

CHARGE

Multimodal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee

Pursuant to School Board Policy 10-6, the Arlington School Board establishes the Multimodal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee to report to the School Board to provide advice regarding the safe transportation of students to and from school by a variety of modes of transportation.

Purpose

The overarching goal of the Multimodal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee is to ensure student health and safety for all forms of transportation, including but not limited to walking, bus transportation, bicycling, and driving. Additional goals are to provide on-time bus service; to maximize efficient use of APS transportation resources; to ensure a reasonable walk distance to each school; to support effective traffic management at school sites; to make informed decisions that reflect the APS dedication to environmental stewardship; and to consider and report budget implications for any Committee recommendations.

The Multimodal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee will:

- Make recommendations regarding School Board transportation policy, which includes recommendations about an APS philosophy for transportation services that address the goals listed above;
- Make recommendations regarding realigned or additional resources needed to meet the goals listed above;
- Review transportation safety for all modes of transportation and identify issues to staff on an ongoing basis;
- Gather community input, including from each school, to inform the Committee's work;
- Integrate Arlington County expertise to identify where collaboration and economies of scale can best be utilized to improve the safe transportation of students to and from school by various modes of transportation;
- Consider the County's Transportation Master Plan in making its recommendations;
- Develop effective strategies to communicate and educate the community about APS Transportation Services, and to promote safe, multimodal options;
- Provide an annual written report to the School Board and other updates as necessary;
- Communicate and coordinate as needed with the Budget Advisory Council, the Advisory Council on Facilities and Capital Programs, and any other advisory group on topics of mutual interest; and
- At the conclusion of its work, provide input about the structure and charge of any future committee to be convened to address these issues.

Membership

The Committee shall be comprised of not more than fifteen (15) voting members who are parents, community members and students who represent the Arlington Community and who have knowledge of a variety of issues related to multimodal transportation and safety, including walking, biking, APS busing, and transit. These members shall include:

- Parents (with children who attend APS) (8)
- Students (2)

- Representative of the Arlington Transportation Advisory Commission (1)
- Community Members (without children who attend APS) (up to 4)

In addition, the Committee shall include five (5) non-voting APS staff members to provide expertise, context and staff support to the voting members. These members shall include:

Arlington Public Schools Non-Voting Members(5)

- Assistant Superintendent of Facilities & Operations
- Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
- Department of School & Community Relations Representative
- Director of Transportation
- Principal Representative

The County Manager has designated Dennis Leach, Director of Transportation in the Department of Environmental Services, to work with the committee by providing advice and expertise on multimodal transportation and safety issues. Other County staff may also be asked, as needed, to provide expertise in areas such as Bike/Walk Arlington, pedestrian safety, safe routes to schools, police, crossing guards, or any other areas that may be identified.

The Special Committee will conclude its work by June 30, 2014. The School Board shall appoint members for the remainder of the 2012-13 school year and through June 30, 2014. The School Board also shall appoint citizens from the Committee to serve as Chair and as Vice Chair of the Committee. The Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations and the Director of Transportation are the lead staff liaisons to the Committee and will provide the staff support necessary for the Committee's work.

After receiving the final report of the Committee, the School Board shall determine if it will establish a permanent School Board advisory committee to address multimodal transportation and student safety and if so, adopt the charge for that new advisory committee.

Committee Operations, Procedures, and Guidelines

The Special Committee shall follow the Operations and Procedures, Guidelines for Communication Outside the School System, and Guidelines for Working with School System Staff as provided for in School Board Policy 10-6.

Reporting

The Multimodal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee will provide an annual written report to the School Board not later than June 30, 2013 and June 30, 2014. If the Committee has recommendations that involve budget action, those recommendations should be made to the School Board in a timely way for consideration during the budget process. The Committee also may provide other written reports and updates to the School Board as deemed necessary.

Exceptions

The School Board may make exceptions to these procedures, as it deems appropriate.

References

SBP 10-6 School Board Advisory Committees