
To Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent, Arlington Public Schools
From Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Topic 2022 Annual Memorandum
Date July 2022

Since 2013, the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Sustainability (SACS) has prepared an annual memorandum with highlights and recommendations for the Superintendent to advance sustainability in Arlington Public Schools (APS). As we reflect on what was another extremely challenging school year, we are continually impressed by the commitment from the teachers, staff, administrators, and students to persevere in excellent, equitable education, while working toward sustainability in operations and education. We congratulate the seniors from our committee who graduated: Yesly Vasquez-Perez from Arlington Tech, and Madeliudugdu

topical areas:

First, the expansion of the sustainability liaison program from a pilot of 10 schools 6 years ago, to 26 schools this year, and especially to all schools and programs in SY 2022-23, is an extraordinary success story. We appreciate all the support that you, your staff, and the School Board have shown in expanding this program. We also appreciate the effort to highlight the sustainability liaison program in the April School Board meeting. The expansion of liaisons to all schools and programs presents a big opportunity to make the program more impactful, systemic, and equitable.

Second, we are also excited about the gains that our committee made in collaborating with the APS Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

When we meet with you this summer, we hope to discuss these exciting opportunities and new developments. To enhance that discussion, we thought it would be useful to summarize the committee's activities during the 2021-22 school year.

Sustainability Liaison Program in 2021-2022

Despite the significant challenges that staff faced in SY 2021-22, the liaisons from 26 schools accomplished significant projects that made a lasting impact on school operations and student environmental education. For more on each liaison's projects, please see Appendix B: "Sustainability Liaison Projects."

Beyond the slideshow (created in March 2022) in Appendix B, SACS was able to gain insights into the liaison activities by participating in their quarterly meetings, and by surveying th96 (o)-5 (n)14.004 (s an4 (s, and-612T@ C

commented on his draft policy implementation plan for the Equity Policy, with an emphasis on efforts to measure whether operations and transportation are both consistent with sustainability as well as equity. In addition, Dr. Leah Nichols, SACS vice chair and Director of the Institute for Sustainable Earth at George Mason University, was able to connect a data analytics expert with Dr. Ottley's team, to enhance the considerable challenge of measuring and monitoring equity at APS. Most importantly, we forged a connection so that the principles of DEI, with assistance from the DEI office, can infuse the committee membership recruiting, the liaison program, and all of SACS's activities and recommendations.

In March, SACS provided awards at the Regional Science and Engineering Fair. The Committee reviewed 29 projects - 25% of APS projects - that addressed sustainability challenges. The breadth and depth of understanding of environmental issues was impressive. In first place, Colin Sartori from Yorktown High School developed a sustained power source generated from shoe soles. In second place, Harriet Shapiro from Washington-Liberty High School measured the effectiveness of strategies to reduce heat generated from streets and buildings in cities.

SACS continues to emphasize the importance of safe, healthy, climate-friendly, equitable transportation options, particularly walking and biking to school. We are very concerned about road safety for children who walk or bike. A SACS member, Cynthia Palmer, is the chair of the County's Bicycle Advisory Committee. She continues to help coordinate our efforts with that committee and with its sister group, the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. For example, she applauds the County's pilot program to reduce the speed limit t W n BT 7T0oc tesu N A S S Z % \$ U a P E P S W 2 A 9 P B B D - D E A M W g . B g a E , E I) % \$ M P E O 1 (C A P S) P e q

Appendix A: SACS 2021-2022 Membership

SACS meets on the third Tuesday of each month, except for July and August. All meetings are open to the public. Members are appointed to two-year terms and participate on a volunteer basis.

Appointed Members

Meredith Allen	Senior Instructional Technology Coordinator, Tuckahoe Elementary School
Nicole Croce	Third Grade Teacher, Campbell Elementary School
Heather Dantzker	MS, PhD, Owner and Principal, Dantzker Consulting, LLC
Elenor Hodges	M.Ed., Executive Director, EcoAction Arlington
Gregory Lloyd	CCM, LEED AP BD+C, TRUE Advisor, Construction Manager, Wesley Housing
Kate Marshall	Real Estate Senior Manager, GDI
Leah Nichols	Executive Director, Institute for a Sustainable Earth, GMU
Levi Novey	MS, Consultant, IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group
Cynthia Palmer	JD, MPH, Petrochemical Strategy Advisor, Moms Clean Air Force, EDF
Robin Puttock	LEED AP BD&C, AIA Architect, Architecture Faculty at Catholic University
Samantha Taggart	Teacher, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program
Laura Watchman	LEED AP Neighborhood Development, Principal, Watchman Consulting

Staff

Cathy Lin	CEM, APS Director, Facilities and Operations
Dat Le	Ph.D., APS Science Supervisor

Student Liaisons

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