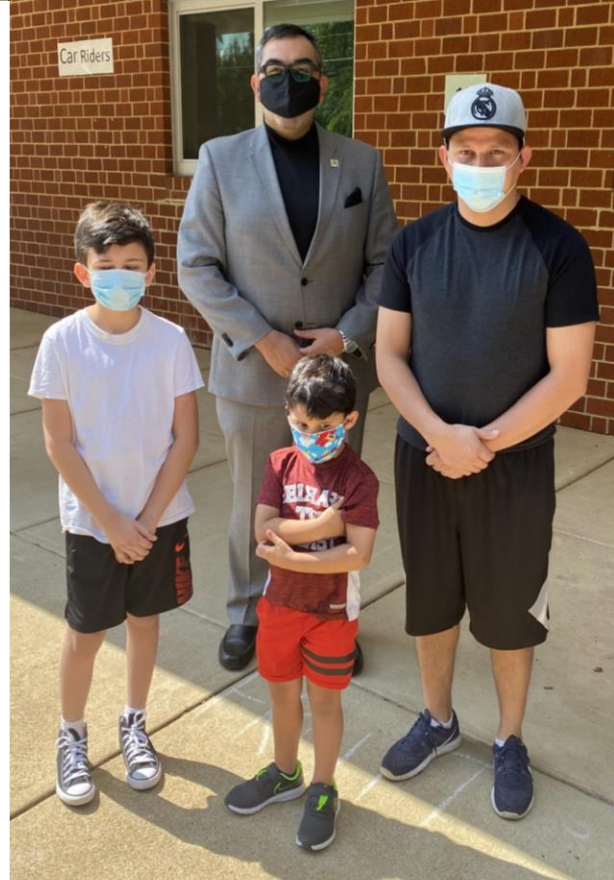




Arlington  
Public  
Schools

# School Board Update September 2020





WELCOME BACK!





# Technology Challenges on First Day

- We deeply regret the challenges many students and families experienced while trying to connect using APS devices on the first day of school. This was due to a firewall issue related to the increased traffic accessing Microsoft Teams.
- We took immediate steps to fix it. On Wednesday morning, there were 25,273 active APS-provided student devices on our network.
- Late Wednesday night we identified a software issue that was causing some further challenges for high school students using MacBook Airs. This was addressed and fixed as of Thursday morning.
- We are monitoring connectivity throughout this week to ensure all students can access learning and enhance the student experience.
- We encourage students to resume using their APS-issued devices so teachers can effectively leverage the resources and applications available on those devices.



# Tech Stats

- 11,500 devices distributed to students since summer
- 25,274 active APS student devices in use as of September 9<sup>th</sup>
- 22,350 (82.27%) students participated in synchronous learning activities through Teams for an average of 3.66 hours through the day on September 8th
- 24,794 (91.3%) students participated in synchronous learning activities through Teams on September 9th
- 2,100+ Comcast Internet Essentials Codes have been distributed with 260 active connections to date.
- 1,200 Mi-Fi's have been distributed to the students
- 24 Hotspots setup around County providing direct access to APS network



# Technical Help Guidance

We encourage families who continue to experience challenges connecting using their APS-issued device to take the following steps:

- 1. Use the troubleshooting guides available on our website.** These guides cover the most common technical problems experienced by students and steps to take.
  - Technical support: [www.apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/technical-support/](http://www.apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/technical-support/)
- 2. Contact your school's technical staff** using the school-specific links provided on the technical support webpage.
- 3. Call the Family Technology Call Center** at 703-228-2570 if you need help with the above steps.
  - 7 a.m. – 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday
  - 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Friday



# School Year Communications

APS will continue to keep staff and families informed through:

- Distance Learning Parent Handbook
- Parent Academy Courses and Tutorials
- Regular School Board Monitoring Reports
- Weekly Superintendent Updates for Staff and Families (Tuesdays)
- Biweekly Updates on Specialized Services for Special Education, English Learners and Gifted Students
- APS Website
- Essential Reminders via Text, Voicemail, and Video
- Special Events (Town Halls, Back-to-School Nights)
- Social Media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp)





# APS Metrics



## HEALTH & SAFETY

- **Operational Capacity and Preference**
  - Sufficient Staffing Levels to:
  - Provide instruction in person
  - Clean and disinfect facilities
  - Provide transportation for students
  - Provide food services to students
  - 10-week supply of cleaning and disinfecting supplies on hand
- **Personal Protective Equipment**
  - 90-day Supply of COVID Equipment and Personal Protective Equipment for faculty, staff and students
  - 90-day Supply of Equipment and Personal Protective Equipment for isolation and quarantine rooms
- **Health Measures**
  - Ability to implement temperature screening, face covering mandates, cleaning and disinfecting routine
  - Ability to ensure appropriate social distancing in all instructional spaces, hallways, conference rooms, etc.
  - Ability to implement response protocols and contact tracing for students and employees
  - Increased access for students to COVID testing



# School Meal Services Update

*Served 4,356 students served on Tuesday and Wednesday*

- **Meal Delivery at 10 Locations** throughout the County, using established safety protocols, by APS food services staff and APS vehicles.
- **21 School Meal Sites** Families can choose to pick up meals at one of the schools or one of the sites that is most convenient and closest to them.
- **The Summer Meal Program has been extended** by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) through Dec. 31. All children ages 2-18 will continue to receive **free meals at all sites.**

**More information:**

[apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/meal-services/](https://apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/meal-services/)

## APS SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS

M/W/F

11am-1pm

*21 School and  
10 Drop-Off  
Locations*







# Meal Sites and Drop-off Locations

## 21 School Meal Sites

- Abingdon
- Arlington Career Center
- Arlington Traditional
- Ashlawn
- Barcroft
- Barrett
- Campbell
- Carlin Springs
- Dr. Charles R. Drew
- Glebe
- Gunston
- Hoffman-Boston
- Jefferson
- Kenmore
- Key
- Randolph
- Swanson
- The Heights
- Wakefield
- Washington-Liberty
- Yorktown

## 10 Drop-Off Locations

- Myer Heights Park
- Greenbrier Baptist Church
- Key Elementary School
- Lee Community Center
- Upton Hill Regional Park for Patrick Henry Apartments
- Syphax Education Center
- Virginia Highlands Park
- Woodbury Park
- Columbia Grove
- Walter Reed Community Center

More information: [apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/meal-services/](https://apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/meal-services/)

# 2020-21 School Board Action Plan

Overarching Goals	
<p>Focus on an <b>Excellent Education</b> Regardless of the Delivery Model.            Support Staff to be Innovative and <b>Deliver High Quality Virtual and In-person Instruction.</b>            Continue Focus on <b>Equity.</b></p>	
Student Success and Well-Being	Operational Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide <b>technology and WIFI connectivity</b> for every Pre-K-12 student</li> <li>• Implement new <b>safety procedures</b> with a focus on safely resuming in-person learning</li> <li>• Ensure <b>every student is connected to a trusted adult</b> to support academic and personal growth</li> <li>• Implement and support social-emotional, mental health, and physical <b>wellness</b> practices <b>for staff and students</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and <b>adopt policies</b> to include <b>Equity, Facilities, and Discipline</b></li> <li>• Review the <b>APS relationship with the School Resource Officers</b> with stakeholder engagement</li> <li>• Adjust FY 2021 budget as needed and adopt a needs-based FY 2022 <b>budget</b></li> <li>• Adopt an Interim FY 2022 Four-to-Six-Year <b>Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)</b></li> <li>• Refine the <b>PreK-12 Instructional Program Pathways (IPP)</b></li> <li>• Adopt new <b>elementary school boundaries</b> for SY 2021-22</li> <li>• <b>Name/Rename schools</b> as needed</li> </ul>

## Timeline for Policies

Updated regularly on the APS Engage site under “School Board Policies”:  
[www.apsva.us/engage/policies-for-revision-amendment/](http://www.apsva.us/engage/policies-for-revision-amendment/)

## Opportunities for Community Input

The policy revision process has opportunities for public comment on the following:

- Existing policies (any time) through Engage!
- Draft policies (30-day window) through Engage!
  - Advisory committees are informed via email when comment period opens
- Draft policies on School Board agenda for Information
- Draft policies on School Board agenda for Action

Advisory committees may request to provide “Enhanced Feedback” for policies of particular interest

## Objective:

Review of the relationship with **School Resource Officers (SROs)** to address community concerns regarding the operation of Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) in APS schools

**Project Lead:** Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff

## Current Status:

- SROs are currently in APS schools
- APS has an MOU with ACPD for the SROs, and we will be reviewing and monitoring the MOU this coming year
- Due to concerns expressed at the national and local levels, APS will gather community feedback, as well as recommendations from critical stakeholders to the School Board and Superintendent, on the future of this relationship
- The review will focus on the roles and responsibilities of SROs and school administrators

## Timeline for Review of APS Relationship with SROs

- ✓ September 3: School Board Work Session on SROs and Arlington Public Schools
- September: Launch SRO web page on APS Engage site
- October: Applications open for Work Group
- November: Work Group Selection
- December: Launch Meeting with Workgroup
- January - June: Monthly Work Group meetings
- January: Public Hearing
- June 2021: Working Group recommendations presented to School Board

## Objectives:

- Adjust FY 2021 Budget as needed
- Adopt a needs-based FY 2022 Budget

## Current Status:

- Superintendent's Return-to-School status updates to include FY 2021 budget updates related to COVID-19
- Updates will include our work to monitor changes in revenue (County, state, local, and federal), additional expenditures required, and any savings projected
- Human Resources has ordered a compensation study, expected in December

## Timeline

- Oct. (TBD): School Board adopts budget direction
- Dec. 8: Joint Work Session with County Board (TENTATIVE)
- Feb. 25: Superintendent presents Proposed FY 2022 Budget, then Work Session #1
- March 9 & 16: Work Sessions #2, #3
- **March 23: Work Session #4 and Public Hearing**
- April 6: Work Session #5
- April 8: School Board acts on Proposed FY 2022 Budget
- April 9: School Board presentation to County Board (TENTATIVE)
- **April 29: Public Hearing**
- May 4: Work Session #6
- May 6: School Board adopts FY 2022 Budget

## Opportunities for Community Input

- Public hearings on March 23 and April 29
- Other opportunities will be considered

## Objective:

In June 2021, the School Board will adopt an Interim FY 2022 Four-to-Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that:

- Meets the projected need for seats at all levels based on the Fall 2020 projections
- Potentially includes additions, modifications, program moves, leased space, new construction, and/or other solutions that fit within the projected 10-year CIP funding
- Considers creative solutions for sizes, grade levels, and locations of all option schools, to include consideration of Pre-K thru 8 and/or Grades 6-12 models of instruction for some schools
- Provides the appropriate facilities to accommodate the full-time high school students on the Career Center campus
- Examines creative solutions for more efficient use of the Career Center campus
- Considers creative solutions to meet accessibility and short-term parking needs at The Heights

**Project Lead:** Lisa Stengle, Planning & Evaluation



## Current Status:

- The FY 2021 CIP was limited to one year due to uncertainty because of the pandemic
- The CIP was adopted without 800+ seats at the Career Center since the estimated cost of the project came in significantly over budget
- By 2024-25, APS will need about 1,000 PreK-Grade 12 seats
- Instructional planning needs to inform how new capacity fits within our school division
- Facilities and instructional planning will run concurrently with recommendations ahead of the CIP process

## Timeline

2020-21	School Board Meetings and APS Activities
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB Work Session - The Heights field and parking with stakeholders (Aug.18)</li> <li>• SB Work Sessions on 2021-22 Planning Projects</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS begins re-evaluation of previous site studies, with input from FAC and JFAC</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB Work Session - PreK-12 Instructional Program Pathways (IPP)</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS conducts after action review of Career Center Expansion Project</li> <li>• School Board adopts revised Policies and Policy Implementation Procedures related to the CIP, Planning, Design and Construction of Capital Projects</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS publishes 2020 10-year projections</li> <li>• APS completes evaluation of previous site studies</li> </ul>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB adopts CIP Framework</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS publishes Annual Update</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB reviews PreK-12 IPP recommendations for the CIP</li> </ul>
May and June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Superintendent proposes 4-to-6-year FY 2022 CIP, shaped to achieve the vision of the IPP</li> <li>• CIP Work Sessions and School Board Adoption</li> </ul>

## Objectives:

- Establish an instructional vision and framework for preK-12 education that ensures equity and multiple pathways to student success and will guide planning processes as APS grows and evolves

**Project Lead:** Bridget Loft, Teaching and Learning

## Current Status:

- Draft of the criteria for each program in the IPP and a summary for all option schools/programs
- Secondary planning to inform the CIP and Fall 2021 secondary boundary processes
- Process for immersion to include vertical alignment of curriculum and consistency of practices
  - Internal: Instruction, Assessment, Staff

## Timeline

September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meetings with instructional leaders to continue development of IPP</li></ul>
October 27, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Board Work Session on IPP</li></ul>
January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post updated IPP draft and related materials to IPP webpage on APS Engage site</li><li>• Solicit community input through <a href="mailto:engage@apsva.us">engage@apsva.us</a></li><li>• Meet with APS advisory committees</li></ul>
March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Board Monitoring Item to inform CIP</li></ul>

## Opportunities for Community Input

- APS Advisory Committees will be invited to review and provide input in November and December
- More information will be available as the process and plans take shape

## Objectives

Use Policy B-2.1 Boundaries to adopt elementary boundaries for 2021-22 that make efficient use of elementary school capacity and other resources, which will create:

- Create a new neighborhood school attendance zone at the current Key site
- Adjust neighborhood attendance zones:
  - For McKinley in the new building at the Reed site
  - Around Arlington Science Focus School
  - For most, if not all, elementary schools

**Project Lead:** Lisa Stengle, Planning and Evaluation

## Current Status:

- Worked with Facilities & Operations and Teaching & Learning to update capacity and plan for PreK and Special Education needs
- Worked with elementary principals and Central Office staff to gather input and shape boundary scenarios, informed by policy B-2.1
- Planning unit projections and input to be published on Sept. 2

## Timeline and Opportunity for Community Input

Fall 2020	Activities	Opportunities for Community Input
Sept. 2	Launch of Engage page on elementary boundaries	Learn more
Sept. 21-Oct. 18	Virtual opportunities for community input (e.g. virtual meetings, questionnaire)	Multiple opportunities for stakeholders to share their input via a questionnaire and virtual live information session
October 27	School Board Work Session	
November 5	School Board Information Item on Superintendent's proposed boundaries, includes any refinements of boundaries based on School Board direction	
December 1	School Board Public Hearing	Public input to the School Board
December 3	School Board Action Item to adopt new boundaries	
Fall 2021	New boundaries take effect	

# School Renaming

## Evaluate which schools need to be renamed

Once APS returns to normal operations, the School Board may consider renaming schools.

### **Objectives:**

Determine if the School Board should consider renaming the following elementary schools, in accordance with the revised naming policy:

- Arlington Traditional School
- Key
- McKinley
- Arlington Science Focus School

**Project Lead:** Lisa Stengle, Planning & Evaluation

### **Current Status:**

- In June 2018, the School Board adopted Policy F-6.1 Naming of Facilities with significant revisions
- The names of schools impacted by the Feb. 3, 2020, school moves may need to be considered under the new policy

### **Timeline and Opportunities for Community Input:**

More information will be available by the end of the 2020-21 school year



## Frequent updates throughout each engagement process on APS Engage, including:

- Links to School Board Work Session/Meetings
- Presentations
- Timeline
- Data
- Community Input

## Additional communications shared throughout the process via:

- School Talk Engage messages
- Social media
- School Ambassador updates
- News release



Questions? Write to:  
[engage@apsva.us](mailto:engage@apsva.us)

Follow processes at  
[www.apsva.us/engage/](http://www.apsva.us/engage/)

All Arlington Public Schools (APS) budget and operations decisions are based on the best information available at the time. Staff and community members are reminded that funding forecasts from Arlington County and the state may change, based on many external factors. Similarly, student enrollment and projections are based on the best available information, but are also subject to change due to employment, housing and other economic factors. For these reasons, APS and the Arlington School Board may adjust future budget allocations, staffing and other operations decisions to reflect the existing community and operating landscape.



# Staying Connected!



Arlington  
Public  
Schools

- Sign up to receive monthly newsletter and agenda updates
- Sign up to speak at a Board Meeting (via phone service)
- Sign up for Virtual Open Office Hours
- Visit our Engage Page at [www.apsva.us/engage](http://www.apsva.us/engage) to follow our current initiatives and provide input and feedback
- Follow us on Twitter [@APSVA\\_SchoolBd](https://twitter.com/APSVA_SchoolBd)
- Email the Board at [school.board@apsva.us](mailto:school.board@apsva.us)
- Office Phone **703-228-6015**

<https://www.apsva.us/contact-the-school-board/>

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