

APS 5-Year Strategic Plan



Agenda



Arlington Public Schools
Education That Empowers

- Background and Process
- What the Plan Provides
- Public Comment Trends
- Revisions to the Plan
- Next Steps

Background and Process



- Process began in October of 2021 with initial planning for District Investment Grant with Arlington Education Foundation;
- Process involved hundreds of APS community members and stakeholders, including students;
- Vision, Mission, and Priorities approved in June 2022;
- Initiative Development completed in Fall 2022;
- Budget Development for Plan and FY24 in January-February 2023;
- Public Comment in February-March 2023;
- Potential approval of Final 5-Year Plan this evening!

Plan Highlights



As a result of this Strategic Plan, by 2028, APS students and community members should enjoy the following tangible benefits:

- An instructional vision that provides a deeper baseline expectation of excellence across academic areas and teaching to support all students to excel.
- A strong sense of belonging and relationships between students, staff, & families.
- A Multi-Tiered System of Support that ensures that every student getting what they need is systematic, not haphazard or uneven.
- A strong, diverse faculty that feels valued, is well supported professionally, and is compensated accordingly.
- Modern, well-maintained, and sustainable facilities, technology, food, & spaces.
- Improved expectations, systems, and resources for partnering with all families.

Public Comment Trends

1. This is a values-driven and data-informed plan, and the values of the plan are aligned with the values of the community.
2. This is an ambitious plan that will be challenging to implement.
3. There were more questions about follow through/how we will do this than issues with the ideas and initiatives themselves.
4. Several comments about ensuring Welcome Center meets needs and provides schools with resources for meeting the needs of families who do not speak English as a first language.
5. Several comments about the importance of (and excitement for) expanding after-school offerings.
6. Several questions arose about importance of academic rigor and role of tracking/leveling in Initiative 1.1 in the plan.

Final Revisions

- Adjustment of financial projections to match the most recent planning of Long Range Planning and budget committees;
- Adjustment of financial projections for space and technology improvements in Initiative 3.1;
- Adjustment of language linked to the following initiatives:
 - 1.1: Leveling and Tracking: adjusted to reflect intentions to complete in-progress pilot and community conversations about impacts of leveling before making decisions about future programming;
 - 1.3 Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Eliminated language in Strand Milestones about “WIN” (What I Need) Intervention Blocks, leaving to MTSS development teams to determine structures that will work for APS.
- Addition of more specific content on Page 5 (Overview).

Next Steps

- Messaging of plan to APS Community (with help from some APS Students!)
- Development and launch of “Task Forces” to focus on the specific work of implementing the plan;
- Hiring for key roles included in FY24 Budget that are central to the work of the plan (Director of Communication and Family Engagement, Director of Research, Data, and Accountability);
- Review of Y1 implementation strands and milestones in order to develop SY 2023-24 Annual District Goals;
- Development of webpage for plan on the district website and on online dashboard to track plan progress on outcome measures.