

# Board of Education of Anne Arundel County | November 18, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency, Board meetings are currently being held virtually and in compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

Times for agenda items are intended as guidance only.

The Board may choose to change the order of agenda items to meet the needs of the Board. Unless changed by the Board, items occur in the order listed.

## Board Members

Michelle L. Corkadel  
*President*

Melissa Ellis  
*Vice President*

Candace C.W. Antwine

Terry R. Gilleland, Jr.

Eric Grannon

Julie Hummer

Robert C. Leib

Dana Schallheim

Drake Smith

## Upcoming Meetings

### General Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 2, 2020  
at 6:00 pm

### Policy Committee

Wednesday, November 18,  
2020, 2:30 pm  
*Virtual*

### Budget Committee

Wednesday, November 18,  
2020, 4:45 pm  
*Virtual*

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## 1. Motion to Enter Closed Session

The Board will meet virtually to enter into Executive Closed Session on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 5:00 pm, see separate agenda for details.

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## 6:00 pm 2. Opening/Recognition

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2.01 Invocation              | 2.06 Policy Committee Update |
| 2.02 Pledge of Allegiance    | 2.07 Budget Committee Update |
| 2.03 Approval of the Minutes | 2.08 CRASC Report            |
| 2.04 Establish Agenda Order  | 2.09 PTA Report              |
| 2.05 Recognitions            | 2.10 CAC Report              |

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## 6:30 pm 3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

The Board will hear public comment on agenda items from up to 10 speakers per agenda item during this section of the meeting. Those wishing to provide live testimony may register, space permitting, at [www.aacps.org/boardtestimony](http://www.aacps.org/boardtestimony). All speakers will be allotted 2 minutes. Written comments on agenda items can be submitted to [boardoffice@aacps.org](mailto:boardoffice@aacps.org). The process for submitting such comments and comments on non-agenda items, which are only accepted in writing, can be found at [www.aacps.org/boardtestimony](http://www.aacps.org/boardtestimony).

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## 7:30 pm 4. Presentations

- 4.01 Anne Arundel County Police Department - Fresh S.T.A.R.T. Program & Statistics Update
- 4.02 2021-2022 School Year Calendar

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## 8:30 pm 5. Review Items

- 5.01 Monthly Financial Status Report and FY2021 Revenue and Expenditure Projections
- 5.02 2020-2021 Reopening Plan Update

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## 9:30 pm 6. Action Items

- 6.01 Administrative Personnel Appointments
- 6.02 Meade Heights ES Addition - Design Development (DD)

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## 9:45 pm 7. Consent Items - Award of Contracts

- 7.01 Banking Services
- 7.02 Cabling
- 7.03 Repair and Painting - Sports Courts and Parking Lots

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## 10:00 pm 8. Motion to Enter Closed Session (if needed)

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**Key:** (I) Information (A) Action (R) Review

Information on agenda items can be obtained from the Board of Education Office (410-222-5311) or at [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org)

The following testimony was submitted for the November 18, 2020, meeting of the Board of Education. The “...” designation indicates the cutoff of testimony due to it exceeding the word the limit. The full version of such testimony has been provided to the Board.

**TESTIMONY SUBMITTED FOR ITEM 4.02 – 2021-2022 School Year Calendar**

1. Dr. Arlotto and Members of the Board,

As we did last year, the Calendar Committee made of up representatives from PTA, CAC, TAAAC, AEL, SAAAAC, AFSCME, CRASC etc. has submitted calendars to include a full week off for spring break. This week off is essential for the mental health of students, staff, and families.

A full week of spring break is the norm in the USA (in fact many districts have 2 weeks off in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, a February winter break, and an April Spring break). The only reason many MD schools stopped giving a full week off was because of the governors start/end date mandate. We are no longer constrained by a mandate, so it is time to reinstate this much needed break like our local county neighbors. Montgomery, PG, Baltimore County, and Baltimore City have full weeks off this year (2 started before and 2 started after Labor Day). Montgomery County already approved their calendar for 2021-2022 with a full spring break week.

We must also consider teacher retention/recruitment. Why work for a school district that pays less than neighboring counties and does not provide teachers with a sufficient break in the spring? Let's show, through actions, that AACPS values their staff by providing a well-deserved and needed week off. A long weekend is not sufficient for travel, nor is it sufficient to reduce stress and stave off burnout.

Sincerely,

Leanne Carmona

CAC Member- Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee Representative

Calendar Committee – CAC Representative

SPMS Parent