

Resolution for Consideration by the Arlington County Civic Federation

Presented at the June 5, 2012 Meeting

by Delegates Representing the Executive Committee of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association

WHEREAS the Arlington County School Board has submitted a CIP for FY 2013-2022 which includes the construction of two new elementary schools, one on the grounds of Williamsburg Middle School and one on the grounds of and Kenmore Middle and Carlin Springs Elementary Schools; and

WHEREAS the School Board had committed to include the impact on Neighborhood Resources as a criterion in the site selection process yet did not consult with the neighborhoods and thereby essentially ignored a broader set of impacts that will affect communities; and

WHEREAS significant requirements to meet critical community needs may not be included in the planning of funding if they are not discussed until after funding for the project is approved resulting in substantial increases in the estimates or critical items being left out of the of the specifications:

- for example substantial roadway changes to provide alternate entrances to the site and to mitigate the impact of a substantial increase in the number of vehicles flooding the area and
- the incorporation of some type of non-surface parking to preserve some of the recreation space used by numerous groups from across the county.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Board should not make final decisions on any site until there is agreement that one or more satisfactory solutions exist to mitigate the issues of critical concern to the community; the Arlington Public School (APS) staff should identify and include any costs in the estimates needed to address likely community concerns, e.g. road improvements or parking structures; and all information presented to the public in the final APS CIP for 2013-2022 and in material supporting the FY 2012 bond issue should acknowledge these conditions.
2. The County Board should specify along with their approval of bond funding for the APS for 2012 that the locations identified within the descriptions are contingent on APS reaching satisfactory solutions to mitigate issues of critical concern to the community; and the County Board should charge the Public Facilities Review Committee to consider these critical community concerns in their deliberations and reject a proposed location if the concerns are not met, whether or not an alternative location for a school has been identified.