



DATE: Monday, December 14, 2020
PLACE: Virtually from 7:00 – 9:00 PM

7:00 PM: Open Meeting – Emily Vincent

- Attendance
- Welcome, overview of agenda
 - Ms. Vincent provided an update on the successful FreshFarm fundraising and food distribution effort
 - Ms. Vincent thanked Nancy Van Doren for her tenure on the Arlington School Board
 - Ms. Vincent introduced Arlington County and APS Leadership

7:05 PM: Discussion with APS/County Leadership

- Discussion topics based on pre-submitted questions each month addressed by the following APS/County leaders
 - Dr. Francisco Durán, APR Superintendent
 - School Board Liaison – Nancy Van Doren
 - County Board Liaison – Matt de Ferranti
- Food Security
 - Mr. de Ferranti addressed County efforts on food security
 - Hunger has been a big focus on the Arlington County Board
 - Arlington County has put \$600,000 in food for AFAC and an additional \$400,000 through grocery carts
 - County Board is engaging a volunteer to work on the systematic hunger issues in the County
- Dr. Duran discussed efforts by APS to provide meal assistance
- Boundary Process
 - Dr. Duran discussed community engagement with respect to boundary changes
 - Community feedback from community did have an impact the current process
 - Expressed concern that some families may not have fully engaged
 - Ms. Van Doren expressed confidence that the data used for the past few boundary processes has been very reliable
 - Clearly limitations with respect to elementary school data
 - Expressed belief that Dr. Duran handled the COVID-19 pandemic well by limiting changes to only those that were necessary
 - The School Board is aware that some school communities have more resources to advocate for themselves and tries to listen to all communities
 - Emphasized need to reach out to underserved communities
 - Facilities
 - APS and School Board evaluates the ability to use all existing County properties
 - However, it faces limitations on existing properties due to restrictions

- Ms. Van Doren believes that coordination with the County has improved in recent years
 - Mr. de Ferranti highlighted the work the County Board is undertaking to address capacity issues
 - Dr. Duran noted that APS is aligning its CIPs with the County's CIPs to encourage further coordination
- County Decisions on School Re-opening
 - Mr. de Ferranti noted the challenges that face school re-openings despite a desire to do so
 - Noted that Loudon county recently closed its schools after they had been opened for in-person learning because of increased positivity rates
 - Difficult to ask teachers to teach given the risks
 - Noted the Governor recently increasing restrictions
 - Believes that between now and April 1 is likely to be the most challenging period
 - Arlington is not a vacuum from Virginia—typically decisions are made regionally (e.g., Fairfax, Arlington, Loudon).
 - Will Virginia require vaccinations to return to school?
 - Dr. Duran indicated that no guidance has been provided thus far regarding whether vaccinations will be required
 - APS is analyzing whether it can expand its summer programs in 2021 to focus on students who may have a “gap”
 - Not waiting for the summer
 - Working with elementary school students to identify students who could use immediate remediation
 - Also looking for enrichment opportunities at middle and high school levels
 - Focus on students who may have fallen behind as a result of a virtual learning
 - Ms. Van Doren thanked the CCPTA for its efforts and shared her positive experience as a PTA president
 - One of her goals was to have every child reading by third grade and that mission is still going on and it's a waste of resources
 - Asked PTAs to watch how students in their schools are doing and hold schools accountable

7:30 PM: Presentations

- Chip Bonar – APS's New Directions Program
 - Chip Bonar provided an update on the New Directions program
 - Copy of Presentation to be maintained with minutes
 - Ms. Vincent outlined the relationship between CCPTA and the New Directions Programs
 - Since New Directions does not have a PTA, CCPTA has regularly partnered with the New Directions Program

7:50 PM: CCPTA BUSINESS, UPDATES, ACTION ITEMS

- **Action Item:** approval of November minutes
 - Quorum present
 - Ms. Vincent made a Motion to approve minutes
 - Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote

- **Treasurer's report – Kendra Anderson**
 - Ms. Anderson provided an overview of financial including new donations
 - Ms. Anderson discussed the CCPTA's acquisition of additional Zoom accounts, new sign-ups, and security protocols
- **Grant Fund**
 - Karrie Beaudry provided an update on the grant fund and discussed upcoming January 11th deadline
 - Encouraged PTAs to reach out to teachers to consider potential projects that need funding
- **Recognition of Arlington's Social Workers, Counselors, and Psychologists – Mary Kadera**
 - Ms. Kadera discussed the recognition
 - Quorum present
 - Motion made to approve
 - Motion passed by unanimous voice vote
- **Advocacy and Policy Updates – Claire Noakes**
 - Ms. Noakes provided updates on the Internet Policy
 - Discussed new policy on real property—Ms. Noakes will analyze the proposed changes further
 - Acquisition of property is a sensitive and important topic
 - General Assembly legislative session—Virginia PTA will be commencing a major advocacy push
 - Advocacy Learning Labs commencing on January 7
 - Constituent connections component—virtual town hall meetings
- **Partnerships Committee Report – Christa Mansur**
 - Ms. Mansur thanked all of the volunteers who assisted with the FreshFarm food drive including volunteers and APS staff
 - There were approximately 900 bags distributed to 8 different sites including 70 volunteers
 - Ms. Mansur discussed the CCPTA's MS Teams site
 - Dena Porter discussed success of recent book drive
- **SEPTA Update – Kathleen Clark**
 - Ms. Clark discussed recent Q&A with Dr. Duran
 - A reminder that SEPTA requires that parents approach them—they are not legally allowed to find out who has an IEP
 - Update on the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee

8:15 PM: CCPTA INTERNAL QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

- CCPTA Board provided clarification of when/how CCPTA delegates will be asked to vote on things, Standing Rules draft.
- Broad boundary process recommendations being developed. Draft to be circulated in February.
- Potential membership discussion on FY22 budget feedback
- Communications and PTA engagement structure (Teams, CCPTA website, email list)
- We are happy to host separate discussions on specific topics. Please share any suggestions.

Next CCPTA meeting: Monday, January 11, 2021 7 – 9 pm