



Alexandria PTA Council 2019-2020

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Good evening, my name is Katy Matthews and I'm here on behalf of the Alexandria PTA Council. I have a 4th grader at James K Polk Elementary and a 7th grader at Francis C. Hammond Middle School. PTAC is a council made of members and volunteers from each Alexandria City public school's PTA whose mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

After examining the Superintendent's FY 2021 Combined Funds Budget, we would like to thank you for the support with regards to:

- Expansion of ACPS' equity work
- The Increase in the student support team personnel
- The investment in bus drivers
- The increase in compensation and benefits for all staff so that ACPS can retain and recruit the highest quality workforce for our students and
- The increased resources towards the safety of our schools

We encourage you to increase funding for:

- Compensation for FACE center personnel. The FACE Center personnel are expected possess a skill set such as a highly developed communication & organizational skills, knowledge & awareness of different cultural values, and the expectation that they will be available during off hours for events. We understand their high turn over rate is due to their low salary compensation. Their work is extremely important to our community
- A Parent Liaison in every school. There are no parent liaisons at Charles Barrett, Douglas MacArthur, Cora Kelly, Lyles Crouch, Matthew Maury, George Mason, Samuel Tucker & the Early Childhood Center. Parent Liaisons are critical in forming connections with parents that only enrich a child's academic and social well-being. For those schools that don't have a parent liaison on staff, families and students are on unequal footing with those schools that do have the advantage of having this important role as a resource
- Installing GPS software for every school bus giving a piece of mind to all parents whose students are riding to and from school
- 1 additional health assistant
- Include ALL para professional in the salary increase

In addition, we request that resources be allocated for

- More equipment for school nurses to conduct vision and hearing screening, and
- increased funding for the Executive Chef's programs

Again, thank you for the opportunity to talk with you tonight. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Katy Matthews

President

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