

BOARD MEMO

Date: March 10, 2022
For ACTION _____
For INFORMATION x
Board Agenda: Yes x
No _____

FROM: John Contreras, Director of Safety & Security Services

THROUGH: Dr. Alicia Hart, Acting Chief of Facilities and Operations
Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Meagan L. Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: SY21-22 School Safety Data Report (Q1 and Q2)

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment
Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation
Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

ACPS is focused on providing an equitable, high quality education to all students. The Department of Facilities and Operations (through the Office of Safety and Security Services) contributes to this overall strategic goal by working to remove unsafe school environments as a potential barrier to learning.

The Office of Safety and Security Services is providing a school’s safety data update that includes Q1 and Q2 safety data for the current school year.

BACKGROUND:

Collection and reconciliation of school safety data is a requirement of both school board policy and our school law enforcement partnership memorandum of understanding (MOU).

- School Board Policy CLA, “Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse”, provides guidelines as to the situations that qualify as “incidents” for the purpose of state reporting.
- Virginia code 22.1-280.2:3 requires the school board in each school division in which the local law-enforcement agency employs school resource officers to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with such local law-enforcement agency that

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sets forth the powers and duties of such school resource officers, and other stakeholders. The MOU details the requirement to collect, review and reconcile specific data related to incidents on school campus grounds.

- As it relates to the MOU, there is also a requirement to provide a summary of the quarterly meetings that occur with APD in regards to the SRO program:
 - **September 15, 2021:** This meeting discussed potential changes of the "Call for Service" MOU that the SLEP partnership was governed by at that time. Components of the Call for Service MOU and the November 2020 SRO MOU were discussed from a contextual standpoint. This quarterly meeting occurred during the time period that SROs were not assigned to schools, thus there would be no data for the SRO program to report on for this quarterly meeting.
 - **November 5, 2021:** This meeting discussed if a new MOU between ACPS and APD would be needed due to the reinstatement of the SRO program and change in APD leadership. SROs returned in October 2021 and prompted the review of the November 2020 MOU. This meeting included a discussion of potential changes to the MOU. Although changes were discussed and recommended, the November 2020 MOU was not formally changed. This meeting occurred 15 days after the reinstatement of the SROs and thus there was not a full quarter of SRO program data to report on for this quarterly meeting.
 - The next SRO quarterly meeting is scheduled to occur in March 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the school safety data report and supporting attachments.

IMPACT: The provision of data related to school safety allows for transparency, community engagement, and the opportunity to further promote safe and secure school and campus environments for students, staff, families and all others.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation: School Safety Data Review
2. School Safety Data Report SY 2021-2022, Q1 and Q2

REFERENCES:

N/A

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