

# Board of Education of Anne Arundel County | November 17, 2021

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

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Board Meetings are held in the Board Room of the Carol Sheffey Parham Building at 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Melissa Ellis  
*President*

Dana Schallheim  
*Vice President*

Gloria D. Dent

Robert Silkworth

Corine Frank

Joanna Tobin

Michelle L. Corkadel

Bunmi Omisore

## Upcoming Meetings

### General Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 2021  
12:00 pm  
Board Room

### Policy Committee

Tuesday, November 30, 2021  
3:00 pm  
Virtual

### Equity Committee

Tuesday, December 7, 2021  
11:30 am  
Virtual

### Budget Committee

Monday, December 13, 2021  
12:00 pm  
Virtual

### Board Workshop

Monday, December 13, 2021  
6:00 pm  
Board Room

## 4:00 pm 1. Motion to Enter Executive Closed Session

## 6:00 pm 2. Opening/Recognition

2.01 Invocation

2.05 Recognitions

2.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2.06 Teacher's Association of AACO

2.03 Approval of the Minutes

2.04 Establish Agenda Order

## 6:30 pm 3. Reports

3.01 President's Report

3.04 CRASC Report

3.02 Equity Committee Report

3.05 CAC Report

3.03 Budget Committee Report

3.06 Superintendent's Report -  
School Operations

## 7:45 pm 4. Public Comments

The Board will hear in-person and virtual public comment on agenda items during regularly scheduled meetings from up to a total of 10 speakers per agenda item of each meeting, prior to Board discussion of those items. Those wishing to provide live in-person or virtual public comment 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 also be submitted through a form available at [www.aacps.org/boardtestimony](http://www.aacps.org/boardtestimony). 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).

## 8:15 pm 5. Consent Items - Award of Contracts (A)

5.01 Scoreboards and Marquee Signage

## 8:20 pm 6. Action Items (A)

6.01 Administrative Personnel Appointments

### Policy Adoption - Third Reading

6.02 Administration of Medical Cannabis - Code JR

### Policy Adoption - First Reading

6.03 Students with A Known Food Allergy - Code JECAA

### Other Action Items

6.04 Southgate ES Addition - Design Development (DD)

6.05 2021-2022 School Year Calendar (A)

6.06 2022-2023 School Year Calendar (I)

## 9:30 pm 7. Review Items (R)

7.01 Monthly Financial Status Report and FY2022 Revenue & Expenditure Projections

## 8. Motion to Enter Executive Closed Session (as needed)

Board of Education of Anne Arundel County

Written Testimony

November 17, 2021

**ITEM 6.05 – 2021-2022 School Year Calendar**

1. I am writing because of the disparate impact in the use of early dismissal days. Our daughter is in the special needs Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECI) afternoon class for this entire school year. The district has already scheduled FIFTEEN(15) early dismissal days where our child does not have classes (Afternoon Pre-K is affected as well). Now the Superintendent is proposing 3 more early dismissal days. That is more than three weeks of school that she will be missing that the morning ECI and Pre-K won't miss (not to mention every other child in the system). In contrast, there are only two late arrival day. So one group of kids gets a full three weeks more schooling than another. I think at a minimum AACPS needs to rethink its balancing of early dismissal and late arrival days (let alone the use of abbreviated days period, we only had four when I was a kid and my niece, who goes to the same public school as I did only has 4 as well). One group of our most vulnerable children should not be disadvantaged in this way. In addition, every one of the districts "Unity" days are days when the afternoon kids do not have school. What kind of "Unity" is that? The schools should either change the balance of early/late days, switch out the morning with the afternoon for some of those days or some other change to achieve equity. We do not begrudge teachers the time they need, we love our daughter's teachers, bus drivers, and aides. Nonetheless, this unfairness needs to be rectified in some way.

Kenneth Trepeta  
Odenton

2. Adding more early dismissals to the calendar year would make it very hard for working parents. We need to find a solution where the schools remain open and offer supervision of children during regular school hours. Parents need to be able to go to work, they should not be asked to take off every other week because schools close. It could be a paid service, offering affordable supervision maybe with the substitute teachers, maybe with the high schoolers that need service hours. That way the parents that need it can have an option, instead of expecting them all to just take off from work.

Lucia Fernandez  
Severna Park