

Date: December 14, 2023
For ACTION
For INFORMATION

FROM: Taneika Taylor Tukan, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement
Julia Burgos, Chief of School and Community Relations

THROUGH: Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Michelle Rief, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Recommendation for Approval of Community Donation

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment

Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation

SY 2023-2024 PRIORITY AREA:

Academic Achievement

FY 2024 BUDGET PRIORITY:

N/A

SUMMARY:

On December 11, 2023, Alexandria City Public Schools will receive more than 10,000 books from Reading Is Fundamental of Northern Virginia. The books will be distributed at our Pre-K, elementary and Pre-K-eight schools – enough for every Pre-K-second grade student to receive two age- and content-appropriate books to help build their home libraries. The books are valued at \$40,400.

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:

DETAILS:

ACPS Donation Standards of Acceptance

- 1. Have a purpose consistent with the goals of ACPS;**
The donation assists us in further promoting literacy among our youngest students.
- 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 places 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;

This is considered a one-time donation. 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:

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) of Northern Virginia, Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to motivate children to read by providing them with high-quality, free books of their choosing and to work alongside them, their parents and their community to make reading a fun and meaningful part of their lives. RIF of NOVA has previously worked closely with ACPS librarians to understand the interests and reading levels of our students. Their experience, combined with a recent grant from Amazon.com Services LLC, has enabled them to facilitate this donation for our students and libraries.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the donation of 10,100 books from RIF of Northern Virginia for our Pre-K-second grade students.

IMPACT:

Access to new books over an extended break from school encourages students to engage in independent reading and to sustain the reading habits that they have developed over the first four months of the school year.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Policy KH
2. Regulation KH-R

REFERENCES:

None

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