

**BOARD BRIEF**

Date: January 24, 2020

**BOARD INFORMATION:**     X      
**MEETING PREPARATION:**           

**FROM:** Mignon R. Anthony, Chief Operating Officer  
**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:** Central Office Parking and Shuttle Service

**ACPS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 4: Facilities and the Learning Environment  
Goal 5: Health and Wellness  
Goal 6: Effective and Efficient Operations

**SY 2019-2020 FOCUS AREA:**

Focus Area 5: Strategic Plan

**FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Communications and Customer Service for External Stakeholders  
Competitive Compensation  
Retention and Recruitment  
Optimal and Equitable Learning Environments  
Mental and Social/Emotional Health  
Physical Education/Fitness  
Communications and Customer Service for Internal Stakeholders

**SUMMARY:**

On January 1, 2020, new parking rules for Central Office staff went into effect that includes distributed parking and a Shuttle Service program. Personnel received new key-fob designations, vehicle registration identifications and are taking advantage of an ACPS \$100 per month off-site parking incentive and city public transportation incentives and options. An employee feedback survey is underway, however, preliminary input indicates that ACPS needs to request an adjustment by the landlord to the shuttle service schedule to better accommodate ACPS work times. Parking at the Meridian Apartments is working and employees are generally very pleased with their access and parking environment. Parking in the Central Office underground garage is extremely crowded and the landlord is still accepting public parking despite marked increase in tenancy at the Braddock Place complex. Adult Education students are generally dissatisfied with the fact that their paid parking has ended and that the

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availability of street parking for them in excess of three hours is limited. Over the next month, more complete one month data will be available on visitor and other parking validation expenditures and overall satisfaction with the program.

Data as of January 23:

1. Parking at Central Office (153 underground spaces assigned, 6 available);
2. Parking at GW Middle School (57 spaces assigned, 21 spots available);
3. Parking at Meridian Apartments (43 spaces assigned, 2 spots available)

Note: Vacant ACPS Central Office positions are not accounted for in the assigned space count.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Central Office parking has always been limited. The nearby Metro Church lot was used for overflow from 2014 to 2019. That agreement ended in May, 2019 when Metro Church came under redevelopment. Since then, 100 spaces were temporarily added (JUNE 2019) to ACPS Central Office parking, plus, ACPS began validating parking for everyone else above the additional 100 space limit which began mounting to over \$10,000 per month.

As of January 1, 2020, the landlord, Cushman – Wakefield rescinded the 100 additional spaces leaving only our original lease amount of 159 spaces (plus 11 surface spaces for our maintenance fleet) and new off-site solutions were required. Also, due the high cost of validating parking, students enrolled in classes at the Central Office location (Adult Education and TC Williams-Satellite), were required to abide by the same rules as other ACPS students and either walk, pay for parking or use public transportation.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the Board brief for information.

### **IMPACT:**

Parking is an ACPS amenity that contributes to employee recruitment, satisfaction and organizational efficiency, and is tracked as part of a required Transportation Management Plan in the ACPS budget. Achieving an appropriate and optimal balance between the need to accommodate vehicular parking due to the limited and difficult access to the Central Office and ACPS' stewardship responsibilities as a public entity is often contradictory to the reality of the situation. Staff will continue to strive for a more sustainable solution to this issue.

### **CONTACT:**

Mignon R. Anthony  
Chief Operating Officer  
Mignon.anthony@acps.k12.va.us