

Board of Education of Anne Arundel County | December 15, 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, January 5, 2022
12:00 pm
Board Room

Policy Committee
Tuesday, January 4, 2022
3:00 pm
Virtual

Equity Committee
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
11:30 am
Virtual

Board Hearing - Budget
Tuesday, January 4, 2022
6:00 pm
Old Mill High School

Thursday, January 6, 2022
6:00 pm
Board Room

Board Workshop
Tuesday, January 18, 2022
6:00 pm
Board Room

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

6:00 pm 2. Opening/Recognition

2.01 Invocation

2.02 Pledge of Allegiance

2.03 Approval of the Minutes

2.04 Establish Agenda Order

2.05 Recognitions

6:30 pm 3. Reports

3.01 President's Report

3.02 Equity Committee Report

3.03 Budget Committee Report

3.04 CRASC Report

3.05 CAC 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. 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. 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.

8:15 pm 5. Presentation

5.01 Superintendent's Recommended Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets

8:45 pm 6. Consent Items - Award of Contracts (A)

6.01 Architectural, Engineering, Design, and Construction Administrative Services - Glen Burnie HS Enclosure

6.02 Consulting Services - School Boundary and Redistricting

9:00 pm 7. Action Items (A)

7.01 Election of Board Officers

7.02 Administrative Personnel Appointments

7.03 2022 Legislative Program

Policy Revisions - Third Reading

7.04 Non-Discrimination - Code AC

7.05 Violence and Vandalism - Code KG

7.06 Board Committees - Code BBE

Policy Revisions - First Reading

7.07 Naming Facilities - Code EG

7.08 Emergency Plans - Code EH

7.09 Redistricting and Attendance Areas - Code JAA

Other Action Items

7.10 Second Quarter Operating Budget Supplemental and Fund Transfer

7.11 FY2022 Supplemental Capital Budget Appropriation

10:30 pm 8. Review Items (R)

8.01 Monthly Financial Status Report

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

Board of Education of Anne Arundel County

Written Testimony

December 15, 2021

ITEM 7.04 – Non-Discrimination – Code AC

1. If AACPS feels that unity and inclusiveness is so important, please stop making all the nonsensical, discriminatory rules based on CDC guidelines. The CDC has lost all credibility. By now it is obvious that this was never about public health but about how well the children OBEY, and how great a racial (and gender-identity and vaccinated vs unvaccinated) divide can be created amongst student groups. Keep pushing, and you will find no AACPS students left to form your Marxist army. Parents are watching and listening intently to what this board does and will eventually take their children out of AACPS if these discriminatory policies continue.

Peggy Williams
Severna Park

2. AACPS should stop with discriminating between vaccinated and unvaccinated kids, as far as masking, quarantining, participation in activities, and transportation. Where is the unity and inclusiveness? The rules listed on the website does not support any of these policies with science, even though the claim is that they are following CDC recommendations (which are supposed to be based on science). Please post the science on your website to support these policies. Oh wait. There ISN'T any!

James J. Elbourn
Severna Park

3. Discrimination against unvaccinated students is evident in the AACPS quarantine policies, transportation/bus policies, and student athlete requirements. Unvaccinated students are required to quarantine in situations where the vaccinated are not, resulting in the denial of education for the unvaccinated. Unvaccinated students identified as close contacts are not allowed to ride the bus home, resulting in the denial of student transportation. Unvaccinated student athletes are required to be tested weekly, resulting in lines of students in schools waiting for tests, resulting in their personal medical information not being safeguarded.

Arlotto stated that only the students' names would be given to Capital Diagnostics (CD), the company contracted for the student athlete testing. However, when registering via the CD portal, students are asked for pages of personal information. It is still not clear whether CD can sell this information.

Please end these discriminatory policies and provide an inclusive environment for all

students. After all, as one of AACPS' favorite partners says, 'kindness grows here'. AACPS should start showing some of that kindness to our unvaccinated students.

Jennifer Fold
Linthicum

4. I am growing increasingly concerned about the discrimination and disparate treatment of unvaccinated students in AACPS. Especially considering the major push that AACPS is doing in regard to equity, unity, and inclusion. It is quite disturbing that the same county pushing for unity is also blatantly discriminating against unvaccinated students. There are many reasons parents may choose to not vaccinate their children and that is their constitutional right. It is not for AACPS to decide if that is right or wrong. AACPS claims to be all for unity and equity but when it comes down to vaccination status, unvaccinated students are treated completely different than vaccinated students. The quarantine rules are different, the transportation rules are different, the access to education is different. This is disgusting and wrong. It's time to make changes that show unity and not discrimination. Be bold and be brave and make the changes to not discriminate against unvaccinated children. Stop dividing kids, parents, families and bring us together the way that you claim to want to do.

Amy Willey
Pasadena

5. Covid testing for unvaccinated and undocumented student ATHLETES is discrimination. At Severna Park HS, there is over 1,800 students. A large portion of those students are student athletes. Since it's a FACT that you can get COVID regardless of vaccination status, testing only undocumented and/or unvaccinated is not only segregation but NOT about COVID, health, safety or attempts to stop the spread.

Why? Because if all the undocumented/unvaccinated kids are tested and are negative, but get COVID - who are they getting it from? The vaccinated who are going unchecked, untested, allowed to participate in sports carrying the virus because your policies say they don't need to be tested.

The vaccinated, therefore, become the super spreaders because their status is unknown and leads to the potential for illness.

That is not equity. That is not unity. That is not health. That is not safety.

That is discrimination based on a status and your agenda for a population that is KNOWN to have a low infection rate; 268 of 82,700+ to be exact, or 0.32%, and how get mild symptoms if they are not part of the 99.7% who don't get COVID.

END THE TESTING NOW for select students or demand them for ALL. Practice what you

preach. We, the Parents, have had enough of the misguidance, fear mongering, discrimination, and segregation.

Lisa Smith
Severna Park

6. I'd like to call attention to the Non-discrimination policy that is drafted for the third read today. It states that the Board prohibits discrimination based on such things as religion and genetic information, and yet these same things are the basis on which certain medical decisions are made. This includes the decision on whether or not to receive vaccines, which determines the "inclusion" of student, families, and staff in many of the opportunities provided by AACPS, mainly the right to a free and equitable public education. Children that are not vaccinated are put through a different quarantine process and in most cases are denied access to school, transportation, and extracurricular activities for an extended length of time compared to those that have received Covid injections. There are students that have gone against their sincerely held religious, cultural, and/or philosophical beliefs to receive these unapproved injections as a result of the inappropriate coercion and mandates from the school system. Perhaps this policy should be rewritten to reflect the TRUE prohibition of all discrimination, to include protection for those whose medical decisions may differ from those of others. According to the latest data, unvaccinated individuals do not pose any more risk for Covid infection or transmission than those who have received the shots; there is no reason to discriminate.

Tina Belford
Linthicum

7. AACPS, where is your moral culpability? How do you get up every morning and look at yourself in the mirror knowing what you are doing to our children is risky and wrong? Why are we pushing to inject healthy kids with an experimental vaccine? Coercing students and athletes to either "get the Covid Vaccine OR subject yourself to weekly testing and unwarranted quarantine requirements" is nothing short of clear discrimination against an individual who refuses to put their body at risk. AACPS is requiring the individual to engage in or refrain from engaging in activities or precautions that differ from the activities of an individual who has received the vaccine. AACPS has recommended that all kids 5 and up get vaccinated based on CDC guidance. Did you know that in Pfizer's clinical trials for its COVID-19 vaccine, the trial failed for the 12-15 age group, meaning that the vaccinated group did worse than the placebo group, thus demonstrating it was more harmful to vaccinate than not? Please educate yourselves and read the last paragraph on page 15 extending onto page 16 of Pfizer's report on EAU approved vaccines: <https://www.fda.gov/media/144416/download>, and then ask yourself if what you are requiring is morally acceptable? Our children are at the lowest risk, we all know this and are reminded of this repeatedly. It takes a lot more courage to admit that you have been deceived than to continue believing the lie. For the sake of OUR children, you MUST find that courage now.

Kim A. Pratta
Edgewater

8. I am very discouraged by the discrimination and treatment of Unvaccinated students/teachers and staff. I have so many questions. How does a school system that prides itself on Unity then turn around and divide our students, teachers, and staff even more by placing them in groups to be treated differently? Why are my children who have natural immunity not allowed to be recognized when they are considered being in close contact with someone testing positive for covid? Instead, my children are denied an in person public education as well as denied public transportation home from school. Why is someone else's fear of covid more important than someone's fear of the long-term effects of this vaccine on their children? I just can't understand for the life of me why are our children are being labeled Vaccinated and unvaccinated with a vaccine only around for less than a year? I can't understand why this county and state is subjecting the unvaccinated to bully type behavior from both other students and adults. I am deeply saddened by this county and states policy that show no type of unification in fact it seems to encourage disunification.

Melissa Idleman
Pasadena