

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Draft from October 2015 and published in ACCF newsletter
Changes presented at December 5, 2015 meeting noted via red text and strike-through

Arlington County Civic Federation Schools Committee Draft Resolution

Whereas ~~in-on February 2,~~ 1959 Stratford School was the first school in Arlington and among seven Virginia public schools to desegregate on the basis of race.

Whereas Arlington played a leading ~~role~~ role in the effort to end segregated education in Virginia;

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~~ are already 3 ~~three~~ major additions and modifications have already changed the historic appearance of the ~~made to the~~ building;

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

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 building in the 1960s, when it was Stratford Junior High School;

Whereas a historic designation may prevent other changes and modifications that will be needed to meet the unforeseen needs of children or the public in Arlington;

Whereas the historic designations generally require additional maintenance expenditures at a time when ~~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 Arlington County Board and the Arlington ~~County~~ School Board to reject a historic designation for the Stratford School Building. The ACCF further resolves that the Arlington County Board and School ~~Board~~ Board use curricula and permanent physical structures such as ~~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-. The ACCF further resolves that the Stratford School, named after Robert E. Lee's birthplace, be renamed to commemorate one or more heroic Arlingtonians who struggled so valiantly to integrate the county's schools.

REVISED as of December 5, 2015 ACCF Meeting
Arlington County Civic Federation Schools Committee Resolution

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Whereas Arlington played a leading role in the effort to end segregated education in Virginia;

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 are three major additions and modifications have already changed the historic appearance of the building;

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

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 building in the 1960s, when it was Stratford Junior High School;

Whereas a historic designation may prevent other changes and modifications that will be needed to meet the unforeseen needs of children or the public in Arlington;

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Be it resolved that the ACCF:

Calls on the Arlington County Board and the Arlington School Board to reject a historic designation for the Stratford School building. The ACCF further resolves that the Arlington County Board and School Board use curricula and permanent physical structures such as plaques, monuments, and 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. The ACCF further resolves that the Stratford School, named after Robert E. Lee's birthplace, be renamed to commemorate one or more heroic Arlingtonians who struggled so valiantly to integrate the county's schools.

Resolution tabled until January 2016 meeting per vote at December 5, 2015 meeting.
Withdrawn by Schools Committee December 14, 2015.