The Arlington School Board promotes the best interests of Arlington Public Schools as a whole and provides equal educational opportunities through its programs for all Arlington students.

School Board actions direct the Superintendent's work. These actions are the result of collaboration and voting by individual School Board members. To ensure the integrity of School Board decision-making, individual School Board members refrain from exercising authority over the organization unless explicitly set forth in policy.

1. School Board members are expected to attend all School Board meetings and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings. Each School Board member has the right to offer resolutions and motions, in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, to discuss questions and to vote thereon.
2. School Board members endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held meetings and to render all decisions based on the available information.
3. School Board members inform themselves about their duties and responsibilities and current educational issues by study and through participation in on-going professional development programs, such as those sponsored by the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) and the National School Boards Association (NSBA).
4. School Board members avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and refrain from using their board position for personal or partisan gain.
5. School Board members hold confidential all matters that, if disclosed, may injure individuals or the schools, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law.
6. Each School Board member has a responsibility to accurately represent adopted School Board positions and policies to the public. School Board members must clearly distinguish personal opinions from positions of the School Board when communicating with the public.
7. School Board members abide by decisions of the School Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels. Individual members should not direct their differences of opinion in a manner which would create dissension or polarization in the organization or undermine a decision of the School Board majority.
8. To achieve collective action, any School Board member may request legal advice from the School Board's legal counsel. Except for individual School Board member requests for advice on conflict of interests or financial disclosure, all other requests shall be routed through the Chair in accordance with School Board Policy B-3.2 Board Leadership. The Chair is responsible for ensuring that all School Board members are informed of the request and that the advice is shared.

References
School Board Policy B-3.2 Board Leadership

Policy Adoption and Revision History
Adopted November 2001
Renumbered (former Policy 10-16) effective July 1, 2018
Revised March 14, 2019, Effective March 14, 2019

Revised April 25, 2024. Effective April 25, 2024