

From: **Johnson, Cintia** <[cintia.johnson@apsva.us](mailto:cintia.johnson@apsva.us)>

Date: Tue, Oct 8, 2019 at 10:09 PM

Subject: Re: Follow-Up Questions for Cintia Johnson

Sorry, I thought I sent this earlier.

Responses to questions from the first meeting are below. My plans are to get questions prior to the CCPTA meeting or to provide answers to questions at the following meeting. Thank you.

**Online verification process:**

1. Can you provide a breakdown of completed verification rates at individual school level?

*The information has been provided to principals with weekly update. We ask that the PTAs coordinate with the principals on ways to help.*

2. Do you notice any trends or patterns that are cause for concern regarding completion by particular schools or particular groups within school communities?

*Based on information we have received we are focusing on ensuring that our EL populations are given the support necessary to verify the information.*

3. What specific efforts are being made to get the remaining 56% completed? How are you ensuring schools needing additional assistance to comply with the process are getting the help they need?

*We continue to see an increase in the online completion process and are focusing on adjusting support strategies. For example with upcoming conferences we have an opportunity to really identify specific families needing support. We can also provide additional support at BTSN and school and countywide events. Schools are tailoring their response based on the needs.*

4. Can you disseminate this information to the PTA presidents so they know the status and any issues in their community and potentially offer support or assistance?

*Principals are provided weekly updates and PTA presidents are asked to reach out to their principal and work closely in identifying the needs within their school.*

5. Can APS expand or improve upon the APS app to complete the process via smart phones, as many families use phone as their primary (or only) means of accessing the internet? Currently we are working with the vendor on ways to improve this access because presently it requires families to continually resize their device screen to see the words. This

makes it problematic to complete their AOVV through the ParentVue app.

The Enterprise Solutions team is aware and seeking solutions for next year. We are seeking updates that make the website's design responsive to the various mobile devices. Our hope is that product updates will help.

### **Accessibility of information**

1. What is APS doing or planning to do to ensure all families have access to information that is being shifted to "online only" such as paper copies of report cards, college fair registration forms, FRL application forms, volunteer application forms, etc.? What attention is being given to families without easy online access, home printers or scanners, etc.?

We are listening to the concerns and considering providing supports and/or adjustments. Initially, the FY2020 budget cut around printing report cards started as complete discontinuation of printed report cards. After feedback from various leaders, a small amount of funds were retained to provide printed report cards to families who have limited access to technology. The budget cut, as written in the adopted budget, says "Families will need to use ParentVue and StudentVue to access student reporting data." It is important to know that we want to encourage families to access ParentVue beyond AOVV to keep track of student related matters such as attendance, student profile, grades, SOL results, etc., particularly at the secondary level. This helps to maintain better partnerships with parents.

The technical approach to implement the budget cut involves:

1. Providing families with a .pdf of the student's report card and IPR through ParentVue.
2. Providing schools with multiple options for generating .pdfs of report cards for the purposed of printing including
  - a. Individually
  - b. For a group of students (all students, 7<sup>th</sup> graders, etc.)

### **First day of school videography and social media**

1. What procedure is being followed by staff to confirm students/families have consented to photography and posting to social media? How does this comply with opt in/opt out restrictions when the AOVV process is not completed prior to the first day of school? (How do we know the opt out directives or to-be-expressed preferences are being followed, particularly on the first day?)

Throughout the year we refer to our opt out list when capturing photos and videos. This is our practice. We'll review our practice pertaining to the first day.

### **Dorothy Hamm MS**

1. Please provide an update on the timeline for completion of the addition.

Based on the current construction schedule, APS anticipates achieving occupancy of the Hamm MS addition in April/May 2020. The latest construction updates are now posted online. Hamm Middle School: <https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/190930-Stratford-Community-Update.pdf>

## Vacancies

1. How is the Asst. Superintendent for Special Education vacancy being managed? What is the timeline for filling the vacancy?

It is presently being managed by Kelly Krug who is focusing on elementary and Heather Rothenbuescher who is focusing on secondary. They are fulfilling all the duties and responsibilities associated with special-education at this time. Permanent decisions will be made in accordance with our HR procedures following the hiring of the assistant superintendent for DTL. Let me clarify that the vacant role is the Director of Special Education, not the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education.

2. How are vacancies filled after the start of the school year, specifically special education and ITC?

To fill vacancies after the start of the school year- HR staff post on external job boards. We streamline the application process by pushing resumes received from job boards directly to the hiring official. This enables HR to have a quick turnaround. Jobs are posted in various social media education groups especially in hard to fill areas. Staff reaches out to Universities/Education partners for potential leads on graduates, alumni and students in the pipeline. Staff also sends email blasts to all applicants in Winocular and job boards, letting them know of openings and gathering their interest/availability.

## Apps

1. What is the policy/is there a consistent policy for whether/how PTAs can pay for access to websites and/or apps used by students if the apps must first be vetted by APS?

For these types of inquiries we refer to our policies.

## IPP/program location review/boundary process

1. Please provide a timeline for completion/adoption of IPP vision, decision regarding program locations and moves (if any), and elementary school boundary process?

The IPP is a framework and a living document and designed to guide future decisions. There is no formal adoption of this framework. All information regarding the boundary process and program moves will be posted on Engage w/APS

## Some questions that arose later in the meeting:

1. **Can the public/PTAs receive more advanced notice of which policies the SB is going to review when?** There is a sense that some get more publicity than others, some go through quickly, and some kind of "sneak" through quietly.

In August 2019, we shared our policy revision/amendment list for 2019-20 with the School Board in a work session and subsequently published the proposed list on our Engage page for easy access by the community found here: <https://www.apsva.us/engage/policies-for-revision-amendment/>. We are currently working with the School Board to schedule the policies for upcoming School Board meetings throughout the year. In addition, please see the presentation that was shared with the Board at the work session: [https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/arlington/Board.nsf/files/BFFTPV786227/\\$file/Planning%20Projects%20Work%20Session%20082719%20Presentation.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/arlington/Board.nsf/files/BFFTPV786227/$file/Planning%20Projects%20Work%20Session%20082719%20Presentation.pdf). Just a note that we are looking to change our list of the HR policies and will be sharing that with the Board shortly. The revised list will be shared on Engage once approved by the Board.

Let me know if you'd like to invite Julia Burgos to address this topic..

2. **Some questions about the new visitor ID system and impacts on those without Virginia drivers licenses and bar codes on APS-issued cards not being properly scanned at subsequent school sites.** Perhaps we can get more information about the new system and how it is working well and not working well when we meet in preparation for the October CCPTA meeting.

Let me know if you'd like to invite Zachary Pope for this update.

3. **How does APS determine the order in which schools will receive replacement classroom door locks in accordance with school safety effort plans? What can we do to help speed the process so that all schools can receive the upgrades in a timely fashion rather than over a five year period, as the funds are currently allocated over a period of 5 years?**

Let me know if you'd like to invite Zachary Pope and other APS for this update.