

BOARD MEMO

Date: 6/19/2020

For ACTION ___

For INFORMATION ___

Board Agenda: Yes ___

No ___

FROM: Dr. Elizabeth Hoover, Chief Technology Officer
Mr. Kurt Huffman, Director of School, Business and Community Partnerships

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: Recommendation for Approval of Community Donation

ACPS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Academic Excellence and Educational Equity

Goal 2: Family and Community Engagement

Goal 4: Facilities and the Learning Environment

2019-2020 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 1: Educational Equity

FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Optimal and equitable learning environments

SUMMARY:

On June 8th 2020, Alexandria City Public Schools received a financial donation of \$32,002.63 from the Alexandria PTA Council (PTAC) to support ACPS students in need of technology access. This donation will support the purchase of Kajeets, a filtered mobile hotspot device that provides students with a safe, simple wireless connection to the internet from their home location, via their student Chromebook. 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:

ACPS Donation Standards of Acceptance

1. Have a purpose consistent with the goals of ACPS;

The donation supports educational equity for ACPS students by providing Wi-Fi access that can be used for learning, instruction and other educational purposes. This donation aligns with ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan Goals 1, 2 and 4.

2. Impose no undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs in terms of resources to ACPS;

The donation has no identified undesirable, unacceptable, or hidden costs.

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3. Place no unacceptable conditions or restrictions on the school division or its educational or extracurricular programs;

This donation will place 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;

ACPS Technology Department will continue to provide management and support required for the Kajeets. 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, School Board policies, regulations or guidelines associated with its construction or use; and meet any applicable safety standards.

This donation meets all local laws, regulations, School Board policies, regulations and guidelines.

BACKGROUND:

With the sudden transition to learning from home, the need for internet access grew quickly and significantly due to the increased number of students using Chromebooks at home. Almost 12,000 students in grades 3-12 are using Chromebooks to connect with their teachers and access learning materials.

To address the lack of internet access for approximately 12% of ACPS students, the Division distributed over 700 Kajeets to ACPS households, impacting over 1,200 students. The PTA's generous donation will support funding for approximately 140 Kajeets or 20% of these essential devices.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board accept the donation to ACPS in the amount of \$32,002.63.

IMPACT:

This donation will help support ACPS students in need of internet access.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Policy KH
2. Regulation KH-R

CONTACT:

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