

**BOARD MEMO**

Date: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020  
For ACTION   
For INFORMATION   
Board Agenda: Yes   
No

**FROM:** Dr. Elizabeth Hoover, Chief Technology Officer  
Mr. Kurt Huffman, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and  
Engagement

**THROUGH:** Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** Recommendation for Approval of Community Donation

**ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support  
Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation  
Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

**SY 2020-2021 FOCUS AREA:**

Focus Area 1: Reopening of School  
Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation  
Focus Area 5: Academic Disparities

**FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Outreach to Underserved Communities to Increase Engagement

**SUMMARY:**

On September 21st, 2020, Alexandria City Public Schools received a donation of 300 Kajeets, at a value of \$43,000, from Amazon to support ACPS students in need of technology access. A Kajeet is a type of filtered mobile hotspot device that provides students with a safe, simple wireless connection to the internet from their home location, via their student Chromebook, tablet or alternative device. In accordance with ACPS Policy KH and Regulation KH-R, any donation over \$2,500 requires school board approval. The donation must meet the established standards of acceptance requirements. Those standards and the appropriate responses are detailed below:

**ACPS Donation Standards of Acceptance**

**1. Have a purpose consistent with the goals of ACPS;**

The donation supports educational equity for ACPS students by providing Wi-Fi access that can be used for learning, instruction and other educational purposes. This donation aligns with ACPS 2020 Strategic Goal 3,4, and 5.

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### **2. Impose no undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs in terms of resources to ACPS;**

The donation has no identified undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs.

### **3. Place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs;**

This donation will place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs.

### **4. Not assume that the School Board will accept responsibility for continuing the benefit of or program supported by the donation if or when the funds are exhausted;**

ACPS Technology Department will continue to provide management and support required for the Kajeets. It is assumed that the ACPS School Board will not have any further action or responsibility related to this donation.

### **5. Meet any applicable federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations, Board policies, regulations or guidelines associated with its construction or use; and meet any applicable safety standards.**

This donation meets all local laws, regulations, Board policies, regulations and guidelines.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

With the announcement of the ACPS Virtual PLUS+ model of instruction, the need for internet access continues to be essential for our students to be successful in this virtual learning environment. This need is significant due to the increased number of students being required to use technology at home. Students in grades 3-12 are using Chromebooks and Pre-K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders are using tablets to connect with their teachers and access learning materials. To help address any lack of student internet access, Amazon's donation will support the provision of approximately 300 Kajeets.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the donation to ACPS in the amount of 43,000.

#### **IMPACT:**

This donation will help support ACPS students in need of internet access.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Policy KH
2. Regulation KH-R

#### **CONTACT:**

Mr. Kurt Huffman, M.Ed.  
Director of School, Business and Community Partnerships  
kurt.huffman@acps.k12.va.us