

Date: September 13, 2018

For ACTION  \_\_\_

For INFORMATION  \_\_\_

Board Agenda: Yes  \_\_\_

No  \_\_\_

**FROM:** Jennifer Abbruzzese, Clerk of the Board & Policy Liaison

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

**TO:** The Honorable Ramee Gentry, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** School Board Policy FF: Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School  
Division Facilities

**SUMMARY:** Policy FF's framework and guidelines were initially reviewed by the Board at its April 26, 2018 and May 31, 2018 Work Sessions, and again at the June 21, 2018 Board Meeting. At that Meeting, the Board directed that any request to rename an existing school be accompanied by a petition of 100 Alexandria residents who support the request. This mirrors the already existing requirement for such petitions when submitting requests to rename existing school division facilities. Policy FF and Regulation FF-R now reflect this additional requirement and return to the Board for approval.

**BACKGROUND:** Policy FF: Public Dedication of Facilities (proposed to be renamed *Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities*), currently outlines the School Board's process and guidelines for naming or renaming school facilities through the creation of ad hoc Facilities Naming Committees. When naming a new facility, such a committee is currently chaired by the School Board Vice Chair and consists of nine Alexandria residents appointed by the Board, and one resident appointed by City Council. At present, such a committee is tasked with community outreach to solicit naming recommendations and to submit at least three names to the Board for consideration.

When presented with a naming request for an existing school facility, an ad hoc committee is appointed by the Board and tasked with reviewing the request, which may be submitted by an Alexandria resident, community group or School Board Member. The committee subsequently makes its recommendation to the Board. Such requests must be accompanied by supporting documentation, including 100 signatures of Alexandria residents.

The newly proposed revisions to Policy FF and Regulation FF-R exchange the rigid committee system for soliciting and distilling public naming nominations with a broader, robust community engagement process when naming or renaming schools. The proposed revisions provide the Board with flexibility to determine the process when considering whether or not to name non-school facilities.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board approve the proposed revisions to Policy FF and Regulation FF-R.

**IMPACT:** By periodically reviewing the facilities naming process, the School Board ensures that ACPS policies align with best practices. This benefits the school division and promotes equity, efficiency and community engagement.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. School Board Policy FF: Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities
2. Regulation FF-R: Regulations for Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities

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