

# City Council/School Board Sub-Committee Shared Operations

Update: June 2024



## What are we trying to achieve through Shared Operations?

“Through shared operations, City Council and the School Board will collaborate to achieve economic efficiencies while serving to improve student performance and resident services.”

*Based on responses from the School Board and City Council Members on May 15, 2023*

City Council and the School Board Identified 3 top priorities for shared operations at their joint session in May 2023:

- Real Estate
- Youth Employment
- Human Resources/Recruitment

Since then, staff have worked collaboratively on identifying short and long term opportunities collaborations.

# Real Estate



## Direction:

Seek the most cost-effective way of utilizing and maintaining city and school facilities, including for office, educational, and recreational purposes, in both the short and long term.

## Goals:

- Decrease in overall cost of City/ACPS leased space
- Increase in shared space square footage
- Increased satisfaction for shared facilities

## Update:

- No new updates until in Transportation plan complete, at which time can discuss Old Dash Facility and Fleet needs (plan is expected to staff in June)

# Human Resources



## Direction:

Collaborate on attracting talent to work for the City of Alexandria government and schools, and determine areas in which we can work together to retain our employees.

## Goals:

- Increased number of qualified applicants for City and ACPS positions
- Reduced costs associated with recruitment, including career fairs and advertisements

## Update:

- ACPS joined City for recruitment at Market Square job fair:
  - Over 200 individuals registered for fair and 114 attended, of which 40 of them came to ACPS table
  - ACPS reported good feedback for support roles such as assistants, bus drivers, and food service roles ACPS advertised job fair on behalf of the City which was very helpful for City staff.
  - City and ACPS HR's send thank you letters to all attendees and cross reference each other when possible.
- Virtual city job fair in July and an in-person fair at the Workforce Development Center.
- Discussion on joint initiatives with college partnerships in the Fall.

# Youth Employment



**Direction:**  
Increase collaboration on workforce opportunities and career development for high school students and reduce barriers to employment, leading toward greater lifelong economic stability.

- Measures:**
- Increase in teens employed
  - Increase in key measures on developmental assets survey
  - Increase enrollment in Post-Secondary Education
  - Increase enrollment in Career & Technical Educational (CTE) program

- **On May 2nd, DCHS held a Youth Employment Job Fair, aimed to connect our local youth with job opportunities in the community.**
  - 285 youth registered for the fair on Eventbrite.
  - 165 attended.
  - 18 businesses with 525 job opportunities were present.
  - Invitations to participate in the fair were sent to youth who were ineligible for City Summer Youth Employment Program
  - Currently contacting employers to get the number of hires from the fair.
- **Summer Youth Employment program**
  - 82 employers enrolled to host a youth
  - Partnership highlights: three businesses, Goodwin Living, Hilco, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., are both sponsoring and hosting youth.
  - Inova Alexandria Hospital will host five youths in career fields, including food services, supply chain management, and patient access.
  - Offering 270 work experience, surpassing our initial business placement goal of 261. This achievement is a testament to our partners' and sponsors' strong support and commitment.
  - Hosted a successful Employer Host Site Orientation Session with over 55 employers in attendance.

# Youth Employment: Pathways to Your Future



## Update

- WDC will begin having an onsite presence from our Youth Employment and Training Specialist this fall at the Minnie Howard Campus, located next to the Career Counselors space.
- Goal this year is to enhance employment resources and opportunities for students at Minnie Howard Middle School by integrating WDC's services within the school to provide comprehensive career readiness support through the following:
  - Onsite integration with youth and school staff
  - Increase awareness of WDC's youth initiatives and programs
  - Create a youth job board in collaboration with ACPS and local businesses to promote local opportunities for youth