



**Arlington
Public
Schools**

ACTL 101

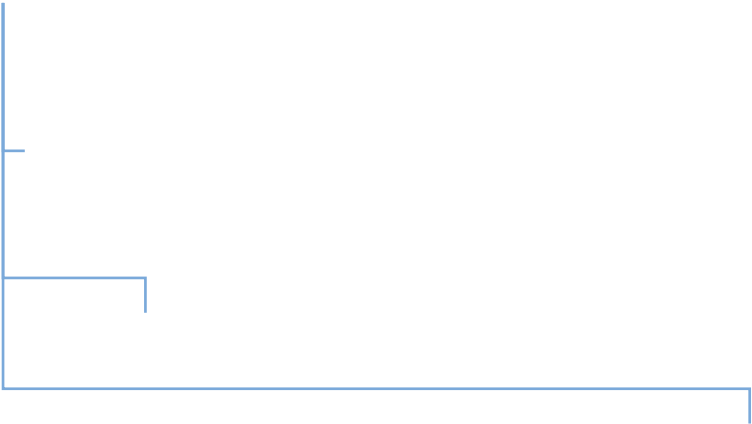
September 7, 2022

Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning Organizational Chart

APS Chief Academic Officer
Gerald Mann

APS Chief of School Support
Kim Graves

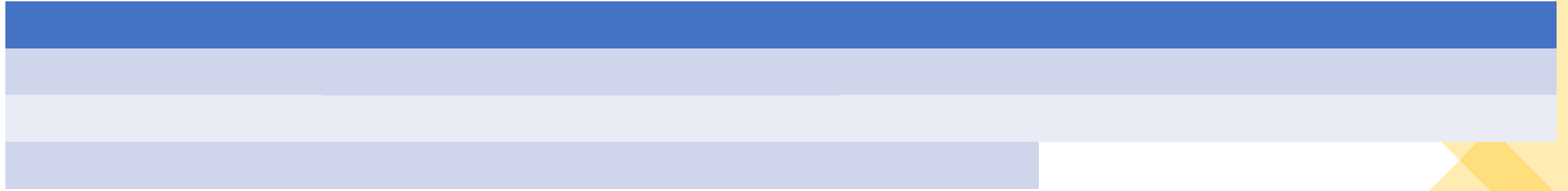
APS Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer
Jason Ottley



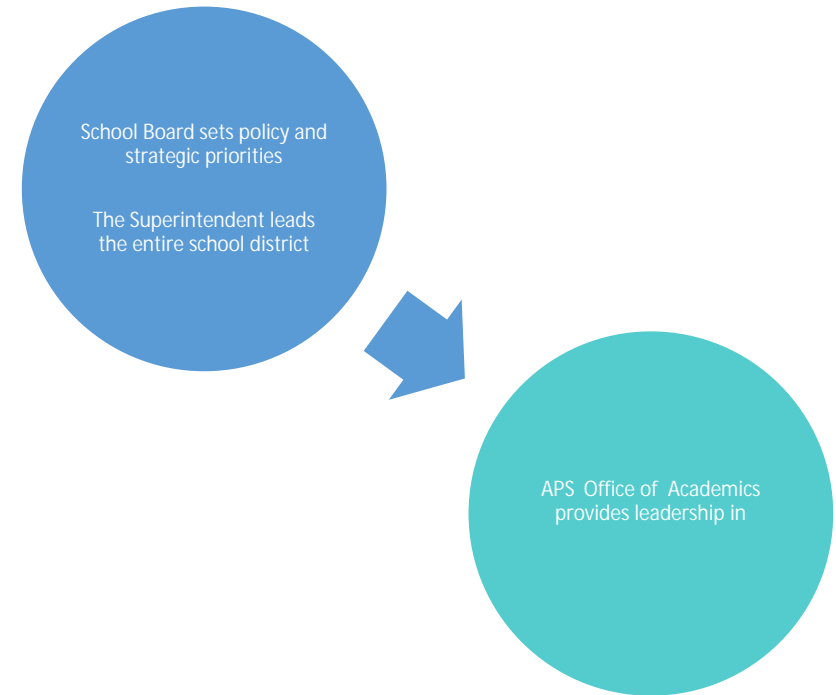
Who/what is ACTL?


- The Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning is made up of representatives from each school and some community organizations to assist in reviewing system-wide curricula and instructional programs and in development recommendations for improvement.
- ACTL helps bring parent and community voices to the table to share valuable input to the School Board, Superintendent, Office of Academics, and Office of School Support about student learning and educational outcomes.
- ACTL is a forum for broad input and discussion of ideas. We strive to create space for learning more about APS priorities and initiatives—broadening the range of well-informed parents—while also surfacing ideas and concerns from school communities.
- ACTL is made up of more than 50 individuals who are familiar with or interested in teaching & learning within APS
 - 1 representative from each of the elementary schools; 2 representatives from each of the middle schools; 2 representatives from each of the high schools; 2 representatives from HB Woodlawn (1 middle school; 1 high school); 1 representative from each of the other programs; additional representatives from community or affiliated organizations
- ACTL includes 12 affiliated subcommittees, focused on particular areas of teaching & learning, who engage with the School Board and report up through ACTL annually. The School Health Advisory Board & the Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee also collaborate with ACTL in any recommendations they are developing that involve teaching & learning.

What are the ACTL Committees?




ACTL
contributes to
a cycle of
continuous
improvement
within APS





What are your responsibilities as a school or community organization representative?

- Get to know the teaching & learning context of your school or community
 - Actively seek out diverse perspectives; engage with others who may experience things differently
 - Ask:
 - how are students doing with accessing content, activities, and opportunities for learning?
 - how are students doing with different subject areas?
 - are all students being supported in their academic, social, and emotional development?
 - And ask specific questions related to our agenda areas
- 

ACTL Rep Role continued... explore resources



VIEW YOUR SCHOOL REPORT CARD AND BE INFORMED ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON AT YOUR SCHOOL.




LEARN MORE ABOUT [PROGRAM EVALUATIONS AND THE YOUR VOICE MATTERS SURVEY](#)



EXPLORE [SCHOOL MANAGEMENT PLANS](#)



ASK QUESTIONS AND SEE WHAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE!



ACTL Rep Role continued... 3 Critical Lenses

1. The [APS Strategic Plan Goals and Mission, Vision & Core Values](#)

Mission: To ensure all students learn and thrive in safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments

Vision: To be an inclusive community that empowers all students to foster their dreams, explore their possibilities, and create tlu1:u.3 (d)2.2 (e3 (n)2.3 (s38



How ACTL Can Engage around Critical Topics

- Provide information about key topics
- Allow time for Q&A on each topic
- Bring appropriate staff into the room
- Listen for emerging themes, areas of concern, potential solutions

- Ask thoughtful questions; seek more information; assume good intention
- Engage with your community to learn more
- Participate in bringing summary input back to the conversation

How can you
learn more
and engage
with your
school or
community?

- Ask the PTA for a dedicated time slot on each meeting agenda to share what you are hearing at ACTL and ask questions related to our agenda areas;
- Or - develop a small focus group or committee of diverse individuals who are willing to engage with you on a regular basis/





Expectations for Engagement in ACTL Meetings

- Attend meetings regularly; be punctual and prepared;
- Support each other by actively listening and staying engaged;
- Honor the agenda—raise other topics with the ACTL leadership for consideration at another time;
- Promote a culture of inquiry and an orientation toward finding solutions and offering ideas;
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Meeting Dates & Logistics

September 7

October 12

November 2

December 7

January 4

February 1

March 1

April 12

May 3

June 7

Meetings will be held in-person:

Syphax Building, 2110 Washington Boulevard

2nd floor School Board conference rooms (254/256/258)

Note: if you need to participate virtually, please [contact Anne Paris](#), ACTL Secretary, at least 7 days in advance of the meeting. ACTL members may participate virtually for up to 2 meetings.



Stay in
touch!

Bethany Zecher Sutton, ACTL Chair

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Vice Chair:

Jenny Roahen Rizzo (joahen@yahoo.com)

Secretary:

Anne Paris (achparis@gmail.com)

