

BOARD MEMO

Date: May 19, 2022

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION _____

Board Agenda: Yes _____

No _____

FROM: Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
Wendy Gonzalez, Ed.D., Executive Director of School Leadership
Jane Richardson, Coordinator, Citywide Early Childhood Programs
Patricia Zissios, Ph.D., Principal, Lyles-Crouch Elementary School
Michael Routhouska, Principal, William Ramsay Elementary School
Ingrid Bynum, Ed.D., Principal, Patrick Henry K-8 School
Pierrette Finney, Ed.D., Principal, Francis C. Hammond Middle School
Peter Balas, Executive Principal, Alexandria City High School

THROUGH: 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: Pre-K–Secondary Transitions

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support

Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 1: Social Emotional and Academic Learning (SEAL) Recovery

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

The transition to pre-K, elementary, and secondary learning can be exciting yet overwhelming for students and their families. Students face many adjustments: a longer school day, new classmates, and new teachers. Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) approaches the transition with a team approach to ensure that each child is provided with academic, social and emotional learning support to make their transition successful. The transition programs that exist within ACPS are *Pre-K Transition*, *Step Up To Kindergarten*, *WEB*, and *Ninth~Tenth~New Student Transition*.

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BACKGROUND:

Our transition programs provide a variety of grade-level social and emotional activities to welcome students to their “first” school experience for Pre-K students. The schools also provide other engaging transition activities for students who are currently enrolled. These transition programs are designed to allow students to become familiar with their schools, classrooms, classmates, and school staff right before the start of the 2022-23 school year. While the ACPS transition programs focus on rising and new students, each grade level will host an evening open house for parents and students prior to the opening of school.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the transition information within this memo.

IMPACT:

The Pre-K–Secondary Transition Programs are an engaging way to welcome and orient students and families to their new school setting.

ATTACHMENTS:

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