The Arlington School Committee approves the Arlington Public Schools Fall 2020 Proposed Reopening Plan on August 10, 2020

The Arlington School Committee accepts the Superintendent’s recommendation to open the Arlington Public Schools in September of 2020 with a hybrid model for all students at all levels, as recommended in her Fall 2020 Re-entry Plan submitted to the School Committee on August 10, 2020, subject to change as circumstances regarding Covid-19 evolve or if the Governor issues orders closing schools, with the following conditions:

The plan shall include a Remote Learning Option by Choice, which shall be taught by Arlington Public School teachers with limited exceptions for some courses approved by the Superintendent, available to all students and families who wish to choose it,

Arlington High School will implement a hybrid model (meaning some in-person instruction) but currently plans to begin instruction remotely because of issues with HVAC in the facility; accordingly, by no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, the Superintendent shall prepare a report on the high school’s reopening plan, including a projected date to commence the hybrid learning model,

By no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, the Superintendent shall prepare a report to the School Committee summarizing any areas in any Arlington School building where there are HVAC or other issues that may impede opening, the number of students and staff impacted by physical plant issues, and a plan to remedy any such physical plant issues, including a remote learning plan, which shall be in place until such buildings are ready to receive any impacted students and staff,

By no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, or sooner if mandated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Superintendent shall prepare a Revised Re-entry Plan to the School Committee addressing any new information on the impact of Covid-19 in our region, including a revised schedule for re-entry in any APS school, if such revision is necessary,

By no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, the Superintendent shall present criteria informed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or another recognized health authority and based on public health metrics, to determine which learning model (in-person, hybrid, remote) will take place, and when to transition between models.

The School Committee supports a waiver application to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to permit APS teachers to have three additional professional training and preparation days from September 16-18, which allows for a 171 day school year, commencing no later than September 21, 2020,
The Superintendent shall periodically survey and provide reports to the School Committee and the public throughout the 2020-2021 school year on parent and staff experiences with all learning options (in-person, hybrid, remote) and the district’s response to concerns raised,

By no later than Friday, August 28, 2020, the Superintendent shall present a report to the School Committee on how the district shall provide Covid-19 testing to teachers and staff within the town of Arlington, and

The Superintendent shall notify the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) of the Arlington School Committee’s decision to resume instruction in September with a hybrid learning model, as specified in this motion.

A true copy: Attest: Karen M. Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant to the Arlington School Committee