Date: June 16, 2023

BOARD INFORMATION: __X__

MEETING PREPARATION: _____

FROM: Anthony Sims, Ph.D, Executive Director of School Improvement

THROUGH: Clinton Page, Ed.D., Chief Accountability Officer
                    Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

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

TOPIC: Performance Matters Project Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:
Goal 1: Systemic Alignment
Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

SY 2022-2023 FOCUS AREA:
Social Emotional and Academic Learning Recovery
Continuous Improvement in KPI Disparities

FY 2023 BUDGET PRIORITY:
N/A

SUMMARY:
This brief provides an update on the Performance Matters project and planned activities for SY 23-24 across three design and implementation phases. Performance Matters has been identified as the platform that will support the division in the three key areas of: parental access to historical assessment results; formatively monitoring individual student progress as part of an overall Student Success System; and monitoring MTSS interventions at the student, classroom, school, and division levels to accelerate learning and close student learning gaps.

BACKGROUND:
A core planning team with members from Accountability and Research, Teaching, Learning and Leadership, and Technology Services is leading a collaborative process to design and implement a division-wide, integrated progress monitoring system that utilizes available instructional, assessment, intervention and behavioral data to identify students who are in need of targeted support to successfully attain crucial educational milestones. Updates on scope and timeline for the three phases of the project are presented below:

Phase 1: Performance Matters as Student Assessment History Platform
ACPS must provide a way for parents to access student assessment history data, as required by state statute (Va. Code § 22.1-215.2). Phase 1 of the project involves ensuring that all relevant student assessment data are available through a parent portal. Historical student data across various universal screening assessments has been loaded to Performance Matters and the parent portal is under testing. Capacity building for staff will go on through the summer and carry through the planned launch of the system to parents in September of 2023.

Phase 2: Performance Matters as Student Success System Platform
The Performance Matters monitoring platform will include a division-wide, comprehensive Student Success System (SSS) to monitor student progress across grades. On March 22, 2023, ACPS hosted a workshop for the SSS alongside representatives of the American Institutes for Research. Stakeholders in roles across the division participated in identifying key initiatives in the following four domains for student success: strong, supportive relationships; strategic improvement actions; student-centered mindsets; and real-time, actionable data. Please see the attachment for a summary of the workshop that the division has integrated into the project plan.

One specific effort under the umbrella of the Student Success System is an Early Warning Indicator (EWI) tool to proactively identify students placed at-risk of experiencing poor academic outcomes. Students "off-track" according to readiness indicators will be flagged for additional support. The tool will be piloted in SY 23-24 with a school at each of the Elementary, Middle, and High School levels allowing for support and accelerated learning in the initial stages of implementation and built-in capacity for subsequent school on-boarding.

Phase 3: Performance Matters as Intervention Management Platform
ACPS has identified division-supported interventions to accelerate learning and close gaps for students requiring additional support in Tiers 2 and 3 of the ACPS MTSS framework. For SY 23-24, Phase 3 will focus on identifying the relevant, Tier 2 and 3 system-wide student intervention data points for the Performance Matters platform, in consultation with school leaders and the departments of Student Services and Teaching, Learning and Leadership.

RECOMMENDATION:
The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the Performance Matters project update for possible planning, procedural, and programmatic changes.

IMPACT:
The Performance Matters platform increases the capacity of educators to utilize data to ensure success for all students with a focus on addressing persistent academic and behavioral factors that lead to racial and educational disparities.

ATTACHMENTS: 1. ACPS Student Success System Workshop: Summary Memo

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