

Date: February 22, 2018

For ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

For INFORMATION  X

Board Agenda: Yes  X   
No \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Clinton Page, Chief Accountability Officer, Department of Accountability  
Natalie Mitchell, Director of Title I Programs, Curriculum & Instruction  
Dr. Terri Mozingo, Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum & Instruction

**THROUGH:** Lois Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

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

**TOPIC:** Virginia Accreditation Accountability Update – Sample Results

**BACKGROUND:**

The goal of this memo and attached PowerPoint is to update the School Board on the new Virginia Accreditation Accountability system and provide **sample results** of how schools would have performed within the new accountability system based on SY 16-17 data. **These reports are informational only** and **will have no impact** on school's current or future Accreditation ratings. They were supplied by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and are intended as information to facilitate planning within schools and the division for the future accountability system transition.

In November 2017, the Virginia Board of Education (VBOE) approved changes to the State's Accreditation Accountability system. The changes adopted by the VBOE were significant in scale and aimed to provide a more comprehensive picture of school quality while driving continuous improvement for all schools through the new system. To achieve these aims, the new system incorporates a wider breadth of indicators than the previous system and also has provisions which recognize student growth for discrete indicators.

On January 11, 2018 the School Board was presented with an update of recently approved changes to the Virginia Accreditation Accountability system. More specifically:

- All schools within the new Accreditation system will be held to indicators in the areas of: overall proficiency and growth in English achievement; overall proficiency and growth in mathematics; overall proficiency in science; achievement gaps among student groups in English and mathematics; and chronic absenteeism. In addition, schools with graduating classes, such as T.C. Williams High School, will be held to the indicators of Graduation and Completion Index, dropout rate, and beginning in school year 2021-2022, a college, career and civic readiness indicator.
- Within each of these indicators schools will be assigned one of three performance levels based on their performance. This new 'stoplight' approach is designed to allow Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to monitor continuous improvement within schools falling in Level I (Green) or Level II (Yellow) areas for all indicators, while State support would be provided to schools with any indicators falling within Level III (Red). Overall school ratings will continue to be provided within the new Accreditation system. Schools with all indicators in either Level I (Green) or Level II (Yellow) will be

“Accredited.” Schools with one or more indicators at Level III (Red) will be “Accredited with Conditions.” Finally, if a school under “Accredited with Conditions” is determined by the VBOE to have not adhered to their corrective action plan then they would receive an “Accreditation Denied” status.

The attached Sample Accreditation Results tables summarize the hypothetical reports provided by VDOE as information only. Table 1 provides a comparison of three-year historical accreditation statuses by school compared to the sample status had the new accountability system been in place in SY 2017-18. Table 2 provides a two-year comparison of accreditation results in English and Math, highlighting the difference in pass rate in the new system which accounts for growth. Tables 3 displays sample accreditation results based on 2016-17 data by indicator.

In summer 2018, VDOE will determine schools’ Accreditation statuses by running their SY 17-18 data through both the current and new Accreditation systems and using the system, current or new, that produces the highest overall Accreditation status for that school. Finally, performance data from SY 18-19 will be used only within the new Accreditation system in summer 2019 for the calculation of school statuses.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Superintendent recommends review of the Virginia Accreditation Accountability System Update materials for possible planning, procedural, programmatic, and/or budgetary changes.

**IMPACT:**

Sample results were presented to school and division leadership for review. Discussions with school leaders will continue through spring 2018. Adjustments to School Education Plans (SEPs), Governance, and all other school and/or division monitoring processes will require review and potential revision for ensured alignment with the new Accreditation Accountability system.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Clinton Page  
Natalie Mitchell

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. *Virginia Accreditation Accountability Update – Sample Results PowerPoint*  
2. *Sample Accreditation Results Tables*