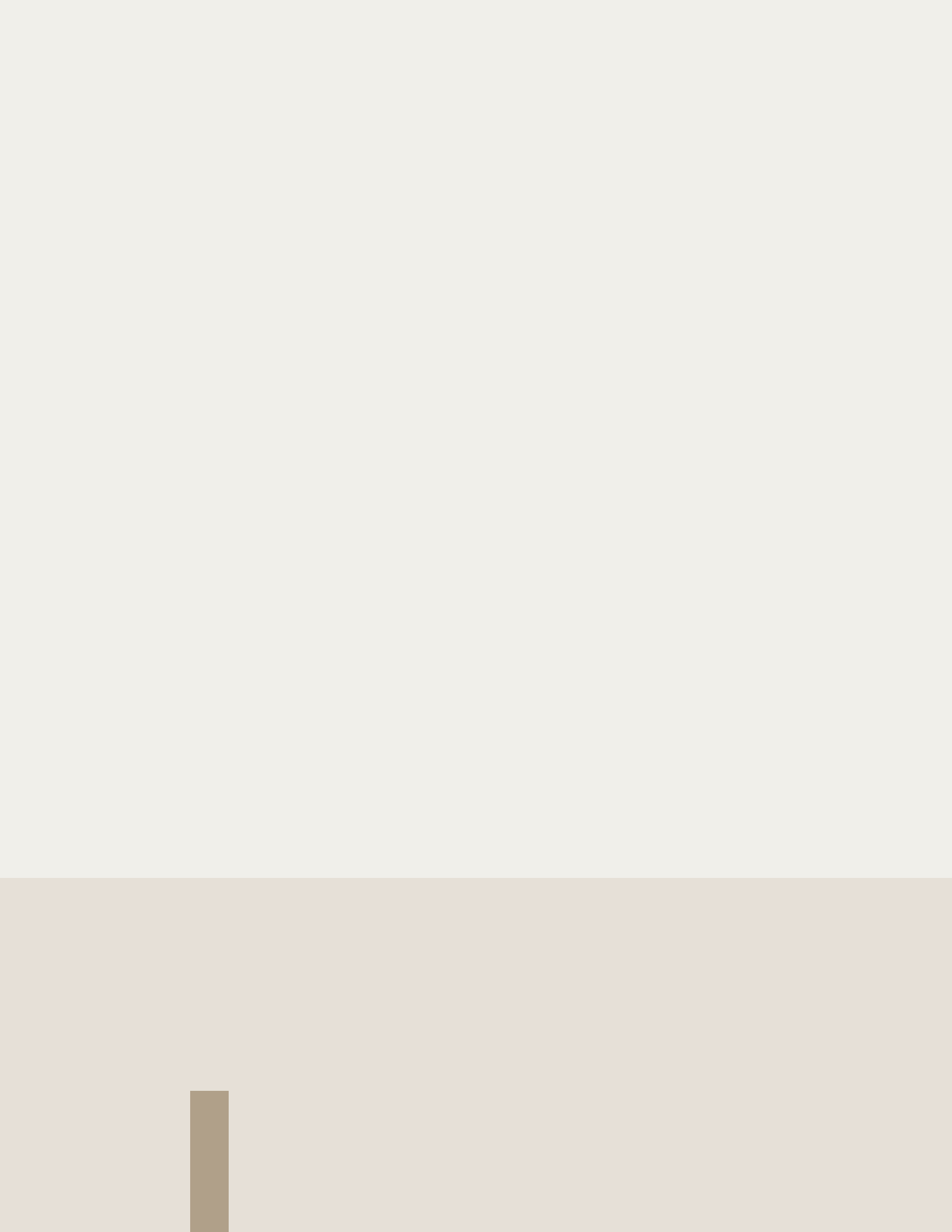


1958-67

Arlington Public Schools' commitment to diversity was clearly articulated and demonstrated during the struggle to integrate Stratford Junior High School in February 1959. In fact, that one event represented the culmination of many years of community activism by the Arlington School Board, a dedicated corps of community volunteers in the Arlington Committee to Preserve Public Schools and the local chapter of the NAACP. Their commitment and dedication to challenge the "separate but equal" laws with the Commonwealth of Virginia led to a long and extensive debate in the Federal courts and eventually the U.S. Supreme Court. Their success was marked by the historic event on February 2, 1959, placing Arlington County at the top of the news throughout Virginia and across the nation. However, while that one day certainly was a



drawn for both Key and Claremont in 2003. These "boundaries" divided Arlington east and west in an effort to increase both language and ethnic diversity at both choice schools. In 2003, a number of other boundary adjustments were also made for Abingdon, Barcroft, Hoffman-Boston, Henry, Long Branch, Oakridge and Randolph to better balance enrollment across South Arlington elementary schools. In addition, with the move of the Glencarlyn school to the newly-built Carlin Springs, early childhood program formerly located at the Claremont site was moved to the Glencarlyn site as a full elementary school and renamed Campbell Elementary. A new admissions policy for Campbell was approved, making it a choice program with preference given to South Arlington students.

During this time, portions of North Arlington were also experiencing overcrowding. In 2005, along with some minor boundary adjustments, the Barrett Cluster was established, giving the option to attend Barrett, with transportation, to students in the Ashlawn, Glebe, Long Branch, McKinley, Nottingham and Tuckahoe areas with the added goal of increasing diversity at Barrett while relieving crowding at the other schools.

In this time period, community concerns and lawsuits arose regarding the admissions process to both Arlington Traditional Elementary (ATS) and the H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program, which allocated a set number of slots to minority students. Committees were formed to consider alternative approaches to admissions that might help increase diversity at these schools, while maintaining a random lottery process. The resulting policy for ATS guaranteed admission to students enrolled in the VPI classes at ATS along with their siblings. The policy for H-B Woodlawn allocated a percentage of the total seats available to each neighborhood elementary zone based on the proportion of fifth graders living in that zone. Both policies were initiated in 2002 with the goal of increasing minority student enrollment for these countywide option schools.

With the increase in population in the Washington, DC area, the number of students in the Arlington Traditional Elementary (ATS) program increased from 11.1% in 1998 to 11.1% in 2004. The increase in the number of students in the ATS program was due to the increase in the number of students in the Washington, DC area.

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