

## Arlington County Civic Federation Schools Committee Draft Resolution

Whereas in 1959 Stratford School was the first school in Arlington and Virginia to desegregate on the basis of race.

Whereas Arlington played a leading role to end segregated education;

Whereas the historic value of Stratford's bricks and mortar are modest and there are 14 other schools in the area built by the same architect;

Whereas there were already 3 major additions and modifications made to the building;

Whereas the school system is in urgent need of additional seats for students throughout Arlington;

Whereas APS may need the option to expand the school beyond 1,000 students to accommodate the number of students (1,300) housed in the 1960s;

Whereas the historic designations generally require additional maintenance expenditures and current funding for capital expenditures is in short supply;

Whereas the disappearance of green space is a disturbing trend in Arlington, and historic restrictions on the height of needed additions might lead to construction that impinges more on green space than would otherwise be the case;

Whereas a majority of the civic federation delegates are older than Stratford school;

Be it resolved that the ACCF:

Calls on the County Board and the Arlington County Board to reject a historic designation for the Stratford School Building. The ACCF further resolves that the Arlington County Board and School Board to use plaques, monuments, and/or art to both honor and ensure that all will remember the historic contribution of [the people, and their rectitude, that contributed to desegregating the Stratford School.](#)