provided an overview of the agenda. Mr. Goldstein thanked the County Board for their support of Arlington Public Schools.

Presentation

Dr. Durán presented the School Board Proposed FY 2024 Budget, highlighting the priorities. He noted that state revenue was unknown at the time of the presentation and the budget would be revised once the state released the information. Mr. Schwartz then presented the County FY 2024 Proposed Budget, sharing an overall summary and funds allocated to the public schools. In his presentation, Mr. Schwartz discussed balancing the budget, priorities, investment in schools, challenges and looking beyond FY 2024.

Dr. Sampson and Ms. Warren presented about the different efforts and services provided to the community on mental health and substance use, respectively. They also shared about the collaboration between the County Department of Health (DHS) and the APS Student Services Department. Ms. Warren presented proposals for future treatment programs for mental health and substance use. She also highlighted the new budget proposal to pilot county mental health therapist in schools. Moreover, Mr. Carlson presented some recommendations from the Arlington County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families (ACPYF) to increase mental health staff in schools, hire a consultant for

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

safety and security in schools, provide internships and after-school programs for students, and permit students to carry Narcan.

#### School and County Board Discussion

The discussion circled around each Board inquiring about their proposed budgets. The County Board asked about the additional staff recommended for Instructional Technology Coordinators, Safety School Coordinators, and the work leading up to the Capital Improvement Plan. In addition, the County Board discussed the recruitment for Summer School teachers, capitalizing reserve accounts, state funding, and compensation. On the other hand, the School Board asked questions regarding the charging trade stations for the electric buses, commercial lease vacancy spaces post-COVID, bargaining units, average compensation increase, and clarification on eliminating one-time funding. Moreover, they expressed interest in learning about summer funding changes for Parks & Recreation for next year and looking at different models.

On the mental health presentation, Board members commented on how excited they are about the school and county's collaboration and having a DHS therapist in the high schools next year. They discussed prevention, training, overcoming barriers, community-based involvement, involving students in the discussions, and supports available during the summer.

#### Conclusion

Mr. Dorsey concluded by thanking the School Board for joining the County Board in a productive meeting. Mr. Goldstein thanked the County Board for the invitation and discussion.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 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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