Policy Revision and Adoption

B-3.6.30 School Board Advisory Committees

March 26, 2026

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B-3.6.30 School Board Advisory Committees

Timeline	
Drafting	December 2025
SB Policy Subcommittee	January 2026
Public Comment	January 23-February 22, 2026
School Board Information	March 12, 2026
School Board Action	March 26, 2026

Policy Changes:

- Retitle to School Board Advisory Councils.
- Add new purpose for Advisory Councils to the introduction.
- Detail how the Board sets up Councils, standing subcommittees, and ad hoc subcommittees.
- Add sections setting out how the Board develops a charge for a Council or subcommittee and how that charge can be amended.
- Set up the governing structure and officers for Councils.

Policy Changes:

- Require that each Council include designated seats for Parents, Students, Community members, Arlington Public Schools Staff, Subject Matter Experts, and Representatives with expertise on Title I, Budget, English Learners, Students with Disabilities, and Advanced Academics.
- Set up the Staff and Board Liaisons and the liaisons between Councils.
- Require onboarding for each member.
- Add sections detailing the expectations of members.
- Add section detailing the guidelines for meetings.
- Provide details on how Councils can request research, what types of deliverables they will provide to the Board, how they will communicate externally, and how they follow FOIA.

Policy Changes:

- Delete language on ACTL, FAC, BAC, and SHAB.
- Add language setting up the Academic Advisory Council, the Student Health and Well-Being Council, the Personnel Advisory Council, the Operations Advisory Council, and the English Learner Advisory Council with the purpose of each Council and the scope of its work.
- Specify that Upon adoption of the Policy, the School Board is establishing four standing subcommittees to the Academics Council on the topics of mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies.
- Rename ASEAC to be a Council rather than a Committee, add language to its purpose, and add new items to its scope of work.

Policy Changes:

- Delete ACTC from the list of Joint Committees.
- Modify the language on special committees to just reflect working groups and task forces.
- Other minor changes.

PIP Changes (In Development):

- The existing PIPs each pertain to a specific committee, with another one for the ACTL subcommittees. The PIPs will be revised to reflect the new Councils, with one for each Council.

Public Comment:

- 69 comments were received through the survey. The overwhelming majority disagreed with the policy revisions. The most common objection was that the revisions eliminate standing subcommittees. This is not the case; the policy includes provisions for the Board to set up standing subcommittees for any Council. Specific subcommittees have been detailed in the PIPs but have not been a part of this policy in the past.
- While the concept of standing subcommittees remains, it is true that these changes aim reduce the overall number of academic subcommittees in order to produce more focused recommendations than the Board has received in the past. The draft has been changed to specify that Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies will continue to have subcommittees through the Academics Advisory Council.

Public Comment:

- Additionally, several commenters advocated for Advanced Academics to continue to have a subcommittee. The Advanced Academics and Talent Development Advisory Committee requested that their subcommittee be preserved. It is within the Board's discretion to set up standing subcommittees for any Council. Ad hoc subcommittees may also be set up to examine issues that may be relevant to any particular area. Subcommittees are not limited to just the ones specified in the policy.
- The Student Services Advisory Committee advocated to kept as a separate committee rather than made a part of the Student Health and Well-Being Council. Language was added to that section specifying that student health and well-being is to include student mental health.

Public Comment:

- The Math Advisory Committee requested that it be preserved and that subcommittee chairs not be required to be Council members. The new language in the policy preserves math as a subcommittee. As for chairs, subcommittees may include many outside subject matter experts, but to ensure that the subcommittee works closely with and within the work of the Council, the chair should be a member of the Council.

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